

The Care Circle

How sponsors help people stay safely at home when they cannot pay for all the care they need.

DoveRescue answers two emergencies

Coverage Rescue

A caregiver calls out and the team cannot cover. DoveRescue finds coverage within the agency, then partner offices, then a wider network.

Care Circle

A client needs care but the money runs short — an insurance waiting period, a program waiting list, benefits used up. Sponsors pledge hours or funds so the visits continue.

How sponsorship works

1	Consent. A client (or their legal representative) agrees to be listed and approves exactly what sponsors will see (TDC-FRM-305). They can opt out at any time.
2	Need card. The agency publishes a de-identified need card: age range, general area, type of help, hours needed and a short story with no names, addresses, photos or diagnoses.
3	Choose. Sponsors browse need cards and choose a person's need (directed) or give to a shared fund for a region or kind of care (pooled).
4	Pledge. The sponsor commits hours or an amount, with a ceiling, a period and any conditions (TDC-FRM-507).
5	Hold. Funds are held by a partner nonprofit or a licensed payment processor — never by The Dove Circle or the caregiver.
6	Verify and release. Money is released to the agency only for visits verified by EVV clock-in and clock-out, up to the pledge ceiling.
7	Report. The sponsor receives de-identified impact reports: hours funded, visits verified, funds used and remaining (TDC-FRM-206).

Sponsor funds are one payer among others: the agency still bills insurance, VA, state programs and the family first where they apply. A pledge fills the gap; it does not replace benefits a client is entitled to.

Who can sponsor

Faith communities

Churches, mosques, temples, synagogues and other congregations caring for their neighbors.

Nonprofits and foundations

Aging, veterans, memory-care and community foundations funding a cause or a region.

Care providers

Living-assistance and home-care entities, nursing homes and senior-living communities giving back.

Government agencies

Agencies that choose to fund care through the Care Circle, under their own program rules.

Businesses

Local employers and community partners.

Families and individuals

A son covering extra hours for a parent, a neighbor, or anyone who wants to help.

Sponsors who provide or refer care (for example home-care, nursing-home or senior-living entities) may not receive referrals, client contact or anything else of value in return. Their participation is reviewed by counsel.

Ways to pledge

Choice	Options	Good to know
Who it helps	Directed — a specific need card Pooled — a shared fund for a region or kind of care	Directed pledges follow one person's need; if that need ends, the receiving charity decides where remaining funds go. Pooled pledges reach the most urgent needs first.
What you give	Hours of care (e.g. 10 hours a week) or an amount of money	Hours pledges include a maximum hourly rate so the total stays predictable.
How much	A ceiling : the most you will give for the period	Funds are released only for verified visits, never above the ceiling.
How long	One time, monthly, quarterly or yearly, for a set period	You can stop a recurring pledge for future periods with notice.
Conditions	Region, kind of care, veterans, memory care and similar	Conditions must be broad enough to be fair and practical.

Privacy: what sponsors see

- Sponsors see **de-identified need cards only**: age range, general area, type of help, hours needed and a short story the client approved word for word.
- Sponsors never receive a client's name, address, phone, photo or diagnosis, and never contact clients directly. A client may choose to send an anonymous thank-you note through the agency.
- Listing is voluntary. A client can opt out at any time, and saying no never affects their care.
- Impact reports are aggregated and de-identified; very small numbers may be withheld so no one can be recognized.

Money and taxes

- The Dove Circle does not hold sponsor funds. Pledges are paid to a partner 501(c)(3) nonprofit (or fiscal sponsor) or through a licensed payment processor.
- Card and bank details are entered only in the secure payment system, never on a paper form.
- Whether a gift is tax-deductible depends on the receiving charity and your own situation. Gifts paid through a for-profit processor are generally not charitable contributions. The IRS has said that contributions earmarked for specified individuals are not deductible (IRS news release IR-2001-96). Pooled gifts, where the charity keeps control, are more likely to qualify. Ask the receiving charity and your tax advisor.
- Any receipt comes from the receiving charity, not from The Dove Circle or the agency.

Get started

- TDC-FRM-205 Sponsor Enrollment
- TDC-FRM-507 Pledge Commitment (template, attorney review)
- TDC-FRM-206 Sponsor Impact Report Request
- Questions: hello@thedovecircle.com (cc messenger@thedovecircle.com)

In development. The Care Circle is being designed with a partner nonprofit and attorneys; no funds are collected yet. This guide is general information, not legal, tax or financial advice. Demos use simulated need cards.