



NO MORE VICTIMS

Humbercare's Circles of Support and Accountability is a community response to sexual offending, working in partnership with criminal justice agencies. It is supported by both Humberside Police and the Probation Service.

We aim to reduce the risk of future sexual offending by supporting and holding to account those who have committed sexual offences in the past and who are committed to not re-offending again, to safely lead responsible and productive lives. Social and emotional loneliness are key factors when researching why people re-offend. Circles is there to prevent this.

A Circle consists of 3-4 volunteers initially meeting weekly as a group with the core member (offender), usually for between 12 to 18 months. Applicants will be required to complete an enhanced DBS check. Full training will be given and supervision and support throughout the life of the Circle is provided.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are central to the success of a Circle. They must be mature, trustworthy, well-balanced people who are committed to the principles of restorative justice and constructive approaches to managing sexual abuse.

VOLUNTEER SPECIFICATION

A volunteer may be motivated by many things including:

- Personal faith
- Professional interest and development
- Being a parent, grandparent or carer wishing to ensure the safety of children within local communities
- A survivor of sexual abuse
- Looking for constructive approaches to tackle sexual abuse
- A desire for Safer Communities
- A desire to see no more victims
- Media coverage and the impact of that coverage

The attitudes/beliefs/qualities looked for in a circle volunteer

- The ability to be empathic
- A belief in Restorative Justice
- An ability to separate the individual from the behaviour
- Good Communication skills
- A degree of analytical thinking

- The ability to problem solve
- The ability to manage emotions appropriately
- Leading a balanced lifestyle
- An ability to behave appropriately and maintain firm boundaries
- An ability to remain non-judgmental when appropriate
- An ability to be respectful and constructive at all times
- An ability to work as part of a team
- An ability to work from own initiative
- An ability to accept guidance and support from re:shape Staff

VOLUNTEER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Support

1. To provide a listening ear
2. To reducing emotional loneliness and isolation through providing support
3. To provide a source of help
4. To show empathy but not sympathy
5. To be part of a consistent chain of support
6. To provide a structured framework for emotional and practical support
7. To encourage independence and discourage dependency
8. Maintain a respectful approach

Monitor

9. To monitor and liaise with relevant specialist professionals
10. To constructively challenge a core member when they display warning signs of entering into high risk behaviour
11. To have the ability to work with statutory agencies
12. To be able to recognize and manage manipulation and collusion and access appropriate support

Maintain

13. To have the ability to assist the core member in the development of support networks
14. To keep the core member on track with their personal goals identified in treatment
15. To be able to achieve a balance between support and accountability
16. To be able to work individually and as part of a team
17. To be able to maintain confidentiality where appropriate
18. To be able to access support when necessary
19. To be able to maintain appropriate personal boundaries
20. To model appropriate relationships

Accountability

21. To keep the core member accountable to treatment objectives and help support them in leading an offence free lifestyle

The Three Key Principles

Support

Reduce Isolation and
Emotional Loneliness



Model Appropriate
Relationships



Demonstrate
Humanity and Care

Monitor

Public Protection



Safer Communities



Support Statutory Authorities –
Police, Probation, MAPPA



Maintain

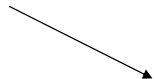
Hold Offender
Accountable



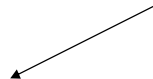
Relationship of Trust



Maintain Treatment
Objectives



Reduce Re-offending



Saunders and Wilson 2002

**The Three Key Principles embodies the philosophy and work of Circles.
It remains as a constant reference point.**