



Will you see me as a survivor too?

Survivor Care Network

A child-centred transition circle after a mother's release from prison

**Networking Corner · COPE
2026**

Dr. Smita Dharmamer · Aangan Trust, India

My mother came home. Why do I still feel unsure?

Sameera's release was not a simple reunion

**7 years in pre-trial
detention**

**3 children, three different
transitions**

**One release. Many unfinished
needs.**

Release may be the beginning of another transition for the child.



Who helps me understand what has changed?

Why children need community care too

Children are often expected to be resilient and coping.

But they also carry separation, stigma, fear, school disruption and unanswered questions.

The design question: can care be built around the child, not only the released parent?



Who notices if I stop speaking?

The child-centred transition circle

One trusted person

Lived experience support

System navigation

Early warning signs

A trusted circle can notice what formal systems may miss.





Who stands with my mother after the gate opens?

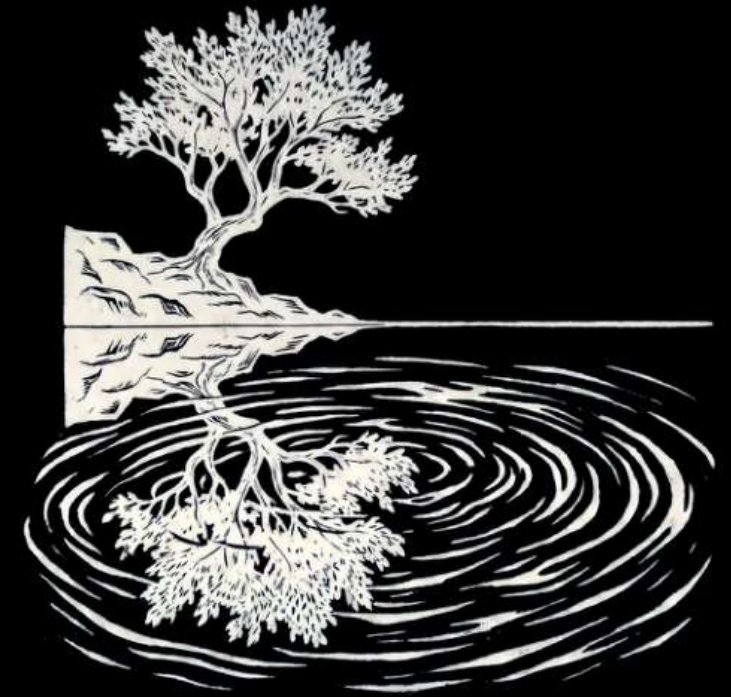
Sameera now: from survivor to supporter

Documents and court follow-up

School enrolment and birth certificate corrections

A mothers' phone-support group

First circle: around 10 women brought into the network



Who helps me cross into safety, routine and trust?

What COPE can help test

1. Name the trusted person close to the child and caregiver.
2. Connect mothers like Sameera with schools, legal aid and local services.
3. Treat the child as a survivor with their own recovery.

Child-centred · time-bound · practical · system-linked

