

To Make A Referral

If you are a professional, service provider or family member and would like to receive a referral form or talk about a potential referral contact the COSA Coordinator on **0207 874 5485 / 0207 383 0700** or see our website: **www.respond.org.uk/what-we-do/cosa**

Referral Criteria

Children or adults with learning disabilities or autism who have harmful sexual behaviour or have sexually offended.

To Become A Volunteer

COSA volunteers come from all walks of life. We provide full training and ongoing support. If you are interested in joining us as a volunteer please contact the COSA Coordinator on **0207 874 5485** or **0207 383 0700**.

With thanks to:

Lankelly
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Fairbairn
FOUNDATION



Circles of Support and Accountability

An innovative community-based initiative supporting people with learning disabilities who have sexually harmful behaviour



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For more information visit
www.respond.org.uk

RESPOND)
from hurting to healing

Do you know a person with learning disabilities who may benefit from a Circle of Support and Accountability?

Circles of Support and Accountability are an innovative and successful community intervention aiming to prevent sexual offending.

About Respond

Building on the pioneering and effective work of Circles UK, Respond is able to offer Circles of Support and Accountability to young people & adults with learning disabilities who have sexually harmful behaviour.

A 'Circle of Support and Accountability' is a group of 4-6 volunteers from a local community which forms a Circle around the person with the sexually harmful behaviour, known as the 'Core Member'.

The Circle provides supportive social network that also requires the Core Member to take responsibility (be 'accountable') for his/her ongoing risk management. They aim to reduce social isolation and help the Core Member.

The Circle aims to prevent future sexual offending by reducing social isolation and supporting the Core Member to live safely. Within the Circle, the Core Member can grow in self-esteem and develop healthy relationships, maximising his or her chances of successfully re-integrating into the community in a safe and fulfilling way.

The Core Member is involved from the beginning, is included in all decision making and, like all other members of the Circle, signs a contract committing him or herself to the Circle and its aims. Each Circle is unique, because it is individually designed around the needs of the Core Member.

Respond has been addressing the needs of people with learning disabilities who have sexually offended, or who are at risk of doing so, for over 20 years.

Our specialist risk assessment, psychotherapy and consultation services have developed in response to the complex needs of our clients.

Our COSA work is informed by attachment theory, trauma theory, best practice in learning disability and a systemic approach to care, support and accountability.

Working alongside Circles UK, Respond Circles of Support and Accountability takes the core elements of our clinic-based work into the community.

