



THE CIRCLE MODEL

Ronni Marks
Founder/ED



CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE <FIRST NAME> <LAST NAME>, <DEGREE>

(List conflict of interest here.)



MY STORY

- ❑ I am a Hepatitis C patient who has been cured
 - ❖ Diagnosed in 1996
- ❑ This was the beginning of a long journey
 - ❖ Very little was known about the disease then



OLD TREATMENTS



- Very few treatments
 - Interferon
 - Ribavirin
- Aggressive doctor prescribed interferon injections seven days a week
- Nurse Practitioner did not know anything about the disease



HOPELESSNESS





WHY THE SILENCE?

- ❑ Stigma and Shame
 - ❖ Pushes people away from services
 - ❖ Fear of judgment

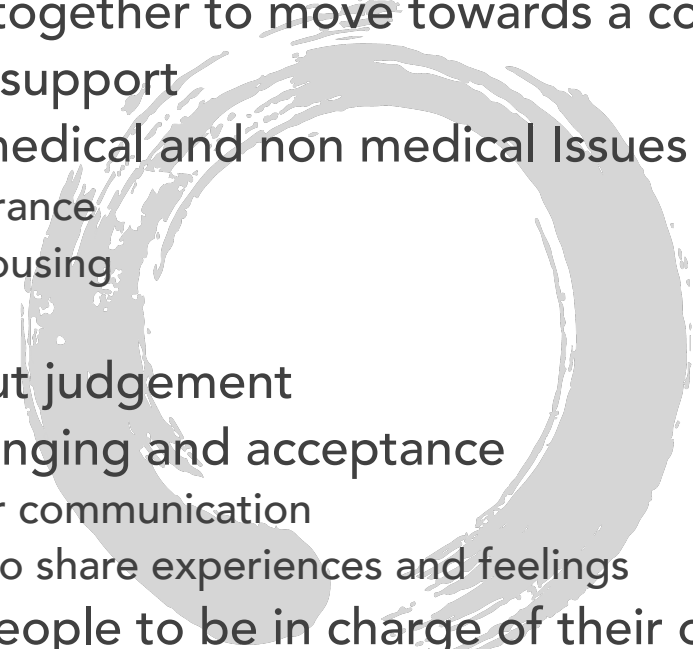
 - ❑ Past Experiences
 - ❖ Disrespect
 - ❖ Bad experiences with providers and healthcare system

 - ❑ Not a priority
 - ❖ Homelessness
 - ❖ Lack of insurance

 - ❑ Mental Health (depression) and other comorbidities
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WHY IS THE CIRCLE MODEL NEEDED?

- ❑ Brings people together to move towards a common goal
 - ❑ Education and support
 - ❑ Guidance for medical and non medical Issues
 - ❖ Lack of insurance
 - ❖ Help with housing
 - ❖ Nutrition
 - ❑ Support without judgement
 - ❑ Feeling of belonging and acceptance
 - ❖ Peer-to-peer communication
 - ❖ Safe space to share experiences and feelings
 - ❑ Empowering people to be in charge of their own health
 - ❖ Power of intervention bridges a gap in healthcare
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WHY "THE CIRCLE"?

Patients are put off by the word "support" group

- ❑ Movement and development (Enso Zen Circle)
 - ❖ Letting go and starting over
 - ❖ It has no beginning, it has no end
- ❑ No pressure
 - ❖ We offer hope and solutions to overcome obstacles
 - ❖ We educate patients beyond testing
 - ❖ Engaging people where they are at
- ❑ We strive to reduce feelings of stigma and shame
- ❑ Words matter (language)

HOW DOES THE CIRCLE MODEL ADDRESS THIS?

- ❑ Addresses needs without judgment
- ❑ Facilitating an environment that promotes a sense of belonging
 - ❖ Feeling safe, building trust
- ❑ Offering support without forcing one down a specific path
 - ❖ Harm reduction strategies
- ❑ Providing the tools necessary to take charge of one's health
 - ❖ Patient Education Hygiene Kits
 - ❖ Informational patient newsletter
 - ❖ Tele support services
 - ❖ Informational website and award winning blog





THE CIRCLE CURRENT SITES



ekiM for Change Syringe Exchange
Greenville, NC

Hawaii Department of Health
Honolulu, HI

Hep Free Hawaii
Honolulu, HI

Hawaii Health and Harm Center
Honolulu, HI

Choice Health Network/ Positively Living
Knoxville, TN

Harm Reduction Clinic
Knoxville, TN

St. Ann's Corner of Harm Reduction, Inc.
Bronx, NY





HOW TO START THE CIRCLE AT YOUR SITE

- ❑ Register at www.hepatitiscmsg.org/cycleregistration.html
 - ❑ Discuss specific needs of your organization with HCMSG
 - ❑ *Circle Model Data Form* will be provided upon registration
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