



Thought Leadership Blog



It's the season of gift shopping, finishing up year-end projects, prepping for family visits, and all the other holiday to-dos. Our Development Director, Lauren Riegelneegg, offers five ways you can do good this season without a significant time commitment in this month's blog post.

[Read the blog here!](#)

Circle of Hope Recap

Your gift matters...

BECAUSE it helps women like Nina find a job they love.



After graduating from the Community College of Allegheny County, Nina found herself stuck and frustrated in her job search during the heart of the Covid pandemic.

"During Covid, I felt kind of lost. It was scary because everything was so unknown," Nina explained. "I had taken the proper steps to move forward in

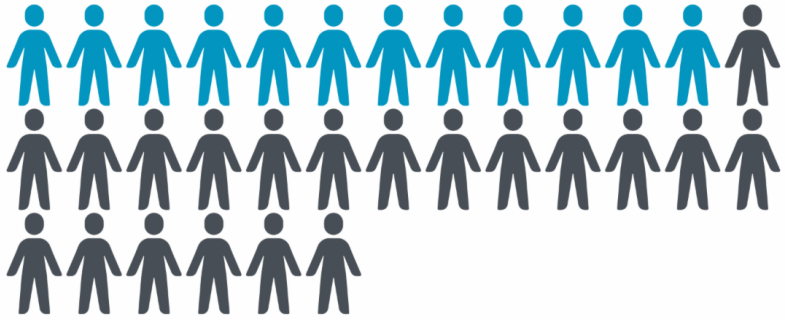
life and when something like that happens, I don't think anyone can prepare for the fallout of what happens next."

Looking for guidance, she joined 3 Cups of Coffee GRAD. **BECAUSE of generous supporters like you, Nina got the help she needed to find a job she loves as a behavioral therapist.**

"Without this program, I don't think I'd be where I am today," Nina said.

We launched a goal on Giving Tuesday to raise funds to serve 32 more job-seekers over 32 days. Every \$250 that our community contributes translates into programs and services for another client.

With your help, we are working toward our goal:



Thanks to your incredible support during last month's Circle of Hope, **we raised more than \$115,000** to support more job-seekers on their path to success. We are so grateful to everyone who participated. Below are some key takeaways from this year's event!

- 250+ guests
- 3 Empowerment Awards for incredible clients
- 1 Circle of Hope Award for a leading business - Howmet Aerospace
- 16 generous community sponsors
- 51 career development workshops funded
- 26 new mentorships made possible
- 30 resume reviews enabled
- 100s of lives changed

...and 1 very grateful community non-profit.

Thank you for your support.

Upcoming Classes

New Choices

Jump start your job search today! [Sign up](#) for our FREE New Choices program and boost your resume, practice interviewing, build your confidence, and more.

- Jan. 10-14, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Jan. 24-28, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Make your gift today and join our community of givers **BECAUSE** when you support someone on their path to finding employment, you change their life.

GIVE NOW

Making spirits bright **Clients and children receive gifts for the holidays**



Thanks to a gift from an anonymous donor and support from the Compassion Fund, we spread holiday cheer this month to families and women in need. Earlier this week, we wrapped gifts of warm winter

coats, boots, clothing and toys for PA Women Work clients and their children.

These moms are currently working with our staff to find employment that will enable them to support themselves and work toward a better life. We are delighted to provide joy and keep their kids warm with much needed winter wear this holiday season.

Additionally, we assembled gift bags for more than 20 of our GROW clients who currently reside in transitional housing as they build their skills and prepare to enter the workforce after incarceration or rehabilitation. Many of them will not have the opportunity to see their families for the holidays. We want our gifts to provide these brave women joy and comfort and let them know we are thinking

Client Support Services

Already taken New Choices but need a little more support to land that next job? We got you covered. [Join us](#) for one of the below opportunities to get things on track.

Mindful Career Exploration12-1 p.m.

- Dec. 20: Expressive Writing
- Jan. 24: What is Mindfulness
- Jan. 31: Breathing Exercises

A Closer Look10-11:30 a.m.

- Jan. 4: The skills you bring
- Feb. 1: The first impression

Virtual Mock Interviews9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- Jan. 6

Employer Meet & Greets9-11 a.m.

- Jan. 19

[Register now.](#)**Current volunteer opportunities**

You can help make a difference at PA Women Work! Below are our current volunteer needs. [Sign up today.](#)

Immediate volunteer needs

- Mock Interviews: Jan. 6, 9-11 a.m.
- Employer Meet & Greet: Jan. 19, 9-11 a.m.

Ongoing volunteer needs

- Advocacy

of them during the holiday season. The gift bags included personal care items, card games, warm blankets and socks, snacks and more.

The Compassion Fund was launched earlier this year in honor of our former CEO, Julie Marx-Lally, who retired in June 2021. The dollars raised through this fund allow our organization to provide the necessary support to our clients as needed. If you'd like to learn more or make a donation, please visit <https://bit.ly/jmlcompassionfund>.

Volunteer spotlight: Joyce Rollins

Behind every successful non-profit event, there is a team of dedicated volunteers working diligently for months on end to make sure that the celebration goes off without a hitch. We are incredibly grateful to *our* Circle of Hope event committee members who contributed to this year's record-breaking success.

Joyce Rollins, a former client and current volunteer, was a key member of the team. "If you won a basket in the auction, thank Joyce Rollins," said PA Women Work Development Director Lauren Riegelneegg. "Joyce was pivotal to our success – following up on donations, making phone calls to local businesses, and even contributing some silent auction items herself."

When asked what inspired her to get involved, Joyce had this to say: "I went through the 3 Cups of Coffee GRAD program at CCAC. It was such a rewarding experience for me. I believe in PA Women Work's mission and wanted to give back to a program that has given me so much."

Joyce's favorite committee moment was hearing about the success of the event, how "teamwork made the dream work," and knowing that her efforts can help PA Women Work expand their programming and assist more clients. "If you are passionate about helping others, this is one organization that can fill that space in your heart," shared Joyce.

Thank you, Joyce and the Circle of Hope Committee, for helping to make this year's event such a success!

New Year, New You, New Choices!

- Mentors
- Present to our clients
- Fundraising and events

Thank you to our funders!



A special thank you to the **American Eagle Foundation** for their generous support of our 3 Cups of Coffee GRAD program. Your partnership allows us to help recent college graduates find their place, put their degree to work, and achieve their career goals with the help of a mentor through our program.

For a full list of 3 Cups of Coffee GRAD funders, [click here](#).



As this year comes to a close, we know many of you are gearing up for new goals and resolutions for 2022. If you or someone you know is beginning their job hunt in the new year, New

Choices is here to help. Join us to create an improved resume, learn effective ways to write a cover letter, update your LinkedIn profile, practice your interview skills, build your confidence and so much more.

Our first class of 2022 is January 10-14 from 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. or 6 – 8:30 p.m. [Reserve your spot in the class now!](#)

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