



Circles Marion County

Linda Ogden, Recruitment
702 Nickerson
Marion KS 66861

Dear Prospective Circle Leader,

As you know, many Marion County citizens are living in poverty. We believe that if we all work together, we can change the future so that fewer families find themselves without enough money to pay for the basic needs of life. It is the mission of the National Circles Campaign to end poverty by building relationships across class, race and cultural lines. Your willingness to get involved to better your financial situation, teach the community about the barriers that exist, and become a leader and advocate for other low-income families will help us to reach this mission.

Circles® is designed to help both low-income families and middle income volunteers to better understand themselves, their community and to build relationships of support. Through these relationships the Circle Leader and support system made up of allies are transformed and inspired to transform our community of Marion County. The first step is to learn about the Circles model, why it is different from other helping models, and how important you are to our community finding the solutions to ending poverty.

Are you wondering what a Circle Leader does? The Circle Leader has three primary goals:

1. Create life changes that lead to having enough resources, relationships and a life purpose
2. Develop unique gifts and leadership skills to lead the circle, contribute to the Circles® initiative and give back to the community
3. Use experience of poverty to advocate within the community for changes in the systems barriers that keep poverty in place

Are you wondering how you become a Circle Leader? The Circle Leader commitment:

1. Complete Circles® orientation (1 interview)
2. Complete Circle Leader Training focused on developing goals and a future story (10 – 12 consecutive weeks)
3. Commit to be part of the Circles® initiative for 18 months following Circle Leader graduation (1 required meeting a month on the 1st Thursday, and other optional Thursdays if you wish)
4. Identify ways to contribute to the Circles® initiative in return for the support received
5. Make progress on the goals identified

Are you wondering if you have to do this alone? Support the Circle leader receives:

1. Orientation and Getting Ahead/Circle Leader Training
2. Weekly meetings in which meals and childcare are provided
3. A \$10 per person cash payment each time you attend a training session
4. A monetary award at graduation/completion of Circle Leader Training
5. Following completion of Circle Leader Training, support from two to four caring Allies to join you on your journey of reaching your goals and dreams
6. Support always available to answer questions, provide mentoring, and assist with conflict resolution

If you are interested in joining this project and applying to be a Circles Leader, please return the application form to Linda Ogden, 702 Nickerson, Marion KS 66861. Following that, Linda will call you to set up an interview. During the interview you will learn more about Circles and you can decide if Circles is right for you. If you have questions, please contact Linda at 620-382-4559 (text or phone call).