

# Who we are

Each year  
at A Wider  
Circle:

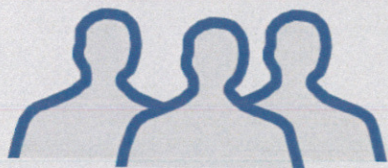


4,200

homes furnished

1,500

men and women prepared  
for the workforce



15,000+

volunteers

A Wider Circle's mission is simple: to end poverty for one individual and one family after another.

Our holistic approach includes the provision of beds, dressers, and other basic need items, job skills training, youth and adult education, and long-term support. A Wider Circle is open 7 days a week, 365 days a year. In addition to receiving 500 telephone calls per day, we receive more than 400 referrals per month from large and small nonprofit and government agencies. We say no to nobody.

Local and National Recognition:

**The Washington Post**  
*"The very best of Washington"*



**WASHINGTONIAN**

**CNN HERO**

*In 2014, Founder Mark Bergel was named a CNN Hero and a Washingtonian of the Year*

For more information:

301-608-3504 [contact@awidercircle.org](mailto:contact@awidercircle.org) [www.awidercircle.org](http://www.awidercircle.org)



# The Programs of A Wider Circle

## Neighbor-to-Neighbor

Seven days a week, teams of staff and volunteers collect donated furniture and other household items from across the region and bring them to our Center for Community Service. There, families choose the items they need – free of charge. Through this grassroots approach, we are able to furnish the homes of more than 4,000 children and adults each year.



## Professional Development

A Wider Circle helps individuals to enter or re-enter the workforce in the following ways:

### **Job P.R.E.P. Boot Camp: Providing Real Employment Preparation**

An intensive, 40-hour training program focusing on resume-writing, interview skills, career path identification, and job advancement

### **Professional attire and accessories**

A beautiful showroom of suits, suit separates, purses, briefcases, and everything else needed to interview for and maintain employment

## Well Mother, Well Baby

An educational and outreach initiative preparing low-income, pregnant teens for a healthy pregnancy and a bright future. Programs are delivered at area high schools and include weekly classes on topics such as labor and delivery, parenting skills, breastfeeding, nutrition, and child safety. Upon completing the classes, participants are given baby showers, at which they receive cribs, changing tables, car seats, bottles, diapers, and more – all free of charge.



## Wellness Workshops

Every month, A Wider Circle offers dynamic workshops on topics such as Financial Literacy, Stress Management, Nutrition, and Healthy Parenting. Workshops are delivered at our headquarters and at shelters and community organizations throughout the region.

## Public Housing Wellness

Low-income seniors and individuals with disabilities who live in public housing are provided with wellness and activity programs, including holiday and weekend activities.



# A Wider Circle at Barry Farm

A Partnership with Barry Farm's Resident Council and the DC Housing Authority



## Background

Since its inception in 2001, A Wider Circle has provided basic need items and educational workshops to more than **150,000** individuals and families. Our efforts to end poverty have also led us to low-income schools and neighborhoods, where we deliver myriad programs aimed at helping one individual and one family after another to rise out of poverty.

Barry Farm is one such neighborhood, with **100%** of its residents living in deep poverty. The story of Barry Farm's residents is the story of many low-income neighborhoods: young women becoming teen moms and young men experiencing a chronic lack of opportunity that leads to lost potential and, often, to lost lives.

## Building Community

On May 2, 2015, A Wider Circle opened its new center onsite at Barry Farm in Southeast DC. Occupying two adjoining units, we are partnering with residents and other service providers to create a safer and more vibrant neighborhood.

The following services are free of charge to all Barry Farm adults and children:

- Department Store & Pantry
- Professional Attire & Accessories
- Job Skills Training
- Youth Mentoring & Tutoring
- Long-term Individual & Family Support
- Life Skills Workshops
- Spa & Relaxation Area

## An Opportunity Arises . . .

Members of the Barry Farm Resident Council first met A Wider Circle during a backpack and food distribution that A Wider Circle held in August 2014 at a church located nearby to Barry Farm. By late 2014, the Resident Council approached A Wider Circle about bringing more of its services to Barry Farm. In partnership with the DC Housing Authority and the Resident Council, A Wider Circle opened its new center in Barry Farm in May 2015.

This partnership is an opportunity to create significant change for those in need of support and to help Barry Farm families strive for a future filled with dignity, independence, and opportunity.

**At A Wider Circle, we know that this is not just the right thing to do, it is the only thing to do.**

**DIGNITY**  
*Love*  
**INDEPENDENCE**  
*opportunity*

For more information, please contact **A Wider Circle:**  
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