

Community Connection: June 2019

Empowerment is the process of becoming stronger and more confident. **Empowerment** is our wish for the Circles RVA community. We support individuals as they take claim of their own lives and take control of their entire family's future.

Learn More



"When they first assigned me to my Allies, we didn't have any connection. I needed my Allies to see my world, so I invited them to my house... They were able to walk in my shoes and see how bad I want this."

-Darshee, Circles Leader

Darshee shares more of her story on [Virginia This Morning](#) and in the latest [edition](#) of the Virginia Episcopalian. Thank you, Shee, for your courage and transparency!



Christopher Rashad Green and Anita Johnson, of the New Virginia Majority, explored advocacy and civic engagement at our May Big View discussion.

The most effective form of advocacy is not necessarily about saying the right thing. Advocacy reaches beyond mere words. It is connection, empathy and proximity. It is doing life WITH people, ensuring a better quality of life moving forward. This is how Circles RVA advocates on a daily basis, through relationship.



"Sometimes I am intimidated by the title I hold. The title of 'coach' sounds like I am supposed to be an expert, coaching people out of poverty.

But constantly I remind myself, that's not how it works. I am humbled and relieved that I don't have to be an 'expert.' Instead, my role is to be a part of someone else's journey and help facilitate change.

Together at Circles, we can worry less about being experts and embrace building relationships, collective knowledge, and community."

-Helen Rai, Circles Coach

Expand Your Circle with us this June

JUNE 4

MATCH NIGHT

Leaders & Allies meet together

COHORT 2 TRAINING

JUNE 11

YMCA & TRICYCLE

Opportunities for a healthy summer

COHORT 2 TRAINING

JUNE 18

JOBS & EDUCATION

Updates on the RVA job market

COHORT 2 TRAINING

JUNE 25

BIG VIEW

Advocacy development with rISC