## The Talking Circle

Follow the steps below to conduct a talking circle.

**Step 1:** Sit to form a complete circle.

**Step 2:** Choose a leader for the talking circle. The leader will start the conversation and make sure that the discussion goes well. A good leader is respectful and fair.

**Step 3:** After the leader has finished, the person seated to the left of the leader has a chance to speak. Move around the circle in a clockwise direction until everyone has had a chance to speak.

## **Talking Circle Guidelines:**

- Give your full attention to the person who is speaking. Be respectful.
- Don't interrupt a speaker. Wait until it is your turn to talk. Don't speak to other members of the circle when it is someone else's turn to speak.
- Don't take up too much time when it's your turn to speak. Make sure there is time for everyone to share their thoughts.
- The talking circle can end when everyone has had a chance to speak. However, if time allows, you can go around the circle again so people have a second chance to speak.
- If you don't wish to speak when your turn comes, you can say "Pass."
- Make sure your comments are truthful and sincere.
- Respect people's privacy by not sharing their thoughts outside the talking circle.