

Welcome to *NEW CIRCLES*

New Circles is committed to serving individuals and families who are living on a low income and reside in the communities we serve: Thorncliffe Park, Flemington Park, Victoria Village and Taylor-Massey, including Crescent Town. We serve others in need who reside outside of our service area, based on referrals from partner agencies. New Circles strives to make a positive impact on the lives of over 13,000 residents of our community by offering a range of FREE services and programs including a clothing service, employment training programs, social programs and volunteer opportunities.



Clothing Services

Welcome to New Circles. If you reside in New Circles' catchment area - M2J, M3A, M3B, M3C, M4A, M4B, M4C, M4G, M4H, or are a Syrian Refugee, you are eligible to utilize New Circles' FREE Clothing Service (GLOW) on a regular basis. In January, 2018, this service area will be expanded to include Oakridge (M1L). For others, who do not fall into this category but are struggling to make ends meet – they too are eligible to shop at New Circles, but only on a one-time basis and must be referred by an agency or social service professional. They will also be invited to participate in New Circles' other programs and activities.

→ **Clothing Program:** Clients are able to select clothing, at no cost, from our unique store-like clothing service, 'GLOW'. Shopping appointments are offered on either a quarterly basis, or semi-annually.

→ **Prom Boutique - Get in Gear for Graduation (April-May):** During prom/graduation season New Circles runs a 'Prom Boutique', where students can select formal dresses, suits, accessories and shoes for their upcoming prom at no cost. This program is open to all students who reside in the city of Toronto.

→ **Teen Shopping Days (Oct, Jan, March, June):** Teenaged clients (ages 14-18) are offered an opportunity to come and choose specially selected clothing, shoes, toiletries, school supplies and other basic necessities.

→ **Back to School Event (August):** Teenaged clients (ages 14-18) are offered an opportunity to come and choose specially selected clothing, shoes, toiletries, school supplies and other basic necessities.

→ **Spooktacular Event (October):** This is a Halloween Program that provides free costumes to children ages 0 – 12. All participants must register in the fall in order to attend this event.



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Volunteer Program

New Circles welcomes volunteers from the local and greater community. Many clients join our volunteer program to gain work experience, practice new language skills, meet new friends and become active in their community. Young people also volunteer to develop leadership skills and accumulate high school community hours. Volunteers also come from the wider community, making a weekly commitment to the Clothing Program.

Social Programs

→ **Friendship Circle:** This is an English conversation group that **meets every Tuesday from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Sept – June)** to practice language skills and socialize over a cup of tea and sweets! The group also engages in fun community trips, such as the Royal Ontario Museum, CN Tower and movie screenings.

→ **Peer Language Training:** PLT offers women, who are seeking to develop English language and literacy skills, an opportunity to meet on a one-on-one basis with a volunteer tutor to support their individual learning goals.

Certificate-based Programs

→ **Business Skills Program (BOS)**

Offered two times per year: Sept – Nov and Jan – March: In partnership with Centennial College and Labour Education Centre, New Circles delivers a Business Skills Program, providing business, administration and computer training via Centennial's curriculum. Participants will complete a 12 week program which includes both classroom learning and a workplace placement to apply their skills.

→ **Retail Foundations (RF)**

Offered two times per year: Sept – Nov and Jan – March: Retail Foundations is a part-time, continuous intake program that provides skills training in the areas of customer service and retail. Combining the curriculum of the Retail Council of Canada, with hands on experience, successful candidates are able to pursue their Retail Sales Associate certificate, receive pre-employment support and gain relevant workplace references.

→ **Leaders in Service Training (LIST)**

Offered from beginning of July – to end of Aug: This 7 week (full time) skills training program is delivered to high school youth (ages 15-18) The program combines an opportunity to develop retail experience, engage in philanthropy and develop pertinent life skills including workplace communication, conflict resolution and increase financial literacy. Youth will receive a \$250 honorarium at program completion.

If you would like to learn more about these programs, please call us at #416-422-2591 or email us at info@newcircles.ca or visit us at www.newcircles.ca