



Creating an **IMPACT**

September 2021 - August 2022



**new
circles**

clothing • connections • community



glow

Your Impact in Action

Hope, opportunity and skills for a brighter future. New Circles is a shining example of what a difference a caring community can make. The connections we make with our clients and our valued partners, help to create stronger communities that help to facilitate new beginnings.

New Circles Helps Make Dreams Come

Meet Zuhal Sidiqi.

She is tenacious and determined. Zuhal arrived in Canada after a difficult journey that took her from her home in Kabul, Afghanistan to Pakistan, where she fled due to civil unrest with her husband and 9-year old daughter.

As a child, Zuhal always had one goal in mind: to become a successful businesswoman. With that fierce determination, and even through the challenges of navigating life as a newcomer and immigrant to Canada, Zuhal moved forward with her goal. She was connected with New Circles and her world began to change.

She enrolled in our Business Office Skills program in partnership with Centennial College. Zuhal, through her work placement, was hired at New Circles as the Front Desk Representative and has come full circle as she helped others find their way and fulfil their dreams and goals.



"I found New Circles when I had no direction, and they helped me become the confident woman I am today. Surround yourself with positive people, use the resources that are available to you and don't be afraid to chase your dreams. You can achieve great things, and you deserve to be happy and successful in your new home. Welcome to Canada!"

Zuhal Sidiqi – New Circles client

You can change lives today.

GLOW | Gently Loved Outfits to Wear

Clothing empowers people and GLOW is the flagship program of New Circles. This past year, with your generous help, we assisted 14,422 equity-deserving individuals. Many of our clients are new to Canada and have had to flee their homes and their country because of war, fear of persecution or are refugees seeking asylum. Often, they arrive with only the clothes on their backs and are rarely prepared for the harsh Canadian winters.

GLOW, set up just like a retail store, is a free service where we offer a respectful shopping experience. Free clothing ensures that our clients have their additional dollars to spend on food and housing. This is critical support and through your donations we are pleased to report the following results this past year:



14,422 clients
enjoyed a positive
shopping experience



200,862 items of
clothing were provided



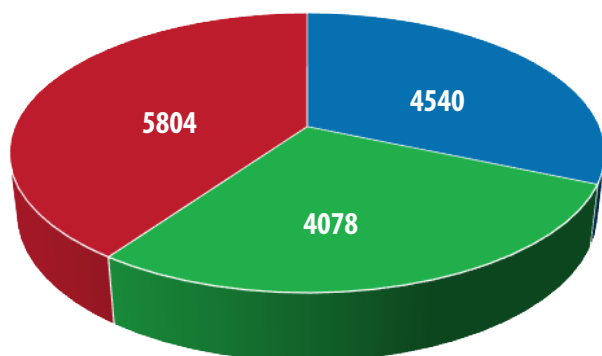
\$1,684,000 is the
estimated value of
clothing distributed

**based on an average price of \$8.63 per item*



GLOW Appointments

September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022



Men

Women

Children

**We are proud to have assisted
14,422 equity-deserving
individuals in our community.**

GLOW also serves as a retail training and customer services platform for our clients who graduate through our Retail and Customer Services Skills Programs. At New Circles, we know that clothing is just the beginning. Our focus remains on ensuring that we set up our clients for success, help them to build employable skills and help them transition into the workplace.



Building Skills and Changing Lives

Business Office Skills, a free, 12-week full-time training program for women, combines virtual instructor-led training and hands-on or remote experience in administrative and/or customer services positions. Participants complete a 70-hour paid work placement with partner agencies in the Greater Toronto area. Upon completion, graduates receive transferable college credits and certification from Centennial College. Offered twice a year, our graduates improve their business communication and presentation skills, learn how to write resumes, and practice job interview skills. Clothing is provided from our GLOW store to ensure that our graduates look and feel their best as they move forward with their job placements.

Our Retail and Customer Service Skills is also offered free of charge and is a full-time, 12-week program that includes a combination of virtual learning and hands-on experience in our GLOW store. Every successful graduate receives the Retail Sales Associate Certificate from the Retail Council of Canada.

Graduates develop problem-solving and time management skills, build up their professional confidence and gain valuable work experience through our GLOW store.



