



February 2021

"It's not about the goal. It's about growing to become the person who can accomplish that goal." - Tony Robbins

Visit our Website



### New & Good: Welcome New Board Members

We are welcoming two new members to our Board of Directors: Shanteny Jackson and Darshee Clarke. Shanteny and Darshee bring a wealth of life experience to our team, as well as observations and insights specific to hindrances that prevent many Richmonders from rising out of poverty.

Shanteny and Darshee, as well as preceding Board Member Joy Thomas, are all graduates of Circles RVA's first cohort of participants. Together, they comprise a quarter of total Board membership.

Why is this noteworthy? Circles RVA an innovative approach to solving poverty in that our participants, aka Circle Leaders, LEAD the entire process. Ownership is essential. It's their vision, their goals, and their decisions that pave a path forward. Having Leader voices contributing to organizational decision-making in a material way solidifies our commitment to Leaders leading change.

Want to know more about our Board? Click [here](#) for a full list of Directors.

### Appreciations: Cohort 5 Bridging Ceremony

Seven Circle Leaders completed their 12-week training last month. We appreciate the dedication they showed to the training process and commend them for the initiative they are already demonstrating. For example, they scheduled their own meeting, outside of Circles programming, to work together on their vision board "homework" for last month's Bridging Ceremony.

It's clear that this group of Circle Leaders entered training as motivated *individuals* and have now become an uplifting *peer-group* for one another.

Similar to those in past cohorts, these Leaders have chosen the Circles community to be voices speaking into their lives. These Leaders have a circle of people who want the best for them and are cheering for them. They have a circle that will hold them accountable to the goals they set for themselves but will also be quick to show grace when life happens and detours arise.

There is wisdom in surrounding ourselves with encouraging people! We appreciate the many people who together comprise this collective positive voice.




Some members of the Circles RVA community have begun to get vaccinated while others are signing up for volunteer campaigns to administer vaccinations. Thank you to everyone who is stepping up to be **part of the solution.**



Credit? Budgets? Savings? Goals? Thank you to Virginia Credit Union for exploring all four in January's **Financial Health Workshop.** We look forward to participating in additional classes with their team.



Make a difference while you grocery shop. Link your Kroger Reward Card to Circles RVA and rack up donations through the **Community Rewards** program. Click [here](#) for info and follow the steps to link your card.

With a Circles RVA T-Shirt, you can share our message to

# EXPAND your CIRCLE

[Click to order](#) by February 12.



### Upcoming Events

FEB 2	FEB 9	FEB 16	FEB 23
<b>Cohort 5</b> Leader & Ally Mixer	<b>Cohort 5</b> Leader & Ally Mixer	<b>Cohort 5</b> Leader & Ally Mixer	<b>Big View</b>
<b>Cohorts 2, 3 &amp; 4</b> Match Night	<b>Cohorts 2, 3 &amp; 4</b> Leader & Ally Support Night	<b>Cohorts 2, 3 &amp; 4</b> Tax Resource Information	

\*\* ALL PROGRAMMING IS VIRTUAL.\*\*

Do you have a suggestion for future programming that would be meaningful to our Circle Leaders? [Share](#) your ideas with us!



