

Achieving Successful Transition

Employment

Employment is one of the best predictors of success.

Housing

A stable residence is essential to building a new life. When residing with family or friends isn't an option, other transitional living arrangements must be made.

Family and Peer Support

Establishing a network of healthy relationships with people who can provide encouragement and a steady, positive influence is important.

Available Treatment Programs

Underlying issues (such as alcohol and/or drug abuse, mental health, etc.) are frequently the cause of problems. These issues must be addressed as part of the process.

Community Support

Community Circles of Support can provide the broad-based support needed to increase the potential for becoming a functioning, productive member of society.

Mission Statement

People helping people transition from incarceration to the community.

Vision Statement

Promote safer communities through successful transition.

Value Statements

Community Circles of Support:

- ◆ Foster an environment of acceptance for the individual's return to the community
- ◆ Promote positive social interaction and responsibility
- ◆ Focus on the future rather than the past
- ◆ Focus on the individual's strengths and struggles
- ◆ Plan for success
- ◆ Support and recognize individual accomplishments
- ◆ Mobilize community resources

Contact:

For more information or to join a Community Circle of Support in your region, call **1-877-490-3120**.

www.circles-of-support.org



Serving Fond du Lac
the Fox Valley,
Green Bay, Oshkosh
& surrounding
communities

*People helping
people transition
from incarceration
to the community*

A program of Goodwill Industries
of North Central Wisconsin, Inc.



What Are Community Circles of Support?

Community Circles of Support are groups of volunteers who meet with men and women being released from prison to assist them in making a successful transition from incarceration to the community.

Circles create partnerships that support positive social interaction and accountability for transitioning people and jointly develop plans to help these individuals become productive citizens.

Why Are Circles Important?

Statewide, over 95% of the men and women currently incarcerated will return to the community. Fifty percent of them will end up back in prison at an annual cost to taxpayers of \$30,000 per person.

Community support during the first 6-12 months after release is critical to an ex-offender's successful reintegration.

Through their work, Community Circles of Support promote community safety and help reduce the likelihood of recidivism.

Who Should Be Involved?

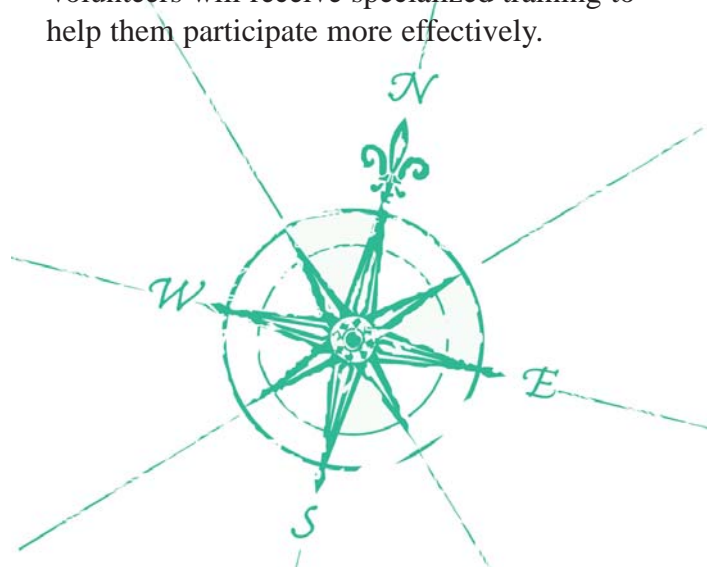
Community Circles of Support welcome involvement from:

- ◆ Community members
- ◆ Faith communities
- ◆ Neighbors
- ◆ Employers
- ◆ Community organizations
- ◆ Education professionals
- ◆ Social service agencies
- ◆ Law enforcement agencies
- ◆ Department of Corrections

Please contact us to find out about the different ways you can be involved with Circles of Support (1-877-490-3120).

Citizen volunteers support participants who are recently released from prison and their families.

Volunteers will receive specialized training to help them participate more effectively.



How Do Circles Work?

1. Individuals being released from prison seek involvement of their own free will.
2. Acceptance into Community Circles of Support is contingent upon transitioning people:
 - ◆ Completing the application process
 - ◆ Accepting responsibility for past criminal behavior and acknowledging the harm they caused others
 - ◆ Accepting and acting upon mutual recommendations
 - ◆ Participating in community service
 - ◆ Setting goals focused on law-abiding and productive community behavior
3. Community Circles of Support focus on the future rather than the past.
4. Community Circles of Support create an environment aimed at fostering acceptance and focusing on personal strengths.