

WHAT
IS
CIRCLES?

Circles reduces poverty

It's about intentional relationships across income lines. While middle-income and high-income families enjoy networks of support through their jobs, schools, and neighborhoods, families living in poverty rarely develop such contacts. Many who live in poverty are hardworking and motivated, so when a circle of support forms around them, advice is offered, contacts are shared, and the fears that keep people in poverty start to disappear.

Circles changes communities

Volunteers and participants grow and learn together. While participants navigate their way to prosperity, volunteers get an in-depth education on the culture of poverty. Participants' successes and challenges are also analyzed at monthly meetings with community leaders. This new understanding enables a community to identify, discuss, and often resolve the barriers that keep people in poverty. By changing the mindset, systems can be transformed from poverty management to poverty reduction.

Circles is working

Many communities are using Circles because the results are so encouraging. After 18 months, those in the program achieve an average 71% increase in their income.

CirclesABQ.org
CirclesABQ@gmail.com
123.456.7890

JOIN A
RESOURCE
TEAM



www.circlesusa.org

CIRCLES USA
IS CHANGING THE MINDSET
FROM POVERTY MANAGEMENT
TO POVERTY REDUCTION

WHAT ARE RESOURCE TEAMS?

Resource Teams are groups of diverse volunteers who contribute vital assistance, fresh ideas and vision to the Circles initiative. The five teams are:

- > **Community**
- > **Recruitment**
- > **Jobs and Education**
- > **Services**
- > **Big View**



"It allows me to see people overcome obstacles and struggles ... I'm just here absorbing all this happiness."

— Sam
Circles, Richmond VA



"... just knowing that I'm making a difference gives me purpose."

— Dionna
Children's Programs

THE COMMUNITY TEAM

- > Maintains a welcoming space for meetings
- > Plans and serves the weekly meals
- > Coordinates and delivers children's programming

THE RECRUITMENT TEAM

- > Publicizes Circles in the community
- > Recruits people who are ready to move from poverty to prosperity
- > Recruits volunteers for a wide variety of roles

THE JOBS & EDUCATION TEAM

- > Offers guidance about educational opportunities and financial aid
- > Helps participants define and plan their career paths
- > Connects those looking for work to job opportunities

THE SERVICES TEAM

- > Builds connections to local organizations that can help those in poverty
- > Connects participants to community services
- > Helps the Circles community support each other

THE BIG VIEW TEAM

- > Facilitates discussions about poverty with local leaders
- > Empowers participants to share their experiences with those in power
- > Encourages people to advocate for change in their communities

