
THE HEART & THE HANGER



Volume 3, Issue 2

THE RELIEF BOUTIQUE, INC.

Fall 2013

THE RELIEF BOUTIQUE'S 500th CLIENT!



Carolyn and Victoria with our 500th Client

The Relief Boutique assisted our 500th client, *Kathy*, from the Coalition for the Homeless, on August 20, 2013. Kathy is participating in the First Step Job Training Program and we wish her the best of luck during her training, her internship and on her first job upon completion of the program.

We send a special thank you to our volunteer Lead Stylists, Carolyn Young and Victoria Townes-Griffith, who have provided *clothing and caring* to each of our 500 clients and counting.

“So many amazing experiences happen at The Relief Boutique,” says *Carolyn*. “When we match that perfect outfit to the perfect client, and see the most unbelievable smile on her face, we know that

all of our caring efforts are important and worthwhile.”

“At The Relief Boutique, we help each client find her own style,” adds *Victoria*. “We teach them to: *love their bodies *wear what makes them feel comfortable and *show off their best features.”

We are so happy to have achieved this milestone. Each client who comes to The Relief Boutique helps reinforce our commitment to women in the community. We look forward to our next 500 clients!



Just a few of our first 500 clients

THE RELIEF BOUTIQUE WORKSHOP

Education, Encouragement, Empowerment

On October 29, 2013, The Relief Boutique hosted a workshop at Suite 116 to assist women and men prepare for job interviews. The workshop was made possible by a grant from the *Open Meadows Foundation*.



Workshop Discussion



Jami'a and Yasmine Presenting



Sharing Information and Experiences

This was the first workshop held by The Relief Boutique as part of our mission to assist women to prepare for the workforce. Workshop topics included guidance on preparing for interviews, making the best impressions, dressing appropriately for an interview, dressing appropriately in the workplace, and presenting résumés, cover letters and job applications. Speakers included Relief Boutique Board Members along with *Jami'a Dunlap*, a professional hair stylist (www.kautharisvisions.com), who spoke to participants on hair care and professional hair styles and *Yasmine Lancaster*, an employment counselor and former Relief Boutique client, who provided advice and guidance to women as they search for employment.

The morning workshop also included raffle prizes, giveaways and breakfast for a group of 32 women and 2 men. We received positive feedback and a request from participants to host this event every year.

The Relief Boutique is grateful for the support of the Open Meadows Foundation. We also thank presenters Jami'a and Yasmine and all of the women and men who attended the event. We look forward to offering additional educational programs in the future.

FROM OUR INBOX:



Here's an example of the messages of thanks that we receive from our clients. Your support of The Relief Boutique is greatly appreciated by clients!

Subject: Thank You Relief Boutique!

Hi Robyn, Thank you a lot for the outfit. My warm thanks to your volunteers who were very helpful. It made me feel good. I am on my way to the Job Fair now!

VOLUNTEER DAY



Robyn (center right) with Stanford Alumni Volunteers

The Relief Boutique benefitted from the service of Stanford University alumni who participated in Stanford's *Beyond the Farm Global Volunteer Day* on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Five volunteers met for a day of service and community-building. The volunteers organized and decorated our office space by assembling clothing racks, hanging clothing, updating files and displaying client photos on our walls. This is the second time that Stanford alumni, led by *Karen Bhatia*, have volunteered and provided a day of service to The Relief Boutique. We had a great day getting to know the volunteers, getting organized and improving our new office space.



Volunteers Working Hard and Having Fun



Karen Decorating Our Walls

We thank Karen and the volunteers for their continued support!

SUMMER FASHION SHOW

On June 6, 2013, The Relief Boutique said 'Hello Summer!' by hosting a fashion show featuring volunteer models *Marilyn Williams*, *Kiana Trapp* and *Anna Oakes*. Friends, supporters and family gathered to enjoy a little fashion, music and fun!



Anna



Marilyn



Kiana

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS



Our next **Fashion Tag Sale** will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2013
11:00 am to 4:00 pm

108 W. 116th Street, Suite 1A
New York, NY 10026

We look forward to seeing you there!

A Note of Thanks

In 2013, we have been fortunate to have gained the support of organizations around the New York City area that have held clothing drives on our behalf and have supported our events. We thank:

- *The Purchase, NY office of Morgan Stanley*
- *The Co-Op City Baptist Church*
- *The Brooklyn Women's Bar Association*
- *Gettry Marcus CPA, P.C.*
- *The FC Barnstonworth Rovers Women's Soccer Club*

We also send a special thank you to *Delia Wheatley*. Delia has supported The Relief Boutique for years by speaking to women at our client celebration event in 2011 on how to present yourself at the office, and by donating cosmetics, accessories and, most recently, budgeting booklets for our clients. Delia also checks in with us periodically and offers her support to all our endeavors. Thank you, Delia!

Please keep The Relief Boutique in mind if you have professional women's clothing items and shoes to donate and if your company or organization would like to support our efforts. Contact Robyn at robyn@reliefboutique.org or (347) 751-5204.

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Please consider helping The Relief Boutique continue to provide professional clothing and education to women in need in the New York City area. Log on to our website at www.reliefboutique.org/donate.html to make a donation with your credit card or your PayPal account or make a donation by check payable to Relief Boutique Inc. Please contact Robyn at robyn@reliefboutique.org or (347) 751-5204 for more information. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Your generosity is greatly needed and very much appreciated.

Support The Relief Boutique While You Shop!



<http://smile.amazon.com/>

Your AmazonSmile purchase can support The Relief Boutique! Select "*Relief Boutique Inc.*" on smile.amazon.com when shopping on Amazon and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to The Relief Boutique!

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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Board of Directors

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Benjamin Pearce
Victoria Townes-Griffith
Carolyn Young
Karen Young
Robyn Young



Carolyn, Robyn, Victoria and Monique