"I don't know where I would be without the help of New Circles. Because of their skills training program I found a job and my life has completely changed. I can provide for my family. I can hold my head up high."

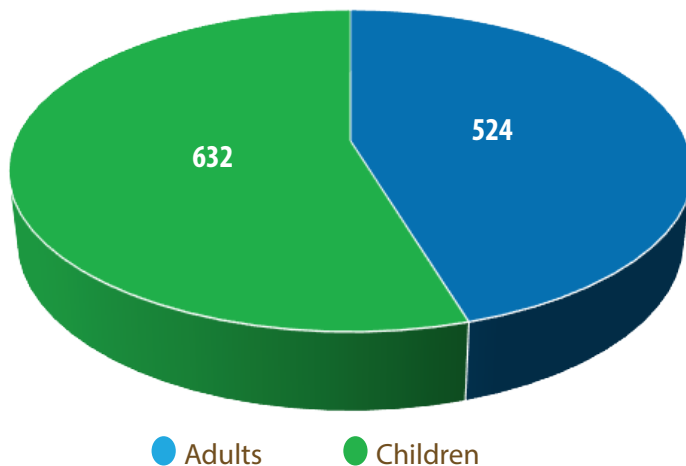
Moving to a New Country is a Culture Shock.

At New Circles we understand there is an adjustment for our clients as they get used to new foods, languages, customs, people, and surroundings. With your support, we are here to help. We assist in connecting our clients with housing, childcare, accessing social assistance such as Ontario Works, and navigating the immigration process.

The Settlement Support Program offers support to immigrants to Canada with personalized information, referrals, workshops, and other supports, in order to meet needs and assist with challenges beyond basic clothing.

Newcomer Settlement Program

September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022



Poverty and unemployment rates for newcomers are higher than average, placing this group among the most vulnerable population in Toronto.

Because of your investment, we were able to help 1,156 newcomers through this program.





Let's Just Stay At Home

Once again, our Stay At Home gala was a tremendous success. Raising **\$288,354**, we exceeded last year's total by **4%** because of your outstanding generosity. It feels so good to be a part of powerful change. Stay At Home is all about coming together to make our community stronger. **Social change is possible when we all work together.**



Thank You To All our Holiday Angels

Holiday Angel is a very unique program that matches generous donors with client families to help meet urgent needs and make holiday wishes come true. Our donors receive profiles of our clients, learn about their immediate needs, and then purchase gift cards from specific stores. Our clients receive those gift cards for grocery stores, clothing stores, and household stores. With a sense of dignity, this program allows our clients to choose their own groceries, toys, and particular items in the size and colour they like best.

This past year, with your help, our Holiday Angel program assisted **125** families.

Organization and Foundation Partners

New Circles is a not-for-profit, grass-roots agency that builds strong and caring communities by providing clothing and skills training programs to equity-deserving individuals. We remain incredibly grateful to the following supporters who made significant contributions and helped to change lives.

Organizations and Foundations \$100,000+

- The Caring Foundation
- The Slaight Family Foundation
- PVH Foundation

Organizations and Foundations \$50,000 - \$99,999

- Canerector Foundation
- RBC Foundation
- The Sprott Foundation

Organizations and Foundations \$20,000 - \$49,999

- The Arrell Family Foundation
- Canado Foundation
- The Catherine And Maxwell Meighen Foundation
- State Street - Charities Aid Foundation
- Tippet Foundation
- William Birchall Foundation

Organizations and Foundations \$10,000 - \$19,999

- The Charles H. Ivey Foundation
- Frederick and Douglas Dickson Memorial Foundation
- Hodgson Family Foundation
- The Joan and Clifford Hatch Foundation
- J & L Rogers Family Charitable Foundation
- J.P. Bickell Foundation
- The Sonor Foundation



**Thank you for being
a part of powerful
change.**

Organizations and Foundations

\$5,000 - \$9,999

- Crown Property Management Inc.
- The Henry White Kinnear Foundation
- The McLean Foundation
- St. Joseph Communications
- TD Bank

