

## BOTTOMLESS CLOSET

connecting  
women and  
work

WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER

## Our clients' hard work pays off!

December's highlight at Bottomless Closet is the Client Graduation and Year-End Celebration and 2014 was the biggest one yet! 92 clients plus volunteers, board members and staff came together to support and cheer on this year's graduating class (14 graduates from the Professional Development Series and 15 graduates from the Financial Management Series). Volunteer and Board Member, Anne Blackman, had this to say after the event:



Professional Development Series Graduates

*"I had the pleasure of attending our client graduation. The same thing happened each time Kendall called a client's name to come up and accept her certificate: our client proudly handed her cell phone to a friend to take a photo to memorialize the occasion! The look of pride and accomplishment on the faces of our clients as they accepted their certificates was no different than the look a student has when receiving a high school diploma or college degree. As we socialized after the ceremony, clients spoke about the professional and financial workshops as a gateway to achieving success in the workplace or financial independence for themselves and their children. The appreciation they expressed for Bottomless Closet and its volunteers was overwhelming and heartwarming and something that will continue to motivate me throughout the year."*

It takes a significant commitment of time and effort to graduate. The Professional Development Series graduates attended a minimum of 9 workshops (5 Core workshops and 4 Electives), with the most committed attending 20 sessions. The Financial Management Series graduates attended a minimum of 6 workshops (3 Core workshops and 3 Electives) with several attending up to 11 sessions. Congratulations to all of the graduates!



Bottomless Closet, with Kendall Farrell at its helm, has experienced incredible growth. In recognition of this Bottomless Closet and Kendall have been awarded a Future 50 award by SmartCEO magazine as an Emerging Growth company. We are honored to be included in this year's group of 50 mid-sized and 10 small companies that have shown impressive growth in the face of a wavering economy. This success has been due in large part to our generous donors and volunteers who share this honor with us.

### Newsletter Contributors & Photography

Anne Blackman  
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To view more pictures visit [seanCarlsonPerry.com/design-exchange](http://seanCarlsonPerry.com/design-exchange)

### SEAN CARLSON PERRY: DESIGN EXCHANGE

**At the same time we hosted our inspiring client graduation, we had a top secret project in the works...** Sean Carlson Perry provides design and architectural services for residential and commercial clients. For every project completed they donate a project to an individual or organization in need through DESIGN EXCHANGE. Designers Sean Carlson Perry and Amy Hill, along with a crew of dedicated volunteers, transformed Bottomless Closet client, Bonita T.'s, apartment into a vibrant space that truly reflects her personality just in time for the holidays. Bonita was chosen by the design team from a large group of applicants. We are grateful to Design Exchange who took Bonita's apartment and transformed it to the beautiful space you see above. We wish Bonita lots of happiness and serenity in her new home.

## CORPORATE DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Clothing and accessories drives provide a significant amount of the interview clothing and accessories in our boutique. Last quarter's drives yielded amazing donations to dress Bottomless Closet clients for their interviews. Thank you to the following partners for your successful drives:



Additionally, Bottomless Closet is incredibly appreciative of the groups that volunteered their time and labor this quarter by assisting us with Separates Nights, workshops, inventory projects and boutique management. Thank you ABWA, Ally Financial, Con Edison, ING Financial Services, High Water Women, Kate Spade, New York Cares, and the New York Jr. League for your commitment to furthering Bottomless Closet's mission.

## EMERGING LEADERS

We are excited to announce the formation of **Emerging Leaders — Bottomless Closet's young professionals committee**. We have created a community for young volunteers and supporters to organize among several task forces including membership, events, fundraising and corporate partnerships.

Emerging Leaders is designed to create and foster the growth of the next generation of Bottomless Closet leaders and volunteers through unique programming including happy hours, networking events, learning sessions, shopping nights, and more. We are excited to enhance the important work of Bottomless Closet!

If you would like to get involved or know a friend, son, daughter, brother, sister who would like to join us, please reach out to Emily Carter ([emilyelizabethcarter@gmail.com](mailto:emilyelizabethcarter@gmail.com)) or Robyn Polansky ([robyn.polansky@gmail.com](mailto:robyn.polansky@gmail.com)).

**Winter got you down and can't bear the thought of cleaning out your closet?** Donate the equivalent in dollars. Your donation can go toward purchasing much needed shoes or handbags for our clients. Visit [support.bottomlessclosetnyc.org/give](http://support.bottomlessclosetnyc.org/give) to make a donation today or use the enclosed reply card and envelope.

Share your support of Bottomless Closet on Facebook. We're also on Twitter and Instagram — Follow us today!

## MULTIPLY YOUR SUPPORT: MATCH YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS

Bottomless Closet embarked on two new partnerships that offer volunteer matching hours. Every hour that employees at Ally Bank and ING Financial Services spent at Bottomless Closet assisting with inventory projects was generously matched by these companies. Corporate grants, employee gift matching, and employee volunteer time matching are all great ways to deepen the impact of a partnership with Bottomless Closet. Does your company offer one of these? Call 212-563-2499 x 17 and we will provide you with all the information you need.



Last year, our 15th year, was filled with milestones and celebrations. The festivities continue as we kick off our Sweet 16 year with a celebration of The Power of Mothers and Children to impact positive change in our community. This year's honorees

include longtime volunteer and Board Member, Arlyn Gardner, and Nickelodeon's Chief Marketing Officer & President, Consumer Products, Pam Kaufman. The Luise Kleinberg Volunteer Award will be presented to Roberta Dougherty, a volunteer who exemplifies Luise's spirit of volunteerism. Join us as we honor these dedicated mothers.

Visit [support.bottomlessclosetnyc.org/luncheon](http://support.bottomlessclosetnyc.org/luncheon) to purchase tickets.