



New Volunteers Needed!

Spread the word to friends, family and colleagues

Due to the ongoing success of all our circles projects and the increased number of referrals we are receiving for each project we are on the hunt for new volunteers to start on Circles immediately following training!

Volunteers need to be able to work across Nottinghamshire and/or Derbyshire and be willing to work with either adults and/or young people convicted of a sexual offence.

We would particularly welcome applications from men or older volunteers as these groups are currently underrepresented within our volunteer pool.

Further details and an application pack can be found on our website: www.saferlivingfoundation.org so please pass this onto anyone you think may be interested.



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And Finally...

Welcome to the third Safer Living Foundation Newsletter. The aim of this newsletter is for us to be able to share some of the fantastic projects we are developing as well as sharing some of the amazing things that both our volunteers and service users are doing. We want to use this newsletter as a platform to share good practice and learn from others experiences so please do get in touch if you have anything you would like to see included.

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Community Circles News

Community Circles Statistics:

- ★ 4 Community Circles currently running – these 4 circles have been running for between 3 and 8 months.
- ★ 1 further Community Circle due to start in the next few weeks



Keep on doing what you are doing and remember to be proud of all the brilliant work you are doing. Dave

One circle discovered their CM had been grooming a family and their 14yr old daughter. His MOSOVO officer was informed and the CM was arrested for breaching his SHPO. Whilst sad that this circle had to end, it is more than likely that the circle prevented another victim of sexual abuse, and this is what circles are all about; after all – they are circles of support and **accountability**. So well done Daryl, Laura and Ruby. Great work!

I also have to say a big well done to a Derby circle who are working incredibly well with a CM who has a wide range of issues. Sarah Ba, Sarah BI, Zoe, Sheryl and Andy are working their socks off to come up with creative ways to help their CM; including cooking and giving advice on budgeting. Lately they have had to use a bit of 'tough love' and have really effectively challenged the CM with regards to his behaviour. If there was an award for patience and resilience, you guys would get it.

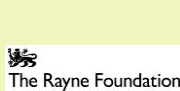


Well done also to my 4th circle who have been running the longest – Phil, Rhiannon, Harriett and Laura – you have all worked diligently with the CM; keeping his spirits up - despite him literally having dozens of rejections from job applications – and helping him manage his risks. A great example of how a circle should run.

Another circle was told by their CM that he'd been receiving abusive calls from his victims father. Trish, Roisin & Kelsey supported and reassured him, advised him to change his number and called myself. I spoke with the MOSOVO officer who fed back that when she had seen the CM the previous week he could not speak highly enough of the circle and the volunteers. The CM said that because people do this for free it means so much more. He said if it had not been for the circle he would still be living at home with his parents, but the volunteers gave him the confidence to get out in the world. He now lives with a partner and is looking for a job. This CM has come such a long way in the last 6 months and has told the circle that when he is in Nottingham with his partner, he feels much less at risk of reoffending. Again, stellar work guys!



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Prison Circles News

Prison Circles Statistics:

- ★ 3 Prison Circles currently running
- ★ 11 volunteers on these 3 Circles
- ★ 1 prison circle starting imminently with 4 volunteers identified who are all now prison vetted and have been patiently waiting for a Nottingham prison circle.
- ★ Hopefully a further 1 to start in the next couple of months once the newly trained volunteers have been prison vetted.

Never forget that your contribution to your Circle literally changes lives and prevents further victims. Your time and efforts are priceless.
Anaie

New Prison Circle

I have another prison Circle starting on 31st July for a particularly complex CM. The volunteers will receive additional training regarding his personality disorder, delivered by a forensic psychologist, prior to meeting their CM. They will also have the opportunity to meet the therapist working on his Sex Offender Treatment Programme (SOTP) to ensure they fully understand his risk and have additional support with managing their CM. Many many thanks to Eddie, Rossy, Ellen and Millie for committing to this Circle. I'm really looking forward to getting started!

