

Circle Facilitator

SOME PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- *A natural networker / not shy;*
- *Knows how to step forward and when to step back;*
- *Is available and flexible with their time;*
- *Has rich personal networks is happy to use them;*
- *Is geographically located near the person & has local knowledge;*
- *Is energetic and has skills to work with groups;*
- *Can inspire people to think of possibilities in life*
- *..... a vision builder.*
- *Understands how to build community*
- *Good at multi tasking and identifying resources*

THE ROLE OF THE FACILITATOR

- ▣ *Help the person identifying their lifestyle aspirations, hopes, dreams, gifts, talents and interests. (Personal Profile)*
- ▣ *To help identify who might be invited to join the persons Circle ('good' people, who the person trusts and would be interested to take their advise – My Circle)*
- ▣ *Assist by doing the asking; to invite people to join the person's Circle*
- ▣ *Getting to know the persons Circle friends, what their contribution/s to the person might be, their availability etc. etc.*
- ▣ *Identifying roles that friends might like to undertake for and with the person (social 1 on 1 time together, brain storming about ideas, including the person in their family and/or social life, going to shared sporting interests, having lunch or a coffee, gardening etc.)*
- ▣ *Assisting the person to organise for Circle get togethers with all Circle friends on a regular basis (this may vary from person to person or at different times in a persons life)*
- ▣ *Ensuring that notes of regular Circle get togethers are recorded and shared.*
- ▣ *Assist the person to organise events and celebrations etc. with their wider network of friends.*

WHAT A FACILITATOR CAN EXPECT ...

- ▣ *To be invited to join a persons Circle*
- ▣ *To be contacted regularly seeking to involvement in the person's life*
- ▣ *To be kept informed of important matters happening in the persons life*

- ▣ *To be contacted and invited to come to Circle get togethers regularly*
- ▣ *To ensure notes of Circle get togethers are taken and shared*
- ▣ *To help the person / their family articulate their lifestyle aspirations, hopes and dreams , get them written down and shared.*
- ▣ *To help Circle friends understand their potential contributions to the person achieving a better life.*
- ▣ *To be available and contactable, to assist with plans*
- ▣ *To step back once friends are engaging with the person informally and socially*
- ▣ *To establish, out of the informality of freely given relationships, roles and functions for friends in the persons life*
- ▣ *To be a bridge issues which may arise between paid support services and freely given relationships*
- ▣ *To keep the persons Circle friends engaged, connected, refreshed, strong and vibrant*
- ▣ *To encourage Circle friends to broaden the social life of the person, introduce new people and involvements.*

FROM

JAYNE BARRETT –

Community Living Partnership – Circles Initiative

WEBSITE: <http://www.clp-sa.org.au/content/circles-initiative>

These notes are taken from Jayne Barretts presentation – ‘Circles Initiative – Roles and Expectations of the Facilitator’ - Many thanks to Jane for her generosity in sharing this information.