Organizations and Foundations

\$1,000 - \$4,999

- AMAPCEO
- The Browning Watt Foundation
- CHUM Charitable Foundation
- The George Lunan Foundation
- Grace Church on-the-Hill
- Love to Sew Podcast
- The MacGregor Family Foundation
- The Mariano Elia Foundation
- The Narwhal Inc.
- Nick & Lynn Ross Charitable Foundation
- The Nixon Charitable Foundation
- Ontario REALTORS Care Foundation
- The Ralph M. Barford Foundation
- Raymond James Canada Foundation
- Steed & Evans Holdings Inc.
- The Szego Family Foundation
- Anonymous - 1



**Your donations have helped
empower others.**

Individual Partners

Individuals \$20,000 - \$49,999

- Katya & Mark Gardiner
- Melanie Lauber & Graeme MacGregor

Individuals \$10,000 - \$19,999

- Anthony Hammill & Lindsay Blakely
- Stephan & Jeannie von Buttlar
- Firoz Ahmed & Susan Fisher
- Carolyn Blakely & Darren Karn
- Kristin Blakely-Kozman & David Kozman
- Anonymous - 1

Individuals \$5,000 - \$9,999

- Robert & Cindy Blakely
- Richard & Joan Boxer
- Julie Cheesbrough
- Kiki & Ian Delaney
- Heather & George Dickson
- Joan E. Eddy
- Chris & Caroline Newall
- John Grandy & Meg Salter
- Rod Davidge & Katy Waugh
- Anonymous - 3



“My son is usually so shy and reserved. But everyone at GLOW was so kind that he just came out of his shell. He loves his new coat! We can’t thank you enough.”

Shelley and Liam - New Circles clients

Individuals \$1,000 - \$4,999

- Joan Arruda
- Mary Wilson & Philip Arthur
- Tracey Lawko & Peter Blaiklock
- Harvey & Bev Botting
- Patti Bunston-Gunn
- Carol Cowan
- Jane and Jeff Cowan
- Charles Dougall
- Jock & Sue Fleming
- Scott & Peggy Gardiner
- Joy Gray-Donald
- Richard & Donna Ivey
- Brian & Sherril Johnson
- Carolyn Langill
- Janet Lin
- Phil Lind
- Nancy & Jon Love
- James & Danielle Macdonald
- Steve & Deirdre MacLeod
- Sabi & Amrin Marwah
- Diane Mavrinac-Ross
- Janet & Bruce McKelvey
- Linda Robinson
- Sajid Rizvi
- Tom & Barbara Ryder
- Elizabeth Lynn Saunders
- Catherine & Peter Singer
- Paul & Cathy Singleton
- William & Gail Szego
- Glenna and Richard Talbot
- Doug & Gail Todgham
- Jennifer Tory
- Helen Kearns & Gary Ursell
- Mary Usher-Jones
- Andrea Wojnicki
- Anonymous - 19

**Thank you for helping
to make our community
stronger.**



Message From Our Interim Executive Director and Chair of the Board

Fiscal year 2021-2022 was a year of transition for New Circles. Our employment team had already transitioned to online learning. And, we began reaching out to shelters to deliver clothing and to food banks and other community services to promote our services. Eventually, we began to re-admit clients at a safe pace and with the requirements of proof of vaccination and masking.

We were emerging from the pandemic. Regrouping. Relaunching. Aiming to bring back and grow our client base. And, just as we were re-emerging, we found ourselves in the midst of staff turnover in key positions.

We chose to frame the last quarter of our fiscal as a wonderful opportunity to focus on organizational readiness. On team readiness. We began determining the roles we would require for the future and recruiting for those roles. We began to clarify responsibilities and processes to prepare staff for their parts to be played. We also seized the opportunity to dialogue with our all-important funders and volunteer around their expectations.

As we go to print, our team is confident about the future and excited about expansion! And, we continue to be grateful for our many donors and volunteers who remain faithful to the cause in the toughest of times!

Sincerely,

Judy Fantham
Interim Executive Director
New Circles

Joan Arruda
Chair, Board of Directors
New Circles



Clothing • Connection • Community

New Circles is dedicated to nurturing a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment for all our clients. Operating within an anti-racist and anti-oppressive framework, we are strengthened by diverse backgrounds and understand that when people are respected and included, they are empowered.



MISSION

To create new circles and successful beginnings by providing clothing, connections, and programs to individuals and families in need.

VISION

A world where the provision of basic needs is the stepping stone to empowerment.



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