

Building Hope & Opportunity

September 1, 2022 | August 31, 2023
CREATING AN IMPACT



MEET MANSOOR

Growing up in Afghanistan, Mansoor's world was vastly different from a Canadian lifestyle. At the age of four, the Taliban murdered his older brother, beat, and tortured his father. All because of their faith. He knew, even at a young age, that he had to help his family financially.

After Mansoor graduated from high school, he opened a school with a focus on helping young Afghan women gain an education. But the Taliban had banned education for women beyond grade six level, and they ordered Mansoor to close the school. He refused, so next they ordered his execution.

He knew he had to escape. In fear for his life, he decided to flee to Canada. Recalling many nights in hiding listening to machine gun fire, he traveled from Kabul to Kandahar, and crossed the border to Pakistan.

Weeks later, he arrived safely in Canada. Finding his way to New Circles, he was assisted with free clothing, settlement services, and eventually was hired as part of the GLOW clothing store team. Mansoor never gave up on his dream to become a doctor, and he is now enrolled in university turning his dream into a reality.

At New Circles we have thousands of clients with similar stories, filled with bravery and perseverance.

You are a part of their journey and we thank you for your support.

"I saw the hardships young women experienced in Afghanistan and this is why I wanted to provide them with an education. Our female students were thirsty for an education."

VOLUNTEERS | The Heart of New Circles

At New Circles, we are incredibly grateful for the dedication, commitment and passion of our volunteers. Ranging in ages from high school students to seasoned, community members, they are the backbone of New Circles. From sorting and hanging clothing in our GLOW store, to assisting with our golf tournament and events, to serving on our Board of Directors, our volunteers bring a diverse range of skills and help us deliver our programs in an effective and efficient way.

In the past year we:



**welcomed 131
volunteers**



**36% increase from the
previous year**



Your support provides hope and opportunity. This is lasting, social change and this is the impact of your donation. Thank you.

BUILDING SKILLS AND CHANGING LIVES

When people are respected and included, they are empowered. This is the essence of our skills training programs; we provide our clients with the tools they need to be successful. We offer two programs, Business Office Skills Training and Retail & Customer Service Skills that each include 12-weeks of free training. From resume writing, to job interview skills, to retail training, we provide all the technology and ensure that each graduate receives paid internships the opportunity for mentoring from our more than 15 corporate and individual partners.

Here is the impact of your support:



63 paid internships



98 graduated from skills training



\$83,160 paid to interns



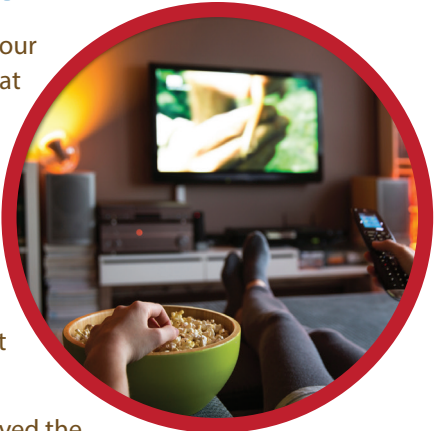
13 mentors

LET'S JUST STAY AT HOME

It's good to change the world around you but our Stay At Home campaign supports others so that they have the ability to change their world. This one-of-a-kind gala asks our donors to forget the sitter, the expensive dress and tuxedo, and instead, grab their favourite jammies and spend a night at home.

Donors to this program create measurable change through their generous support, and it all happens from the comfort of their home.

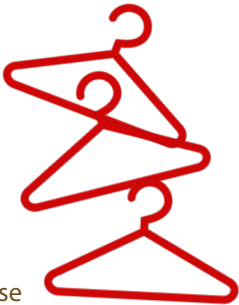
Thanks to your outstanding support, we achieved the following:



\$ **\$310,263 raised**  **14% increase in funds from the previous fiscal**

GLOW| Gently Loved Outfits to Wear

Everyone wants the opportunity to live their life to their full potential. At New Circles, we ensure that they do. In the past year, we have increased the number of clients we support by 48%. Many of our clients are fleeing perilous situations, arriving in Canada with only the clothes on their backs. We make sure they are prepared for our harsh Canadian winters, have back to school clothes for their children, including backpacks filled with school supplies. Clothing is a basic need and no one should have to choose between a warm coat and a warm meal. Your support makes sure they don't have to.