Special thanks to Kat, Annie, Charlie and Eleanor for getting everything off the ground so well with the new prison circle and hanging in there with some difficult practical issues. This CM has now just been released so we can now continue the good work with him in the community.



Prison Vetting

All volunteers who are part of a Prison Circle **have** to be Prison Vetted as well as DBS checked – in order that you can gain access to the prison for the initial circle meetings. This Prison Vetting is currently taking quite a long time to process – which is causing a delay for me setting up prison Circles.

Therefore please, please, please can new volunteers complete their prison vetting form as soon as they receive it and make a phone call to the prison vetting team to arrange an appointment to come in with your ID documents to see the prison vetting team.



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Young People's Circles News

Young People's Circles Statistics:

- ★ There are now 3 young peoples circles running
 - 18yr old Mansfield
 - 17yr old Derby
 - 15yr old Derby
- ★ There are 10 volunteers currently involved in these 3 circles.
- ★ There are 3 further circles in the preparation stage and in need of volunteers (see across)!

A big thank you to all those who have expressed an interest in the Young People's Circles project and for your patience whilst things get off the ground. We are now running at full pace and you are doing an amazing job – well done! Claire

VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!



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Volunteers Needed:

I have 3 new circles that are ready to get started – all we need is volunteers! I am therefore after volunteers who are interested in taking part in any of the following circles...

1. 17yr old – Circle will be in Nottingham City Centre on a Tuesday afternoon (2pm or 3pm).
2. 16yr old – Circle will be in Derby City Centre during the day (at the moment can be any day & any time)
3. 16yrs old – Circle will be in Sleaford, Lincolnshire during the day (at the moment can be any day & any time).

Please get in touch with me as soon as possible if you are interested in volunteering on any of these circles.

The first young people's circle has now been running for 14 weeks and is showing positive results. As expected it took a while for the YP to feel comfortable with a group of adults but he is now showing much more confidence and initiating conversations. The circle has been structured so that every 3 weeks volunteers do a more focused circle meeting with the YP and then the next two weeks are more activity based – playing pool, bowling, badminton, table tennis etc. The Youth Offending Team worker has also commented that the YP talks about Circles in her sessions so we must be doing something right! Great work Jasmin, Sam & Chris!



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Volunteer News

Volunteer Statistics

The Safer Living Foundation currently has 60 trained and active Circle volunteers. Of these 60 volunteers:

- 42 (70%) are currently active on a Circle
- 4 (7%) are currently on hold
- 11 (18%) are newly trained and awaiting security clearance; and
- 3 (5%) are vetted and awaiting allocation to a Circle.

Of these 60 volunteers:

- only 11 (18%) are male
- 9 (15%) have completed the one day Young People's Circles training.



Welcome to our new volunteers...



A warm welcome to the 20 new volunteers who successfully completed their training with us in May and July. They will soon be joining you on Circles so please make them all feel welcome:

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Sophie | Claire |
| Gemma | Charlotte |
| Annie | Abbie |
| Eddie | Eleanor |
| Jack | Abi |
| Eleanor | Damien |
| Hannah | Gemma |
| Rhia | Jenny |
| Kimberley | Sophie |
| Elizabeth | Sophie |



Volunteer Celebration Event

We are planning a volunteer celebration event later in the year – probably late September. This will be a get together to say 'thanks' to all our wonderful volunteers. There will be food, drink and maybe some awards! We will also invite some ex and existing CM's so they can talk about their experience as well as some of the SLF Trustees. This will take place at NTU so watch this space!



Congratulations!

Congratulations to all the volunteers who have been busy studying for exams recently – were sure your results will reflect the hard work you have been putting in.



Training dates for your diary

| July | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Day Young People Training | Thurs 20 th 9.30-3.00 |
| August | |
| 1 Day Young People Training | Thurs 24 th 9.30-3.00 |
| October | |
| Top Up Training (for all volunteers) | Thurs 5 th 5-7pm |
| 2 Day Initial Volunteer Training | TBC |
| November | |
| 2 Day Initial Volunteer Training | Sat 11 th & Sun 12 th |

2 Day Initial Volunteer Training is **mandatory** for all new volunteers whether they want to be involved in adult or Young People's Circles.

