



Fashion Fights Poverty (FFP)
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RENEWING OUR MISSION!
FASHION FIGHTS POVERTY BECOMES A 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION

WASHINGTON, DC- Fashion Fights Poverty (FFP) the organization dedicated to raising awareness about the fight against global poverty through fashion, is excited to announce that it is now a **tax-exempt charitable organization under section 501(c)3** of the Internal Revenue Service code. Donations made to FFP, retroactive to February 19, 2008, are now tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. FFP extends its sincerest gratitude to the law offices of Van Ness Feldman for their pro bono services in helping FFP achieve its non-profit status.

FFP is a grassroots, volunteer-driven organization! Since its inception in 2005, FFP has raised over \$40,000 for organizations like *NEST* (2008), *Aid to Artisans* (2007), *Beads for Life* (2006), and the *U.S. Committee for the United Nations Development Program* (2005). In addition to raising awareness and donating resources to other charitable organizations, FFP's renewed mission, includes developing programs to support globally sustainable projects aimed at creating income-generating or microfinance opportunities for individuals/families/communities in developing countries. Locally, FFP is developing key partnerships with DC Public Schools to lead the effort in educating our youth about eco and ethical sustainability, development, production and manufacturing, among other topics in the fashion industry.

"This "stamp of approval" allows Fashion Fights Poverty to lay a stronger foundation to develop much needed programs and activities that mirror our mission," said FFP President, Chris Belisle. "It also reinforces our message to our supporters, partners, and donors that we are serious about the work that we do and who we aim to help, both here and abroad."

This momentous change allows FFP to expand its goals and objectives in keeping with this year's "**Re**" theme, which draws upon today's turbulent economic and social **reality** and the persistent call for **reflection** and change. FFP will celebrate its fifth anniversary at the upcoming **refashion** annual benefit at the **Renaissance Mayflower Hotel on Friday, September 25 at 7PM**. The benefit is one of DC's leading runway shows and according to *The Washington Post*, is "one of the largest fashion fundraisers in Washington, DC."

Past FFP “**Re**” benefits include: *Reuse*, the first ever “fashion swap,” in which items were traded amongst guests, consigned to local consignment shop Current Boutique (proceeds went to FFP), and/or donated to Covenant House, an organization that provides services to underprivileged youth in Washington, DC; and *Retail*, a benefit co-hosted by FFP with GUESS and *Teen Vogue*, benefiting Nest, a nonprofit organization committed to supporting women artisans in developing countries through the development of entrepreneurial businesses. For more information on past and upcoming events, visit us online at <http://www.fashionfightspoverty.org/events/>

About Fashion Fights Poverty (FFP)

Fashion Fights Poverty is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that raises awareness for initiatives that encourage and support creative, effective, and sustainable means of challenging poverty. We believe that the industries of fashion, textiles, and design offer unique and effective opportunities for designers, artisans, and consumers alike to contribute to the alleviation of poverty through trade, skill-building, community empowerment and consumer awareness.

Purchase tickets to this year’s fashion benefit today!

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