**“The Dance of Caring Persons”**

In Boykin and Schoenhofer’s theory of Nursing as Caring, the model for being in relationships resembles a dance of caring persons (Boykin, 1990).

The dance of caring persons is the image of dancers in a circle, moving freely as individuals while engaging in a rhythm that connects all. The nature of relating in a circle is grounded in respect for and valuing of person.

Each person is encouraged and supported in a culture that values person-as-person, person as caring.

All persons are committed to knowing self and others as living and growing in caring. Each person is in the circle because of their unique contribution to the person being cared for – Nurses, administrators, human resources, educators, etc.

Their roles would not exist if it were not for the nursed. As each person authentically expresses their commitment is being there for and with the nursed caring relationships are lived. (Boykin & Schoehhofer, 2001 as Caring, P. 36).



Major assumptions underlying the theory of Nursing as Caring:

* Persons are caring by virtue of their humanness
* Persons are caring moment to moment
* Persons are whole or complete in the moment
* Personhood is a process of living grounded in caring
* Nursing is both a discipline and a profession
* Personhood is enhanced through participating in nurturing relations with caring others