1 Day Young People Training is **mandatory** for any volunteer who wants to be involved in Young People's Circles.

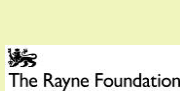
Top Up Training is for all existing volunteers and although not mandatory it is a good opportunity to gain increased knowledge and meet other volunteers. Each session will be on a different topic.

New 'Skills Practice' Top Up Training

We have just written some new top up training titled 'skills practice with the CM'. This will be a chance for volunteers to practice running skills practices with your CM's. Skills practices can help CM's with job interviews, disclosures to employers/ friends/ new partners and conflict resolution to name a few examples. It would be good for as many of you to undertake this training as possible.



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Volunteer News (cont)

NOCN Qualification in Delivering Circles of Support and Accountability

We are pleased to announce that all volunteers now have the opportunity to be recognised for your volunteering contribution by working towards an NOCN (National Open College Network) Endorsed Programme Qualification in Delivering Circles of Support and Accountability.

This qualification will officially recognise the skills you have as a Circles Volunteer and the work you do whilst on a Circle. All volunteers will have to be on a Circle to complete this Qualification and requires you to complete a workbook with help and guidance from your Coordinator.

If anyone is interested or would like further information about this please email Dave Potter:

david.potter@hmpps.gsi.gov.uk



Other News

Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) Book...

We are delighted to announce that an exciting CoSA book is currently being written and will be published in 2018. Members of the SLF have been working on this edited book as well as other leaders in the field of CoSA across the UK. The book will include unpublished findings on the SLF prison-based model of CoSA, suggestions for potential new directions for CoSA for researchers and practitioners (including CoSA for deaf and transgender individuals and the concept of prevention Circles), and will offer a unique opportunity to hear the stories of service users and volunteers' experiences on a CoSA, through honest conversations with CoSA coordinators.

New SLF Prevention Project

As you will be aware the SLF was recently successful in securing a number of funding bids to support a new Prevention Project. This project will provide a signposting, support and treatment service for individuals with a deviant sexual interest who are concerned they will offend sexually but are not within the controls of the Criminal Justice System. We have just recruited a **Part Time Project Treatment Manager** for this Prevention Project. We will continue to keep you updated on the progress of this new Project.



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And Finally...



There are a large number of ways people can help us...

- Are you able to promote our work and help us advertise for volunteers?
- Are you able to suggest a community venue that may be suitable for us to hold Circle meetings?
- Are you able to help us with volunteer training – either by sharing your experience as a volunteer or by talking about your professional role and its relation to our projects?
- Do you have anybody you think would benefit from our work you could refer onto us?
- Are you able to make a financial or in-kind contribution to the Charity?

If the answer to any of these questions is 'yes' please get in contact and talk to us...

Get in touch

☎ 01949 803259



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www.saferlivingfoundation.org



@saferlf

Donations

Virgin Money Giving



Safer Living Foundation is an award winning, innovative charity, working to prevent any further victims of sexual abuse. We greatly value your support as without it we would not be able to operate – however in order to continue to provide successful projects we need further support. We would therefore welcome any donations to ensure our work continues. If you feel able to donate please visit the Virgin Money Giving website and search for the Safer Living Foundation.

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving>

Give as you Live



Give as you Live®

SLF have linked up with called Give as You Live - a website which allows individuals to sign up to and select a chosen charity. Then when you shop through retailers supported by give as you live, an automatic donation is made to that chosen charity by give as you live. You don't pay any extra, all you need to do is sign up to the website here (<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/signup/choose-charity>), select the SLF as your chosen charity, and shop through the give as you live website (e.g. search for amazon on give as you live and then click through to amazon and it will track your purchase).

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