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MND EVENTS

Employment Training Program

Orientation: May 17
Program: May 21-June 1
9:30am-3:30pm

Volunteer Events

Mock Interviews
May 25, 9:00 am-12:00 noon

Women Spanning the Globe hosted by WTCI

May 31, 9:00am-3:30pm
American Visionary Arts Museum

Come and donate professional clothing to MND!

Click [here](#) to register

COMPUTER CLASSES

MND's computer lab hosts classes open to the public.
4 classes for \$40.

Beginning Computer Classes

June 4-15
Mondays and Fridays
1:30pm-3:30pm

Intermediate Computer Classes

April 30-May 11
Mondays and Fridays
1:30pm-3:30pm
Call 410-230-0630 to sign up!

WAYS TO GIVE

Volunteer

Become a literacy tutor, mentor, computer lab assistant, or mock interviewer.
[Email us](#) to get involved.

Donate

MND welcomes gently-used and dry-cleaned professional clothing, or

Give today:



- Baltimore City Combined Charity: 7715
- United Way: 3203

Read about us in



CONTACT US

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MND NEWS

MARYLAND NEW DIRECTIONS

Header photos by Michael Grady



www.mdnewdirections.org

Maryland New Directions (MND) has provided free career counseling, employment readiness and job placement to disenfranchised job seekers in Baltimore since 1973.

Clients Gain Extra Support from Group Counseling

Throughout the years, MND has offered different ways for clients to meet and support one another.

In 2011, MND increased its focus on group counseling with the help of a graduate-level counseling intern. The group will now meet monthly with Professional Counselor Clair Watson.



MND's Job Coach Sonya Gibbs, right, talks with client Natasha Parker

"Clients need an outlet where they can express their concerns and realize they're not alone," said Clair.

In group counseling sessions, an MND counselor and a job coach lead discussions on different job and life-related themes. Clients meet new people, build confidence, and talk about their job search. Participants often find jobs faster through networking and the support of their peers.

"I have learned to believe in myself. Whatever it is I want to do, I can," said client Natasha Parker.

MND Clothing Drive at WTCI Event

MND will collect women's professional clothing donations at the Women Spanning the Globe event hosted by the World Trade Center Institute (WTCI). Donated items will go to Career Focus clients who lack suitable interview clothing.

"We are so happy WTCI reached out to us with this opportunity," said MND Executive Director Grace Lee. "Our need for professional women's clothing is ongoing, so this really helps."

The event will take place at the American Visionary Arts Museum on May 31, 9-3:30, and will feature speakers, luncheon, networking, and more. Click [here](#) for more details.

Volunteer Spotlight: Christy Cohen

Busy professionals often struggle to find time to volunteer, even if they really want to. Luckily, some business leaders in Baltimore make volunteering easy for their employees.

Christy Cohen, Director in Premiums and Disbursements at Transamerica, has volunteered at MND since 2011 as a mock interviewer. Thanks to Transamerica's commitment to giving back to the community, Christy and other Transamerica employees can donate time to MND to help clients practice their job interview skills.

"I am a working mom of three and I also go to school, so I really appreciate the opportunity to volunteer through my company," said Christy. "It always makes you feel good knowing you helped someone going through a tough time"

At MND's Mock Interview events, volunteers attend a brief orientation, play the role of a hiring manager, give individual clients specific notes and debrief the group with general feedback.

For clients, mock interviews are the most nerve-wracking component of MND's Career Focus program, but the exercise helps them overcome fears and gain confidence. "Volunteering here is worth my time because you can tell the clients really want this," said Christy.

[Contact us](#) to learn more about volunteering.

