

What Does A Circle Do?

NO MORE VICTIMS.

Circles of Support & Accountability keep the community safer by helping people convicted of sexual offenses to remain in the community without re-offending and helping them to live productive, healthy and accountable lives. Here's how CoSA does it:

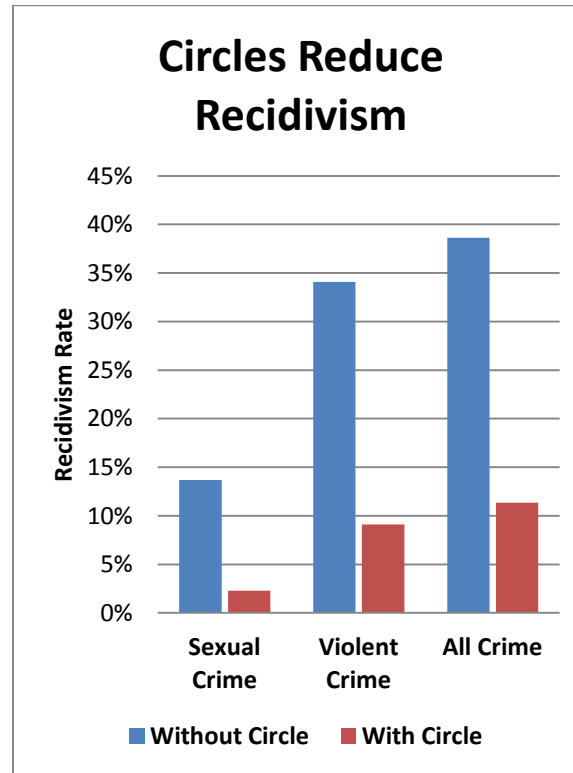
- **Meeting** regularly with Core Members to develop honest friendships with healthy boundaries.
- **Observing** early signs of criminal behavior.
- **Confronting** Core Members about inappropriate attitudes and behaviors.
- **Assisting** Core Members to access suitable housing, employment, healthcare, etc. When basic needs are met and isolation is reduced, re-offenses are less likely.
- **Role Modeling** effective problem-solving.

NO ONE IS DISPOSABLE.

Circles of Support & Accountability assist people convicted of sexual offenses in figuring out how to contribute to the community as a law-abiding, healthy, productive member who BELONGS.

- **Connecting** with Core Members to create real, solid, supportive, healthy friendships.
- **Celebrating** anniversaries, birthdays, achievements and milestones in the Core Member's & volunteers' journeys.

Do Circles of Support and Accountability Work?



Wilson R. J., Cortoni F., and McWhinnie A.J. (2009), "Circles of Support & Accountability: A Canadian National Replication of Outcome Findings." Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment, 21(4) 412-430.

To Volunteer or Get Info:

Colorado CoSA

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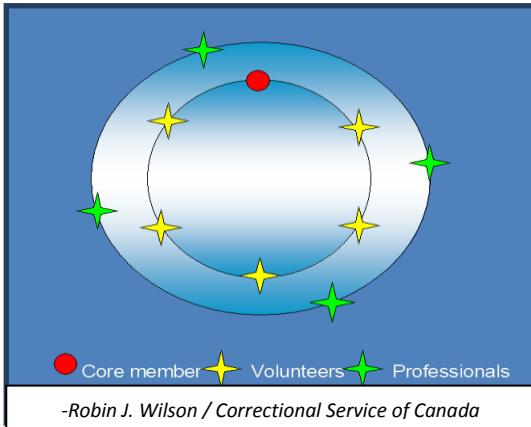
**COLORADO
CIRCLES OF
SUPPORT &
ACCOUNTABILITY**

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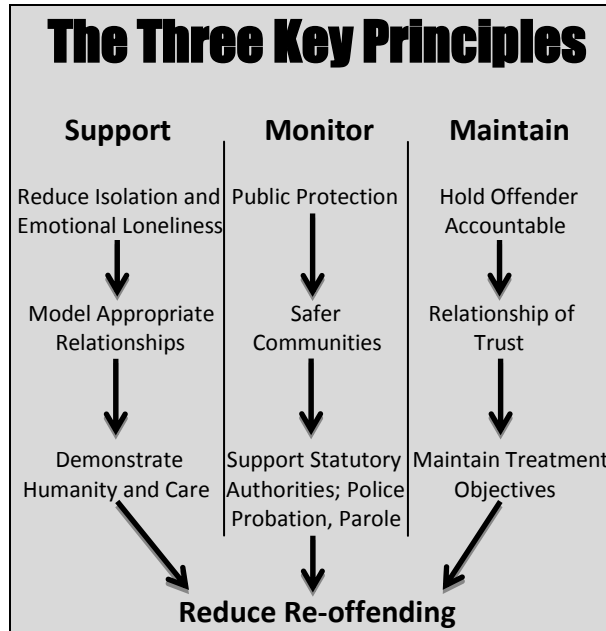
What are Circles of Support and Accountability?

Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) have been implemented around the world because of the model's success in assisting people convicted of sexual offenses to live productive lives in the community **WITHOUT RE-OFFENDING**.

In CoSA, four to five highly trained / highly supported volunteers and the former offender (the Core Member) meet on a regular basis. The Circle agrees to a set of commitments between the Core Member and the Circle volunteers. Staying crime-free, being honest & staying engaged are usually part of this agreement.



Volunteers also meet with the Core Member individually to help with any re-entry challenges. The CoSA volunteers themselves are supported by an Outer Circle of professionals and experts in sexual offenses.



Wilson R. J., McWhinnie A.J., and Wilson C. "Circles of Support & Accountability: An International Partnership in Reducing Sexual Offender Recidivism." *Prison Service Journal* 178; 26-36.

Why Do Circles?

Most people who are convicted of a sexual offense will return to the community. They don't want to re-offend - - we don't want them to re-offend - - law enforcement & parole don't want them to re-offend. With CoSA, the community assumes a proactive & effective role in ensuring that the community will be safe (**NO MORE VICTIMS**) and that the person who has completed his sentence will be able to live a good life that is law-abiding and that gives back to society (**NO ONE IS DISPOSABLE**). Circles are effective in reducing re-offenses, they're cost-effective and they're humane. In Circles, **EVERYONE WINS**.

What Colorado CoSA Does:

Colorado Circles of Support & Accountability supports & encourages the development of high-quality, high-fidelity local Circles of Support & Accountability wherever they are needed. Our commitment is to assist local sites with community education and volunteer recruitment, to offer consistent effective volunteer training by CoSA experts, and to collect data that will ensure CoSA program integrity as demonstrated by reduced recidivism and safer communities.

Colorado CoSA Core Values:

- ⊙ Doing what works, with integrity
- ⊙ Being honest
- ⊙ Being inclusive
- ⊙ Assuring community safety
- ⊙ Being accountable for our actions
- ⊙ Reaching out to others, especially those who are struggling
- ⊙ Building on the strengths of people & communities
- ⊙ Facing up to what's difficult & solving it
- ⊙ Never accepting less than excellence