

Active Peace Circle Principles

1. Participation is always voluntary.

2. We appeal to the basic dignity and universal needs of all people.

3. Do not re-victimize! Other than agreeing (or not) to participate, victims are not asked to invest in the process until those responsible for the harm have agreed to participate and shown good faith effort.

4. The process revolves around the 5 Rs of Restorative Justice: Respect, Responsibility, Relationship, Repair and Reintegration.

5. Respect is the gateway to healing. We demonstrate respect in all aspects of our behavior toward ourselves and each other.

6. The willingness to take responsibility is the litmus test on the ability of those responsible for the harm to participate.

7. The process is based on repair/healing of the harm, not punishment and blame.

8. We are healing the root causes of disrespect and violence through the direct experience of interrelatedness, even in the most challenging situations.

9. We move forward knowing that there is no guaranteed outcome.

10. We trust the wisdom of the circle.