



Winners' Circles and Inner Circles

Winners' Circle and Inner Circle are peer-led support groups created to address the unique needs of people who are in recovery from alcohol or other drug addiction and who also have been incarcerated.

Inner Circles meet inside prisons within the State of Illinois, while Winners' Circles meet in communities across the state.

The Circles offer safe, positive, non-judgmental, relaxed spaces for participants to develop healthy lifestyles, learn and practice life and community skills, and share support, encouragement, and success with others at similar places in their lives.

Through Winners' Circle and Inner Circle, participants gain the rewards of genuine self-care and mutual respect, while also learning skills and behaviors that help them assume responsibility for self-direction. Additionally, participants learn to have positive interactions in their families, at work, and in their communities.

Winners' Circle and Inner Circle helps participants look at:

- Where they are in their life,
- Where they want to go in life,
- What holds them back from succeeding, and
- What they may need to do or change in order to achieve their goals.

In Illinois, TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities) helps guide the development of Winners' Circles and Inner Circles by facilitating their formation, providing training for Circle leaders, and working with community partners to establish locations for Winners' Circle meetings.