

Support New Circles

Think Philanthropic: Have fun and feel good at your next event!

Helping your community just got easier. New Circles has some simple ways in which to turn your next event into an opportunity to help others.

What can I do at my workplace?

- 1) Dress Down Day: Ask employees to bring in new or gently used clothing / bedding donations. In return, they are able to 'dress down' for a day.
- 2) Make it relevant: Ask for donations to coincide with an existing theme or event. For example, if you are having a holiday work lunch ask employees to bring in a 'warm something' for New Circles (i.e. coats, hats, socks, mitts, scarves etc.).
- 3) Run a Clothing Drive. See newcircles.ca for support in coordinating a Clothing Drive.
- 4) Have a Bake-Off! In this cooking competition, ask your coworkers to prepare their best 'baked goods'. Have a 'selection committee' that will crown the winner (prizes can include bragging rights or a reward if office budgets permit). At the end, all the baked goods can be sold off to the office staff with proceeds going to New Circles.

What can I do as an individual?

- 1) For your next celebration (birthday, anniversary etc.), ask your guests to donate clothing, shoes or bedding items in lieu of bringing a gift.
- 2) Get fit and have fun! Develop a fitness goal with a group of friends (i.e. completing a 10 km walk). Set a date and have your friends / family donate clothing or bedding items as 'pledges' to support your goal.
- 3) Involve your children! Promote giving, caring and philanthropy. Explain how 34% of New Circles' clients are children – all of whom are living in poverty. Have them offer free services in exchange for children's clothing items. For example, perhaps they can rake leaves, mow a lawn or walk the neighbour's dog...this is a fun and easy way for children to be directly involved in making a difference.
- 4) Host an international potluck, dinner party or theme party. The catch? Charge an admission fee of 3 new or gently used clothing items per guest!
- 5) Gather a group of friends and volunteer! New Circles welcomes helping hands in our sorting room. Collect donations and volunteer for a day as a group – this will allow you to see the direct impact your generosity has on our community.

These are just some of our ideas that have proven to be a success in the past. Feel free to get creative and think of your own ways in which to 'Think Philanthropic'! Give us a shout at volunteer@newcircles.ca for further questions and ideas.