

The **Hartford Community Restorative Justice Center's** *Circles of Peace for Youth* program employs restorative practices to **address domestic violence** caused by youth, blending early intervention with accountability, empathy, and atonement. Voluntary "Applicants" (youth who caused harm) engage in exercises to understand their actions' impact without excuses, identifying harmful behavior patterns and beliefs. Supported by "The Circle," youth are **held accountable while being affirmed in their commitment to change, fostering better communication, healthier relationships, and positive life outcomes.**

THE CIRCLE

PEOPLE

- Youth Applicant
- Two Circle Keepers (including a victim advocate)
- 3 - 5 community volunteers
- Support person, if the Applicant chooses

PROCESS

- Presentation of a topic or issue
- Sharing and discussion
- Creating and reviewing goals

TOPICS

- Understanding domestic violence
- Self-reflection and responsibility
- Emotional skills development
- Relationship dynamics
- Progress and goals

Survivors have the choice to participate in any or all of the following:

- Meet with a confidential advocate
- Participate in survivor-only Circles
- Participate in Circles with the Applicant
- Receive info about the Applicant's program attendance
- Receive support from a Circle facilitator and/or Circle volunteers
- Choose not to participate

Email bharvey@hartfordjusticecenter.org or call **(802) 291-7173** for more info.