How does Circles work?

Circles is a unique partnership of Circle Leaders and 2 to 3 Allies. Circle Leaders are low income individuals (and their families) who have the determination and dedication to break out of the cycle of poverty. By engaging in meaningful relationships with their Allies, Circle Leaders and families can break through their isolation and achieve a better quality of life. Allies are community volunteers who share their experience, time, and energy to help a Circle Leader and their family “figure out” how to get out and stay out of the cycle of poverty. Engaging in meaningful relationships with a family and helping them grow and succeed provides a deep sense of fulfillment and brings real meaning to life! To Volunteer please contact Katie Marquez at kmarqurez@seualg.utah.gov or 435-613-0064.

THE COMMUNITY TEAM

Ensures weekly meetings are effective at building community
Arranges for the logistics of the weekly meeting (location, food, space setup, etc.)
Supports the schedule of content for the weekly meeting and arranges for content to be delivered when needed
Coordinates and delivers children’s programming

THE RECRUITMENT TEAM

Builds community networks to publicize Circles and create recruitment opportunities
Makes presentations to groups to recruit Circle Leaders, Allies, or other volunteers
Engages Circle Leaders, Allies, and Resource Team members in the recruitment process

THE JOBS & EDUCATION TEAM

Builds social capital and networks that increase Circles’ access to education and employment in the community
Identifies programs and service areas which will assist Circle Leaders in obtaining their goals
Establishes key contacts for Circles at local employers, educational institutions, student financial assistance, and financial literacy programs
Provides support specifically to the education and employment goals of Circle Leaders using job readiness materials and other preparation tools

THE SERVICES TEAM

Assures that there are sufficient resources to implement Circles by serving as an ambassador to local organizations and other stakeholders
Develops leads for car donations, revolving loans, matched savings programs, and self-sufficiency tools
Identifies and orients references at community services organizations that provide: housing, transportation, healthcare, financial assistance, appliance assistance, mental health community resources
Establishes and maintains a giving/receiving system within Circles

• Identifies & works to solve systemic barriers within the community that prevents an individual from moving out of poverty
• Gathers community leaders & Circle Leaders to be a part of the community discussions to enact change
• Assist with community-wide mindset change