

Healing Circles of Support Volunteers are not professionals, paraprofessionals, therapists, counsellors or formally trained interventionists. They are simply everyday people, willing to assist those on their journey of hope and healing. Volunteers are not victim advocates or activists and are non-political at all times. Our Volunteers do not attend correctional facilities or conditional release hearings, such as parole reviews. All Volunteers have been cleared through a police security check.

This initiative is targeted towards those who have completed the court process and are no longer working with Police Victim Services. They may still be engaged in the correctional process via interaction with Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) and/or Parole Board of Canada (PBC) Victim Services.



Help, Hope and Healing



As a non-profit charity, CCJS works towards a community where people affected by crime get the support they need and the respect they deserve. We assist people in finding the strength to move beyond the crime.

Some people will turn to their friends and family for support, but you can also contact us if you'd like to talk in confidence and without being judged. Remember that you're not alone and you can contact us for support at any time.

For more Information

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Healing Circles Of Support for Those Affected by Crime


*Catholic Charities Justice Services
(CCJS)*



**Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of Vancouver**

Circles of Support

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver has developed Healing Circles of Support (HCS) for those whose lives have been affected by crime. Our primary goal is to provide a caring, healing and emotional support network to those impacted by crime. Circles of Support is a program for survivors of crime, offered to everyone, regardless of religious beliefs or affiliation.



Everyone reacts differently to crime. How you react will depend on a lot of different factors – some relating to the incident and some relating to you, the support networks you might already have and the experiences you've had in your life. The effects are also likely to change as time goes by, both day-to-day and in the longer term. While some people are able to continue with minimal disruption to their lives, for others it may take longer.

Experiencing a crime can have a significant impact on your mental and emotional well-being. We believe that everyone should have the support that they need to cope and recover after crime.

Healing Circles of Support provide respectful, caring, confidential, and emotional support. With compassion and understanding, our Volunteers offer an invaluable emotional support, especially at crucial times (difficult days and dates).

Could you use more support on your healing journey?

Is the trauma of victimization still weighing heavily in your life?

Does the nature of the crime prevent you from sharing your difficulties?

Do you struggle during those significant and perhaps painful dates in your life?

Is healing and support something you require in order to move forward?

Would you benefit from a confidential and supportive community network?

Would you appreciate a dedicated Circle of Support of Volunteers to be there for you?



Circles of Support will:

- ◆ Establish a Circle of Support of 2 to 4 Volunteers who are able to provide a constant, consistent and confidential resource to you, for a minimum of 6 months, and longer if needed. (The length and frequency of meetings will be determined by the Circle.)

- ◆ Ensure Circles of Support meetings occur in neutral locations in the community; they will provide privacy and confidentiality.

- ◆ Provide additional support by having Circles of Support Volunteers available by phone.

- ◆ Assist with finding appropriate community resources.

- ◆ Tailor the support to individual needs.

- ◆ Help anyone affected by crime; not only those who experience it directly, but also family members of a victim, friends and any other people involved.

- ◆ Provide you with a Healing Circle of Support at no cost to you.