

What is *Threads of* HOPE?



THREADS OF HOPE is the result of a 15-year relationship with the University of North Carolina and Sampson and Duplin counties. Like much of rural North Carolina, this region was devas-

tated by the decline of tobacco and textile production over the last decade. HOPE Works is a project dedicated to the revival of these communities. The hope is to connect low

income African American, Latina, Coharie Tribal and Anglo women who want to gain entrepreneurial skills and work to support themselves and their families.

Some worked in textile and apparel factories, but lost their jobs and benefits when the plants closed. Some are single moms caring for children, grandchildren, aging parents. Some come from migrant backgrounds. Most just want a decent job and a safe place to raise their families.

What these women have in common is HOPE Works, a program that has brought them together to help them improve their lives. Now Threads of HOPE continues the Circle of HOPE.

“Through HOPE Works, it has helped me realize I can make better choices.”

HOPE CIRCLES DESIGN

The art featured in this brochure was created by design students at NC State. The circles represent the HOPE Circles where women meet to support each other in making health and lifestyle changes. The four women represent the African American, Coharie Tribal, Latina and Anglo women in HOPE Works. The women are connected in the circles and dancing to express hope, joy and support for each other as they work towards physical, mental and spiritual health.

EVERYONE NEEDS A BAG!

Perfect for everyday; order any quantity of custom designed totes and choose from a variety of colors, sizes and styles.

- sturdy construction
- high quality cotton
- expert seamstress work
- promotes fair trade principles
- environmentally friendly
- helps sustain textile heritage of North Carolina

“Just knowing that I can get up and do the things that I want to get done, I mean, that’s hope.”



*“The encouragement
HOPE Works
gives has made
a big impact and
a difference;
I am now hopeful.”*

*Threads of HOPE is a joint project of the
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Multicultural Business Alliance, and the
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www.hpdp.unc.edu*

The purchase and use
of this tote helps to
provide support for
the creativity,
entrepreneurship and
empowerment of women
in rural North Carolina.
Each **Threads of HOPE**
bag was sewn by a
multicultural group
working together to
achieve improved health,
economic and
social status.

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*Threads
of
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