



TAKE FIVE...

Thanks for taking five minutes to read this note. Right now, the Newcomer Women's Services team is working hard to stay connected on a personal level with the clients we serve. Though our offices are physically closed and we have shifted *how* we are delivering our English classes as well as employment and settlement services, our dedication to supporting all members of our community has never been stronger.

Through our conversations with our members over these past weeks, we know that our community is relying on us now more than ever. We know that many of the women in our senior English class are especially vulnerable during this pandemic crisis because they don't have access to the technology they need to connect virtually with their classmates and to overcome the negative social impacts of physical isolation.

POWER OF FIVE
Our goal is to raise \$5,000 on May 5, #GivingTuesdayNow to help our senior clients overcome the negative impact of social isolation due to COVID-19.

Our students are relying on us. They are relying on us for English language instruction to increase their knowledge and confidence in their new home. They are relying on us—and their classmates—for emotional support and encouragement during these unsettling times. The women-only class—which was one of the first English programs for senior women 55+ in Toronto—is more than a training program. It's a community of individuals connected through shared experience and a desire to strengthen themselves.

Dhurata Sinani, a teacher in the program says "The women, who come from China, Russia, Turkey, Iran, Liberia, Venezuela and Colombia, feel like they belong to a big family. Their support for one another is amazing and I am always so inspired by their zest for life."

Globally, Tuesday, May 5 has been declared #GivingTuesdayNow in response to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19. We're inviting you to join us by **making a gift** in support of our "Power of Five" campaign. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 to buy new laptops and tablets to ensure our senior students stay connected to us and to each other during this difficult time.

Whether you gift \$5, \$50 or \$500, you'll have a huge impact in these women's lives. Your contribution sends a strong message of care and support to a vulnerable and isolated community, by making sure they have what they need to stay healthy and connected. If you're thinking about how you could help out during the COVID-19 crisis, I hope you will consider supporting our Power of Five campaign. **Click here to make your gift now.**

Regards,

Judy Fantham
Executive Director, Newcomer Women's Services