



Talking Circles

WCCC
Washington County Community Circles

"Repairing harm to victims, holding clients accountable and building a better community."

www.peacemakingcircles.org
Contact@peacemakingcircles.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Strength in Spring

This spring WCCC has been busy strengthening our partnerships. We have been busy in the community and with our partners, which this newsletter will demonstrate.

First, we completed a Circle Training with Tubman legal advocates. WCCC designed a training for the advocates that focused not just on Circles, but also the types of cases and clients appropriate for Circle (and those perhaps not appropriate for Circle), and the referral process. As you will see, the training participants had a very positive response.

We have even more training in progress and on the way! We have a Circle 101 Training scheduled for May 20-21. We have several spots still open. Please sign up to reserve a spot at our [registration link](#). Please pass along the [training flyer](#) to those who may be interested in getting trained.

We also recently presented about Circles to the Woodbury Citizens Academy, and got to meet and discuss what it means to be a community with some great people. Learn more about the program and the graduates later in the newsletter. Congratulations to the 2016 graduates!

We are also in various stages of fundraising – for WCCC as well as a special Circle volunteer. Please read on to learn about the results of another successful Gertens Fundraiser and to see how you can support former Circle Board member and Woodbury volunteer Kylie LaFontaine's family as they welcome the early arrival of "Lucky Lucas."

As you can see, we look forward to opportunities to connect with the community and our partners to talk Circles – [contact us](#) if you are interested in a presentation or training.

Enjoy our Spring Newsletter!



Upcoming Events

- April 26
 - Private training – Eagle Brook Church
- April 30
 - Service Day - Hamline University in-service volunteer event – [Sign up here](#)
- May 4
 - Gertens Plant Delivery at King of Kings Lutheran Church (5 to 7 pm)
- May 20 - 21
 - Circle 101 Training – [Register here!](#)

In-Service Day at Cottage Grove Youth Service Bureau

Free on Saturday, April 30? Come down to the Cottage Grove Circle Room in the Youth Service Bureau to join Hamline University students strip wallpaper in the room to prep it for painting. [Email Bob](#) to sign up!

Beatifying Your World With Flowers!

Thank you to everyone that participated in our Seventh Annual Gertens Fundraiser this spring. We had another successful fundraiser and raised over \$550 this year! We continue to be humbled by the support of our community, friends, family, and partners.

The amount we raised will help us fund our Circle-completion celebrations with our clients. These celebrations bring together our clients, volunteers, victims (if they choose to attend), and the clients' support people, to celebrate the progress they've made by attending Circle. The celebrations also provide an opportunity for all Circle participants to reflect on the client's time in Circle.

Flowers will be delivered on Wednesday, May 4th, in time for Mother's Day on May 8th. [Jen Lenander](#) will contact those of you who ordered flowers with more detailed information about delivery.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

This quarter we would like to highlight Kylie LaFontaine! Kylie served one two-year term on the Board of WCCC and is a Circle volunteer in Woodbury. During her time on the Board, Kylie became editor of our newsletter and at the end of her term, Kylie generously volunteered to continue to put the newsletter together each quarter – except this one, and for very good reason.

On April 1, 2016, Kylie and her partner, Ryan, welcomed their son into the world. Lucas Vonn Keifer entered the world 16 weeks earlier than planned and is currently in the NICU - and will be for some time. WCCC Board member Jen Lenander set up a GoFundMe page to help raise funds for Kylie, Ryan, and Lucas.

If you would like to learn more about Lucas and donate to Kylie and her family, please go to: <http://www.gofundme.com/lucky-lucas>.

Volunteer Opportunities are always available through WCCC.

For more information or to learn how you can join a Circle, please contact us at contact@peacemakingcircles.org



Partners in (Repairing the harm of) Crime

WCCC, Inc. conducted a Tubman Advocate Circle Training on Friday afternoon, April 8 lead by Circle trainers Gary Schurrer, Lynn Schurrer, Katie Schurrer and Bob Storlie. Nine participants attended and were asked to provide an evaluation of the event, including Tubman legal advocates and CEO Jennifer Polzin.



Training participants were asked to rate the training as well as leave anecdotal feedback on the value of the training. The training received an average of 4.7 out of 5. Participants stated that they felt more comfortable with the how Circles operate after the training and that it brought a better understanding of the process of making referrals to Circle and what cases might be good Circle cases. In fact, when asked to note what they felt was least valuable one noted that it was “all very valuable” and had no “least valuable” components of the training.

