

# York County Circles™

## VOLUNTEER INTEREST SURVEY

Your skills, knowledge and interest can make a difference in someone's life!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBERS \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Work Cell

WORK ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional) \_\_\_\_\_

We are looking for volunteers to help with a wide variety of tasks. You may want to befriend a Circle Leader and become a Circle Ally, or you may want to share a particular skill or help to provide food or child care. Please indicate your areas of interest below.

**Please return your survey to: York County Circles™, 750 Kelly Drive, York, PA 17404**

### Allies:

- I want to be an Ally
- I can recruit other people to serve as allies
- I will speak to groups and/or community leaders to recruit allies

### Building Financial/Educational Resources:

- I want to help Circle Leaders complete their high school diploma or GED
- I want to develop relationships with workforce development and job training programs
- I want to help Circle Leaders apply for higher education and make a plan to succeed
- I want to help Circle Leaders investigate job opportunities
- I want to help Circle Leaders write resumes and submit job applications
- I want to help Circle Leaders practice their interview skills
- I want to help Circle Leaders learn the hidden rules of their new job
- I want to help Circle Leaders develop back-up plans for transportation and child care
- I want to help Circle Leaders who want to start their own businesses

### **Weekly Meetings:**

- I want to help prepare the weekly meal
- I will recruit others to prepare meals
- I want to provide child care at weekly meetings
- I will recruit others to provide child care at meetings
- I want to help schedule speakers for the weekly meetings
- I will help people get to and from meetings
- I want to welcome people to meetings and make newcomers feel at home

### **Big View Meetings** (once a month; investigating community-wide issues):

- I want to help work with the media
- I want to help collect stories that we can share with the partners and funders
- I want to work with Circle Leaders to help decide what to focus on first
- I want to help prepare for periodic Big View meetings
- I want to do research on barriers so we understand what the situation is
- I want to help find best practices of how other communities have overcome their barriers
- I want to engage government officials to make progress toward removing barriers

### **Resource Team:**

- I want to help create a website
- I want to help organize a car donation or low-interest car loan program
- I want to create an email request system to help people find appliances, furniture, help with car repairs, etc.
- I want to help develop a revolving loan program for Circle Leaders
- I want to sponsor a *Getting Ahead* participant's stipend of \$300
- I want to help sponsor weekly meeting expenses
- I have other ideas, like: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Guiding Coalition**

York County Circles™ is lead by a community **guiding coalition** with staff support from the Financial Stability Programs of Lutheran Social Service of South Central Pennsylvania. The coalition is made up of a cross-section of community members from all economic classes including the chairs of sub-committees. We always welcome new members of the guiding

coalition! If you or someone you know might be interested, please check the appropriate box below.

- I would like to serve on the Guiding Coalition.
- I can recommend someone to serve – please call me.

## YORK COUNTY CIRCLES™ GLOSSARY

**Circles™ Initiative** – An innovative and intentional approach to befriending individuals and families that want to move toward financial stability by building their social, educational and financial resources. The initiative is described in detail at [www.movethemountain.org](http://www.movethemountain.org).

**Guiding Coalition** – A group of caring community residents who provide energy and resources to organize a Circles™ Initiative as a tool for moving participants with low incomes toward financial stability.

**Circle** – A small group of volunteers befriending an individual or family that is moving toward financial stability. The group usually meets once or twice a month.

**Circle Leader** – The adult(s) in a family who are committed to moving toward financial stability. They have completed the *Getting Ahead* workshops and developed a personal plan to build social, education, financial and other resources in order to achieve goals.

**Circle Allies** – Circle members who are committed to helping the Circle Leader reach personal and family goals. They have completed the *Bridges Out of Poverty* training.

**Ad Hoc Allies** – Caring adults with specific skills or information needed by Circle Leaders in order to achieve goals.

**Big View Meetings** – Monthly meetings where the causes of poverty and lack of resources are addressed over time, including systemic and community issues.

**Getting Ahead** – A book title and series of workshops designed to provide prospective Circle Leaders with a model for understanding the culture of people living in different economic classes: low-income, middle class, and wealth. It provides a process to investigate lack of resources in one's own life and in the community. At the conclusion of the workshops, participants develop a personal plan to build resources and move toward financial stability.

**Bridges Out of Poverty** – A book title and a training curriculum designed to provide a model for understanding the culture of people living in different economic classes: low-income, middle class, and wealth. It provides a common language for building relationships across socio-economic lines and is used in Circle Ally training.

**Until It's Gone** – Primary text for introducing the mission of ending poverty and helping families build resources, and the Circles™ approach.