



May 2021

"Alone, we can do so little. Together, we can do so much." - Helen Keller



Circles RVA is one of 60+ Circles chapters across North America working to change communities and solve poverty. Last month our chapter was specifically recognized for our efforts and accomplishments in communicating our mission. We are honored to be awarded **BEST SOCIAL MEDIA** and **BEST VIDEO!**

If you aren't actively following us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Linked In](#) or [YouTube](#), now is your chance to get connected and see our mission in action!



### New & Good: Leap Fund

As families work to increase their household income, support offered by public assistance programs phases out. This is a challenging hurdle that must be crossed on the long-term road to self-sufficiency.

Circles RVA is now partnering with Leap Fund to offer personalized coaching for Circle Leaders facing the benefits cliff. Leap Fund's calculator tool helps identify if and when someone will hit this cliff and what the financial impact will be.

While this doesn't eliminate the overriding challenge, it does allow us to start the conversation early with solid information. Leaders, and their Allies, can then consider making data-driven decisions and more effectively plan for the future.

In addition, to aid macro-level change, Circles USA has developed a [policy platform](#) with recommendations for local, state and national levels.

### Appreciations: Volunteers

Long-term, sustainable change demands people who are willing to go beyond the surface. Circles RVA's volunteers dive deep by spending their time directly investing in people. They are sowing seeds that will continue grow over a lifetime.

Over 100 volunteers are actively engaged with the Circles community as Allies, meal delivery volunteers, youth e-mentors and offering other expertise to benefit growth of Circle Leaders. We appreciate each and every volunteer and the unique contribution they make to our mission.

We celebrated our volunteers during National Volunteer Week with recognition on HandsOn Greater Richmond's [Power of Good](#) Wall and an in-person appreciation event.

With every deed, you sow a seed. Thank you to all of our volunteers who are sowing seeds into the lives of Circle Leaders.




We are partnering with Sedona Taphouse for their **Dine Out for Charity program**. Dine-in or carryout at the Glen Allen location any Monday this month to support a local restaurant AND generate funds for Circles RVA. Click [here](#) for the promotion menu.



Many Leaders join Circles out of love, to better their children's present and future. You can support these Leader moms AND honor a mother figure in your life by giving to **our Mother's Day campaign**.



April's Big View addressed making **sense of government benefits**. Thank you to representatives from the Henrico County Department of Social Services and the Virginia Poverty Law Center for offering their perspectives and expertise.

### Upcoming Events

MAY 4	MAY 11	MAY 18	MAY 25
<b>Match Night</b> Cohort 2-4  <b>S.M.A.R.T. Goals</b> Cohort 5  <b>** ALL PROGRAMMING IS VIRTUAL.**</b>	<b>VACU Workshop</b> Your Credit Score	<b>Post-COVID Info Session</b> Participate in our decision-making process for our return to in-person meetings.	<b>Big View</b> Prepping for the Primaries

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