We would like to thank the Tubman participants for their time and feedback, and we are pleased Tubman found the training informative and engaging!

Building a Better Community!

WCCC congratulates the 2016 Woodbury Citizens Academy graduates. WCCC annually participates in the ten-week program as a part of the spotlight of nonprofits working in the city of Woodbury.

The program that engages citizens in their community through knowledge and volunteerism. The program is run by the Woodbury Foundation. The Foundation states that the program “expands the knowledge of our citizens in a way that encourages more involvement in our community.”

WCCC is a proud partner with the WCA program and is proud to have numerous WCA graduates participate in Circle cases and trainings.

Good luck class of 2016!



Circle Training May 20-21

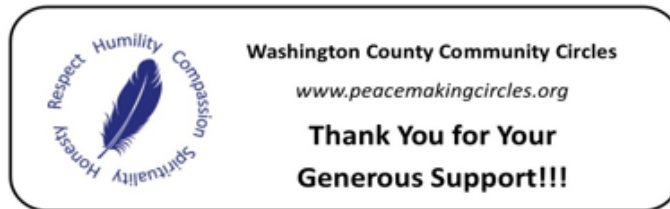
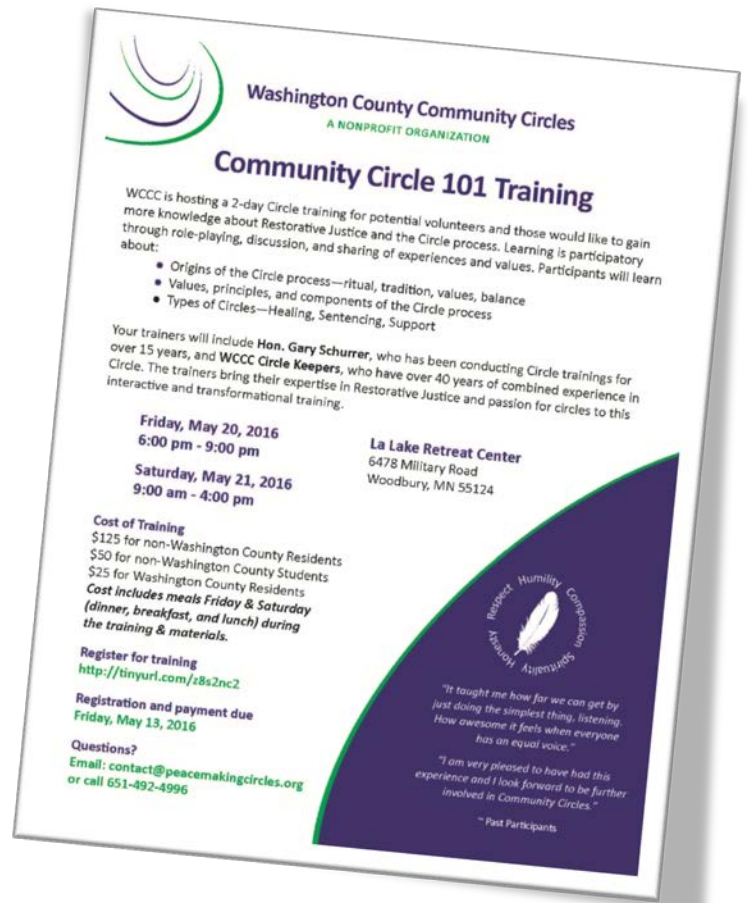
WCCC is holding a Circle 101 Training on May 20-21 at La Lake Retreat Center in Woodbury. This training is for those interested in learning more about the Circle process and restorative justice as well as those interested in or planning on volunteering in Circle.

Past trainings have received rave reviews. The training has been called "transformational" and is highly experiential. Past participants have said the following about the training"

"It taught me how far we can get by just doing the simplest thing, listening. How awesome it feels when everyone has an equal voice."

We have several spots still open. Please sign up to reserve a spot at our [registration link](#).

Consider also passing along the [training flyer](#) to those who may be interested in the training!



phi·lan·thro·py

Giving is the new black.

Send a check...



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Or Contribute via
www.givemn.org

