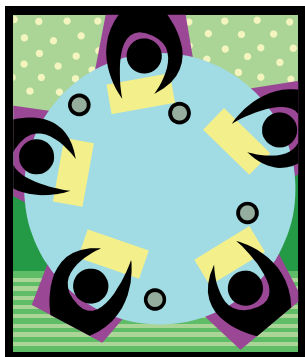


**A CIRCLE OF
SUPPORT CAN HELP
YOU BY:**

- Offering you support.
- Helping you network with professionals in your community.
- Problem solving overcoming barriers.
- Helping you clarify your future goals.
- Identifying additional supports in your life.
- Exploring career options.



If you are interested in speaking with someone more about having a Circle of Support...
Contact your local Supported Employment Office
or
University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ
908-889-2430

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**CIRCLES OF
SUPPORT**

**COULD YOU
USE SUPPORT
TO HELP YOU
FIND A JOB,
KEEP YOUR
JOB, OR GO
BACK TO
SCHOOL?**

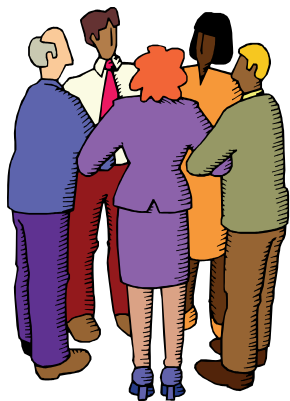
**CIRCLES OF
SUPPORT
COULD BE
THE ANSWER!**



CIRCLES OF SUPPORT

WHY DO I NEED SUPPORT?

All people need support to help them cope with things that happen in their lives. Often people need support especially when they are looking for work, when they have just gotten a job, and to maintain a job they have. Supported Employment is a service that helps people find and keep jobs. Sometimes in addition to the support you get from Supported Employment you may also want to involve other people in



WHAT IS A CIRCLE OF SUPPORT?

A Circle of Support is a group of people who have agreed to work together on your behalf to help you achieve your desirable future. The members of a Circle of Support can consist of family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers, people at a house of worship, people from your community and sometimes service providers. The Circle of Support meets on a regular basis as often as you think is necessary.

WHAT DOES A CIRCLE OF SUPPORT DO?

A Circle of Support can help you develop your vision of a desirable future. The Circle will take action to support you in achieving the goals that you set for yourself. Each person in the Circle will identify things that they can do to help you overcome barriers and use your strengths to meet your goals.



HOW CAN I DEVELOP A CIRCLE?

If you are interested in starting a Circle of Support you can speak with your Supported Employment coach and let him or her know that you would like to have a Circle of Support. The first thing you and your Supported Employment specialist will need to do is identify people in your life that are important and/or provide you with support. Then you and your Supported Employment coach will need to contact these supporters to see if they are interested in participating. The next step is to schedule the first Circle meeting. You and your Supported Employment coach will discuss what should happen prior to the first Circle meeting. You will be in charge of deciding who will attend the Circle meetings and what will be talked about there.