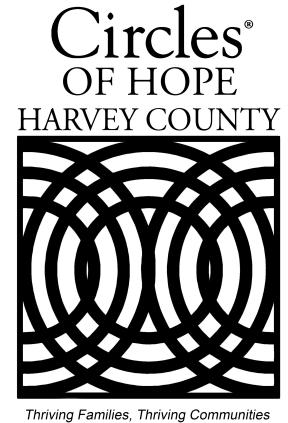


# Guidelines for Becoming a Circle Leader

## Who can be a Circle Leader? Harvey County residents who:

- are frustrated about just “getting by” and want to learn more about ways to “get ahead”
- are at least 18 years old and are **ready, willing and able** to make changes
- have low resources, including financial (living at or below 200% of poverty)
- are able and willing to work and/or might benefit from job training
- are willing to build new relationships which will provide support and connections
- can commit to attending weekly meetings



## Steps to Becoming a Circle Leader:

1. Attend, participate and graduate from the 12-15 week Circle Leader training.
  - The Circle Leader class meets every Tuesday night for 2 hours (12-15 weeks).
  - Each Circle Leader class includes a meal, free childcare and sharing your knowledge.
  - You will learn the “hidden rules” of class, assess your own resources (not just money), and develop your own plan to change your future.
2. Circle Leader grads decide to become a **Circle Leader** & make an 18-month commitment.
3. Be matched with 2-4 **Circle Allies** from the community.
4. Attend weekly community meetings on Tuesday nights.
5. Share your strengths and give back to the community.

## Circles is probably NOT for you if any of these describe your current situation:

- Being in crisis (for example, currently homeless, being evicted or otherwise in a situation that might prevent full participation and commitment). Circles is not a crisis program and does not help with immediate, emergency needs.
- Being on permanent disability without any capacity to earn extra money in addition to disability income.
- Addictions. Circles participants must have 6 months or more of being clean/sober and strong goals for staying that way.
- Mental health issues that are untreated. You are struggling to function on a day-to-day basis.
- One partner wants to join Circles but the other doesn't. Circles does not work well when one spouse or significant other is not involved. Allies work with the whole family.

**Circles of Hope wants to partner with you to explore the causes of poverty and support you in developing a plan to increase your resources and have a more stable, secure future!**

*For more information, contact Circles staff at 284-0000, [info@peaceconnections.org](mailto:info@peaceconnections.org) or stop by 612 N. Main (Peace Connections, home of Circles of Hope)*