



**Girls Incorporated®
of Metropolitan Dallas
214-654-4530**

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girlsincdallas.org**



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New Girls Inc. Program Combats Teen Pregnancy

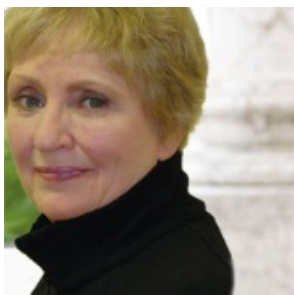
It's no secret that adolescent pregnancy and parenthood present serious challenges for teens' development into successful and fulfilled adults. Unfortunately, the most recent County Health Rankings and Roadmaps study shows that Dallas County has a birth rate of 76 per 1,000 women ages 15-19. And Texas has already been ranked the fourth highest in teen birth rate by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

To fight the problem, Girls Inc. is launching *Girls Getting Ready! (GGR!)*, a comprehensive pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention program for girls ages 10-18. The three-year project, \$240,000 per year, is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families. We have a proud history of providing pregnancy-prevention programs based on the research-based Preventing Adolescent Pregnancy (PAP) curriculum, and this evidence-based project is a natural progression of our commitment to prepare girls and young women for personal and professional success. To ensure the successful execution of the program, we have recruited Girls Inc. has recruited high-quality community partners:

- **Dr. Mandy Golman**, assistant professor in the Department of Health Studies in the College of Health Sciences at **Texas Woman's University** will measure the program's process and outcomes to ensure it meets its objectives.
- **Salesmanship Club Youth and Family Centers (SCYFC)**: The organization provides behavioral-health services to at-risk youth and their families. Under the guidance of Bret Baldwin, PhD, Director of Therapeutic Services, SCYFC will serve as a behavioral health resource for girls and will train staff on critical behavioral health issues.
- **Linda Holmes-Latimer, RN-BC**: A veteran in women's health. She is board-certified and a nurse practitioner at the Parkland Health and Hospital System and will provide training and technical assistance to the staff for the medical accuracy of the program.
- **True Child**: This action tank promotes transformative approaches to reproductive health and gender-based violence. A national team led by Executive Director Riki Wilchins will train Girls Inc. staff on gender norms and reproductive health.

We are thrilled to receive the grant and undertake this important project which has already received attention from **KRLD radio** and other media. *Stay tuned as we update you on the progress of the program!*

Let's Talk!



Do you know of a group or an event which will benefit from a lively discussion about the challenges and solutions to empowering our girls and strengthening our communities? In pursuit of Girls Inc.'s mission to serve more girls in more neighborhoods and with greater impact, we are continually assessing, identifying, and striving to meet the needs and overarching challenges in the community. As CEO of Girls Inc. of Dallas and a member of the organization's national board, Lori Palmer has the opportunity to serve Girls Inc. mission and contribute to the national discussion concerning young people and the future of our country. She welcomes the opportunity to speak about the challenges and solutions to preparing girls to become healthy, educated and independent women in the community.

Ms. Palmer welcomes the opportunity to speak at your group meeting, classroom, community center or other event about. *Interested? Contact her directly at lpalmer@girlsincdallas.org.*

Meet Girls Inc. Margaret Grant!

“My experience at Girls Inc. was a life-changing opportunity that I feel every girl should have,” notes Margaret Grant. “From a young age, through middle school, and then my teenage years, Girls Inc. was there to help with everyday situations, school, peer pressure and relationships with friends. I learned practical skills like budgeting and how to be a good friend and a leader and how to make good decisions.”



Margaret received Girls Inc. National Scholarship for college when she was a high school senior in 2008. The first of her family to go to college, she notes that receiving the scholarship has changed her life. Today, Margaret is a 23-year-old senior Business major at Stephen F. Austin University actively involved in SAM (Society for Advancement in Management), The Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda and interning at the Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce. Margaret is eager to host her graduation party in December in a place that’s been her home away from home since she was six: Girls Inc. South Dallas campus.

There Margaret met a role model who helped inspire her to pursue her dreams: Ellen Wood. Ms. Wood is a long-time, avid supporter of Girls Inc. and a co-founder the Teaching Trust, a non-profit dedicated to preparing talented teachers and principals to lead schools that can close the achievement gap “Margaret has changed my life, and I believe I have gotten even more out of our relationship as the mentor,” reflects Ms. Wood. “We have spoken nearly every week for the last six years and Margaret has shown me how difficult the transition to and through college can be. Her persistence, optimism (and her ever-present smile!) and a strong belief in personal responsibility (instilled by her Girls Inc.’s training) are critical factors for Margaret’s success.”

Interested in investing in a girl like Margaret or supporting programs that can make a critical difference in the life of a girl? Contact zperez@girlsincdallas.org.

Featured Community Partners

We are very fortunate to have the support of our dedicated community partners who volunteer and share expertise and resources. Here’s a glimpse of some of the recent projects that the girls enjoyed thanks to our valued community members:



Exxon Mobil Family Math & Science Night: This fall, girls and parents discovered just how much fun science can be building catapults, creating glowing goo and discovering the chemistry behind creating colorful fireworks... The campuses were brimming with activities. Thank you, Exxon Mobil!

High Profile, a staffing company and a great friend to Girls Inc., held a very successful 4th Annual School Supply Drive, benefiting our girls.

The company collected over \$1,050 worth of school supplies AND \$1,150 in cash/gift cards for a total school supply donation of \$2,200! Thank you, High Profile!



You, too, can get involved! Contact lhall@girlsincdallas.com to learn how.

Make a Difference: Opportunities to Get Involved!

TUTORS: We need tutors to help our girls, ages 6-12, succeed at school by providing reading assistance and test preparation. Flexible tutoring schedules are available. *Get involved today! To learn how, contact lhall@girlsincdallas.com*

MENTORS: There are no special skills required to take advantage of the opportunity to mentor, only the willingness to encourage and support a young girl and serve as her positive role model and friend. *Get involved today! To learn how, contact lhall@girlsincdallas.com*

MISSION: Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas is a nonprofit agency whose mission is to inspire all girls to be **Strong, Smart, and Bold™**.

VISION: To enable girls ages 6-18, to become **Strong, Smart, and Bold**, and graduate from high school equipped for success with personal effectiveness, academic and career planning competencies.

SERVICES: After-school programs are offered Monday through Friday from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. and summer programs are Monday through Friday, June through August, 7:30 .am. to 6:00 p.m. We supply healthy snacks and meals. And in the summers we add field trips that include swimming, museums, zoos, tours of corporations, colleges and universities.

INVESTMENT: 82¢ of every dollar goes directly to program services to help girls gain the necessary competencies to be successful. Invest today: www.girlsincdallas.org/InvestinGirls.



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