

A WIDER CIRCLE

A unique, holistic approach to ending poverty

To Our Great Volunteers,

There is no question or close second. Birth is by far the number one reason that the people we serve are in poverty. At A Wider Circle, we are tired of seeing so many children born into poverty, only to remain there for life. In a region and a country with so much, too many people live with too little. We know we can change this, and it is our mission to help one individual and one family after another to rise out of poverty.

We work seven days a week, 365 days a year because nobody we serve is in poverty Monday-Friday, from 9:00-5:00. Our holistic approach focuses on the provision of basic need items, workforce development, wraparound support, and neighborhood revitalization. Since 2001, A Wider Circle has served more than 185,000 of this region's most vulnerable children and adults.

The key to our organization's work is unquestionably volunteers. The following excerpt is an example of the impact our volunteers make in the lives of these families:

“This has been an absolutely uplifting experience! To see the length others will go from the kindness of the heart is amazing. It goes to show what could be so little to one person can be everything to someone else... Thanks to all the volunteers and staff!”

Darius, A Wider Circle client

Today, you will have the opportunity to help individuals like Darius who are working hard to rise out of poverty. Be sure to sign-in and complete our volunteer agreement and waiver before you start.

Please consider coming again; we welcome volunteers every day of the week!

Thanks for being part of the solution,



Mark Bergel, Ph.D.
Founder, Executive Director



Kaitlynn O'Leary
Director of Operations

Want to DOUBLE your impact as you gear up to volunteer with us? Please consider hosting a personal care and nonperishable food items drive.

Through A Wider Circle's Neighborhood Partnerships Program, we serve communities where hunger is present everyday. Not only is there a need for food, there is a need of basic necessities. These items provide the dignity and stability that are crucial as we walk alongside our neighbors on their journeys out of poverty.

**Healthy
Non-perishable
Food**

**Personal Care
Items and
Toiletries**

**Non-toxic
Cleaning
Supplies**

**Fans and Air
Conditioner
Units**

We welcome donations of these items new and unopened condition please. If you would like a collection box or materials to help you spread the word (e.g. emails template and/or electronic flyers,) simply email partner@awidercircle.org.

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Volunteer Agreement

Thank you for volunteering with A Wider Circle! The success of our programs depends largely upon volunteers like you. As you work today, please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- **Please be respectful and courteous to all people at all times. When you are here, remember that you represent A Wider Circle. This means not engaging in potential offensive behavior including cursing, horseplay, and wearing clothes that are potentially offensive.**
- **Communication should be professional at all times. Everyone is here to serve and help others, and that should be the spirit of every interaction – with donors, clients, and other volunteers.**
- **Please refrain from using your cell phone while volunteering. It is important to be present for the work you are assisting with.**
- **Slow down! Rushing to unpack and move items causes injury to people and furniture.**
- **Remember to lift items properly (with your knees, not your back), and to take breaks when you need them.**
- **Be kind to the floor and walls. Please do not drag furniture as it may scuff or damage the floor. Maneuvering items can be tricky; please be patient and plan accordingly.**
- **Please do not fill empty shelves with items that don't belong there. If there is no space in the designated area, please ask a staff member for assistance.**
- **If a piece of furniture is taken apart, please tape together and label all of the pieces. Disassembled and unlabeled items are not selected by our clients and are eventually trashed.**
- **If you need to track your volunteer hours, please ensure you always sign in and out on the logs. We can only verify the hours logged in our system.**
- **All volunteers under the age of fourteen need to be accompanied by an adult chaperone.**
- **Remember, you are not expected to be an expert. If you are uncertain of anything, please ask a staff member, intern, or an experienced volunteer for help.**

Again, thank you for taking your time to help others through A Wider Circle!

I have read these statements and by signing below, I agree to adhere to these guidelines.

Signature

Date

Volunteer Waiver

Please initial next to each of the following statements:

_____ I understand that volunteering with the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Program poses the risk of accident, injury, death, and property damage, and, therefore, volunteers are required to follow the instructions of A Wider Circle staff and interns at all times. Volunteers may be asked to carry heavy items, work in areas with low vertical clearance, operate vehicles, and perform other tasks that can be considered dangerous. By signing this form, I verify that I understand that I am exposing myself or my child to accident, injury, death, and property damage through volunteering with the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Program.

_____ I understand that illegal use of a controlled substance will not be tolerated. Any volunteer possessing or using a controlled substance will be required to immediately leave the premises.

_____ I have disclosed any pertinent information regarding any criminal background, and understand fully that A Wider Circle has a zero tolerance policy for drugs, alcohol, sexual harassment, criminal activity, and unprofessional communication while you are associated with the organization.

_____ I have read and initialed the volunteer information sheet.

_____ I agree that A Wider Circle may take photographs of myself or my child and use these images to promote the purposes of A Wider Circle with no compensation due to me. (Check here if you would prefer NOT to have you or your child's photograph taken.)

I shall at all times indemnify, defend, and save A Wider Circle and its agents harmless from, any and all damages, losses, claims, including claims and actions relating to injury to or death of any person or damage to property, demands, suits, recoveries, costs and expenses, court costs, attorney fees, and all other obligations by or to third parties, arising out of or resulting from participation in A Wider Circle's aforementioned activity, except in cases of gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing by A Wider Circle or its agent.

Signature of Volunteer OR Parent/Legal Guardian if under 18

Date

Print Name of Volunteer & Parent/Legal Guardian if under 18

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Employer/ School: _____

Please add me to your email list! Please add me to your mailing list. (approx. 3 mailings per year)!

How did you hear about A Wider Circle? _____

Please check the box that corresponds to your age: 5-12 13-17 18-25 26-49 50-64 65+

In the event of an emergency, the following person should be contacted:

Name of contact (print) *Relationship* *Phone*

Parental Consent (for volunteers under 18 unaccompanied by an adult):

_____ has my permission to participate in this A Wider Circle event.
Name of volunteer

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date