

Community Connection: May 2019

A leader can be defined as "one who directs." That is why the Circles' approach focuses on "Circle Leaders". They are strong individuals paving their own individual paths out of poverty with the support of the Circles RVA community.

Circles Allies, volunteers and supporters are watching their leadership skills unfold while also working to address larger scale barriers that individuals can't overcome on their own. Where could you fit in?

Visit our Website



inspiration from a
LEADER

"We are here as Leaders moving forward step by step. I am going to get where I want to go... I wanted to cook for this group because this group really cares for all of us. I can do this to show my appreciation."

-Fatima, Circles Leader

Fatima spoke in response to being recognized for preparing a meal for the entire Circles RVA community.



vision from the
BOARD

"I became involved in Circles because the process is truly transformative."

It isn't about band aids (as important as those are) or the status quo. Circles means change, positive change. It brings people together across the divides in our city and empowers people to thrive, building community to end poverty."

-Bo Millner, Board Member



words from an
ALLY

"Relationships have been built that would have never been built without a vehicle like Circles RVA. I see people who now have friends of different economic circumstance, race, faith, neighborhoods and genders. Through Circles we all work together toward a common goal — reducing poverty in our community."

I hope Circles RVA continues its steady progress, incorporating new Leaders, Allies, children and volunteers into our Circles RVA community until we are a well-



educate and engage
BIG VIEW

Author Kate Nixon Anania led our April Big View conversation, addressing concerns associated with credit scores. We will explore these challenges more in May as we transition to a focus on housing advocacy.

Speaking of advocacy, our Circles community joined voices from the Legal Aid Justice Center and other organizations to show support for a proposed budget amendment that would end driver's license suspensions for unpaid court fees.

known force for progress here in Richmond."

-Mary Ann Blankenship, Ally & Children's Program Coordinator

The amendment was passed and will prevent future court debt-related suspensions. Click [here](#) to learn more about the impact of this change.

Expand Your Circle with these Upcoming Events

MAY 7

MATCH NIGHT

Leaders and Allies meet together

MAY 14

CAPITAL ONE CAFE

Explore financial education resources

MAY 21

CAPITAL ONE CLASS

Education opportunity for Leaders & Allies

MAY 28

BIG VIEW

A conversation on housing advocacy



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