



Washington County Community Circles, Inc.

*“Repairing harm to victims, holding clients accountable
and building a better community”*

7064 S. West Point Douglas Road
Cottage Grove, MN 55016

(651) 492-4996

www.peacemakingcircles.org

Accountability Circle Protocol Overview

WCCC, Inc. has been taking Circle cases from the courts and community since 1998. The organization incorporated in 2008 and was certified as a non-profit corporation. WCCC's goals are to repair harm to victims, hold clients accountable, and build community. WCCC's core communities are in Cottage Grove, Stillwater, and Woodbury, but serve participants and victims of crime across Washington County and the surrounding region.

With the Washington County Attorney's Office, WCCC proposes the following protocol to hold Accountability Circles with men and women charged with solicitation in Washington County.

Protocol for Accountability Circles

Scope of Circles

- **Who:** defendants charged with solicitation of sex with adults (“johns”)
 - Not: Sex traffickers or johns seeking sex with minors
- **What:** Accountability Circles exploring why the client (defendant) committed the crime, explore what type of harm results from commercial sex on individuals and the community, and identify what is needed to stop the behavior in the future.
 - Speakers will be selected with the assistance and advice of the Washington County Attorney's Office and other subject matter experts that WCCC will seek for partnership. Speaker fees, if any, will be paid by clients.
- **How:** Successful completion of Circle will be a requirement of a plea agreement agreed to by the defendant, prosecutor, and Court.
 - Successful completion of Circles will require completion of the curriculum to the right

Training for Community Volunteers

Training will be provided by the County Attorney's Office, law enforcement, and sexual assault experts on September 7, 2017 at Family Means. Ongoing training may be required. Volunteers are required to complete WCCC Circle 101 Training within one year of starting their volunteer placement. Community members are encouraged to participate in the sessions.

More Information Available

If you are interested in volunteering on these types of Circles, please contact WCCC to get involved:

- contact@peacemakingcircles.org or 651/492-4996

Accountability Circles Curriculum

- ✓ Circles for 12 months, twice a month for 4 months, once a month for 8 months
 - Circles will discuss and debrief the quarterly information sessions
 - Circles may include multiple clients
- ✓ Quarterly Information Sessions with Speakers (1 ½ hour sessions with 1 hour Circle following)
 - Sex Trafficking and Prostitution Legal Consequences and Public Health Risks
 - Dynamics of Commercial Sex: Pimping, Recruiting, and Trafficking
 - Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Survivor Speaker
 - Sexual Addiction & Recovery
- ✓ Circle Completion Assessment, completed by the client examining their Accountability Circle Experience
- ✓ Total Projected hours in the Accountability Circle Process for the Client: **35 over 12 months**