21,273 GLOW appointments



8,374 children



6,828 women



6,071 men



48% increase in clients assisted from the previous year

HOLIDAY ANGEL PROGRAM

Making Holiday Wishes Come True

Our Holiday Angel Program is unique in that it matches generous donors with client families to help meet urgent needs and make holiday wishes come true. Each family is interviewed to determine if they qualify for the program. Next, we reach out to a core group of committed donors and match our donors with a family. We share that family's particular needs and the donor then purchases gift cards based upon the wish list of the family. Our clients purchase their own items with the gift cards and shop with dignity. Last year, with the help of our outstanding donors, we accomplished the following:



125 families assisted



\$198,200 raised



7% increase in funds from the previous year

SETTLEMENT PROGRAM

Our Settlement Program connects our clients with housing, food security, mental health counselling, assistance securing doctors and dentists, and help navigating the immigration process. We meet with our clients individually to address their immediate needs and through our GLOW store, we ensure that free clothing is provided to every family member. With more than 40 social service and referral partners, our clients have access to social service agencies, public health, community organizations, and emergency services. We are there because of you. Your generous support ensures that we can provide a wraparound approach to well-being. This is collective impact in action and we couldn't do it without you.

In the past year:



1,284 needs assessment appointments



473 individuals have been referred to additional agencies for support



42 referral agencies and partners

FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

Making a Difference

New Circles is incredibly grateful to our many family foundations who generously support programs, ensuring that our equity-deserving clients are empowered to build better lives.

Here is our impact:



35 foundation partners



\$600,042 raised



46% increase in funds from the previous fiscal year



PROM 2023 | A Day of Celebration!

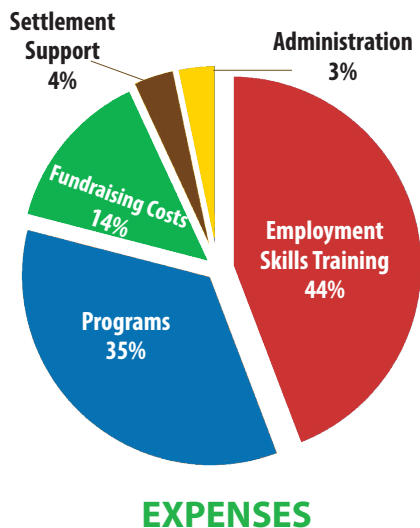
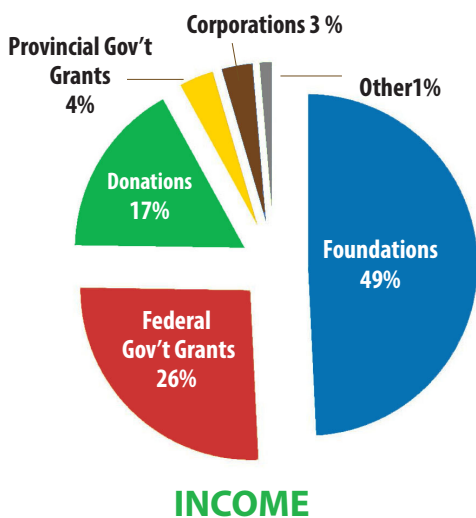
We were thrilled to bring back our Prom event. Many thanks to all our donors that provided their gently loved prom dresses, suits, ties, shoes, and jewellery. It was a special day for our guests who walked away with gorgeous outfits for their high school prom. Thank you for your wonderful donations – you put a smile on their faces.



You Are Empowering Others

New Circles is there to create new beginnings and provide a positive outcome. With community-based solutions, we break down barriers and remain steadfast in our approach to create change. You are a part of that impact, building success stories and helping to shape new lives filled with promise, opportunity, and a brighter future.

We don't take any of this lightly. Our appreciation is sincere. We daily see the changes our clients' experience and you are a big part of their success. For that, we remain incredibly grateful, and to you, we say, thank you.



New Circles Welcomes Their New Executive Director | Phil Groff

"We are thrilled to have Phil on board as he leads the team with great strategic focus, ensuring that we remain consistent with our mission and our values. At New Circles, we empower our clients and treat everyone with dignity and respect," said Joan Arruda, New Circles' Chair of the Board.

"I am so honoured to be the new Executive Director of New Circles. Our team has one goal in mind: improving the lives of newcomers, immigrants, and refugee claimants who are now calling Canada their new home. We build hope, opportunity, and skills so that our clients can have a brighter future," said Phil Groff, Executive Director.

Without your support, none of this would be possible. Thank you for being a part of powerful change.

With gratitude,



Phil Groff | Executive Director



Joan Arruda | Chair, Board of Directors

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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