

**BOTTOMLESS
CLOSET**

connecting
women and
work

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Bottomless Closet Welcomes Closet-Switch Season; Gently Worn Professional Attire Helps Disadvantaged Women

As the long winter turns to spring, countless New York City women are turning to their closets in a rite of spring, moving their lighter attire front and center of their wardrobes and rotating winter wear to the back.

In a new mood of austerity and simplicity, many women are reassessing what they're finding—suits, separates, dresses, shoes, coats and accessories, too—that no longer fit their current physique or their professional or personal lives. And they're looking to free up space in often cramped closets.

Bottomless Closet, the New York City nonprofit that outfits some 1,500 disadvantaged women each year with work-appropriate attire, welcomes those gently worn outfits and accessories, which can make all the difference in their clients' putting best foot forward in job interviews. The organization prepares clients for those all-important interviews and continues to support them to ensure success in the jobs they land and in their lives.

"We're eager to receive and recycle those no longer wanted items," says Kendall Farrell, executive director of **Bottomless Closet**. "With the recession deepening, our clients need professional outfits more than ever as they vie for increasingly scarce job opportunities." The organization outfits women who have lined up interviews with two complete, business-ready outfits; once they've landed a job, they may return to select three more to round out their working wardrobe.

Bottomless Closet's new, convenient location in the Hotel Pennsylvania allows volunteers to sort clothing in its inventory room for presentation and selection in its boutique. The organization goes through its own seasonal ritual—no easy task with several thousand garments in its "closet"—bringing spring and summer business attire out of inventory and storing winter items until fall. The new space also hosts interview coaching and various workshops and seminars available to clients who are seeking professional development, financial management skills and personal enrichment.

Donors may drop off clothing at **Bottomless Closet's** office, 15 Penn Plaza, B-Level, Suite 40, Monday through Thursday. 212-563-2499 www.bottomlessclosetnyc.org

MISSION: Bottomless Closet helps disadvantaged New York City women become self-sufficient through a comprehensive program that begins with professional attire and interview preparation and continues with professional development, financial management and personal enrichment. Using the model of women helping women and our network of dedicated volunteers, Bottomless Closet enhances our clients' self-esteem and self-confidence in order for them to enter and succeed in the workforce and improve the quality of their lives.