

Reintegration of High Risk Sex Offenders through Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA): The California Experience

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Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) is a community-based program which has successfully assisted with the integration of high risk sexual offenders into the community in Canada since 1994. COSA has now come to California with a pilot program in Fresno. Participants in the workshop will gain understandings of the theory on which COSA is built and of the practical aspects of how Circles operate. Presenters will focus on the experience of COSA in California including start-up process, adaptations of the Canadian model which have been made, effectiveness, and community response. In this interactive workshop the presenters will utilize a multi-media approach along with group discussion.