

# Annual Report 2017—Girls Inc. of Lynn



**FUEL HER FIRE,**  
AND SHE WILL SUCCEED.

**girls  
inc.**

Inspiring all girls  
to be strong,  
smart, and bold

50 High Street • Lynn, MA 01902 • 781.592.9744 • [www.girlsinclynn.org](http://www.girlsinclynn.org)

# THANK YOU!

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support and investment in Girls Inc. of Lynn. In 2017, your generosity has helped fuel the fire of almost 1,500 girls to succeed. Thanks to you we can continue the tradition created 75 years ago to inspire all girls to be Strong, Smart, and Bold.

Today, the world is a much different place than it was when Franklin D. Roosevelt was President our inaugural year, 1942. Girls face new challenges and need help to jump hurdles of hardships. Imagine the strength it requires to beat the odds:

- 1 in 6 girls will not finish high school
- 78% of high school girls report being unhappy with their bodies
- Over 1 in 20 teen girls become pregnant each year, the highest pregnancy rate in the developed world
- 1 in 4 girls experiences sexual assault or abuse by the age of 17

With your help, Girls Inc. of Lynn equips each girl with the ability to navigate gender, economic and social barriers and grow into healthy, educated and independent young women.

In 2017, our girls' successes are illuminated in the numbers:

- 90% of our middle school girls reported making healthy life choices, achieving academic success and developing confidence
- 98% of our school aged girls were reading at grade level or above
- 100% of our senior girls went onto college and received over \$800,000 in scholarships

In 2017, we embarked on a strategic planning process. The Girls Inc. Board of Directors and key constituents charted a course for Girls Inc. that will honor our mission, service more girls in Lynn and plans to increase the number of girls served in other communities.

The future is bright with you in her corner. We are grateful to you and the important role you play in making all this possible, as we move forward with our mission and vision.

Regards,



**Deb Ansourlian**  
*Executive Director*





## WHY GIRLS INC. WORKS

**THE GIRLS INC. MISSION** is to inspire all girls to be **strong, smart, and bold.**

### THE GIRLS INC. EXPERIENCE:

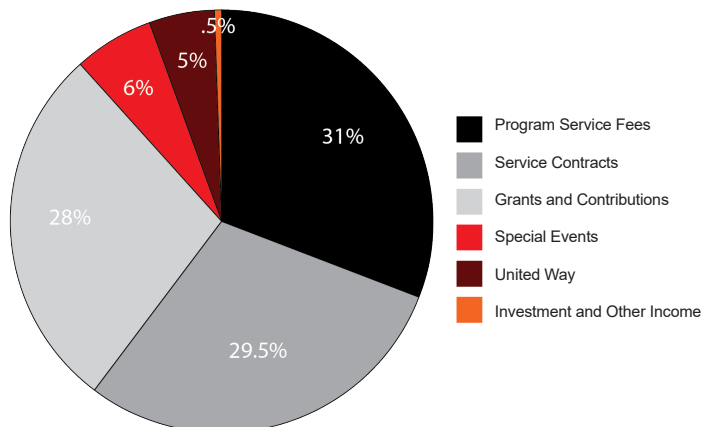
**Strong:** Girls gain knowledge to embrace physical activity, positive body image, and nutrition while decreasing or delaying substance use and risky sexual activity.

**Smart:** Girls increase their love of learning, improve performance in school, and aspire to and plan for education beyond high school.

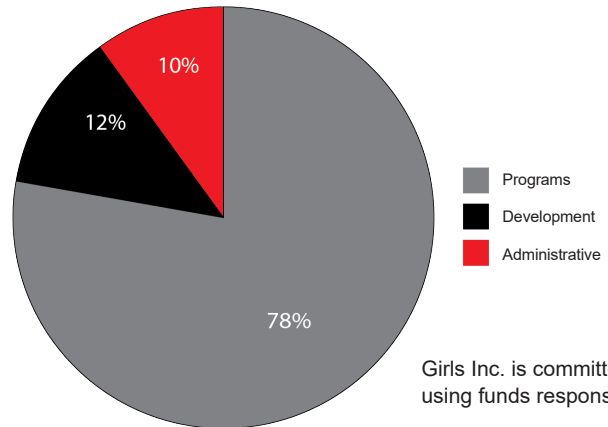
**Bold:** Girls build life skills to set and achieve goals and increase resilience in the face of obstacles to live productive and fulfilling lives.



## FUNDING BY SOURCE



## OPERATING EXPENSES



Girls Inc. is committed to using funds responsibly



Girls Inc. is committed to transparency



United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley

## Researched-based proven PROGRAMMING

Programs at Girls Inc. of Lynn are designed to make girls feel safe and supported. Trained staff and volunteers build lasting, mentoring relationships through research-based programs. The girls-only environment creates a space that is emotionally and physically safe, where the sisterhood of support encourages girls to feel good about themselves and empowered to grow and learn. Hands-on programs create a ladder of success where girls can reach and discover the stars of success.

**This past year, Girls Inc. of Lynn served over 1,500 girls in after-school and summer programs.**

**SCHOOL AGE CHILDCARE** is a year-round licensed program for girls ages 5–12 offering high quality academic and educational activities. Girls enjoy an environment that takes girls seriously, provides literacy skills, develops new abilities, asks questions and explores. Our literacy program for ages 5–8 is the centerpiece. Here girls are encouraged to read and discuss books, planting the seeds for a life-long love of literacy and learning. Our literacy program is being replicated and launched through-out the Girls Inc. affiliates across the US.



*Girls learn to vote during a mock election.*

**In 2017 our School Age Childcare Literacy Program achieved new heights with over 98% of our K–3 girls reading at or above grade level.**





**MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS** for girls ages 12–14 are designed to meet the needs of this age group. Programs are designed to empower the girls with knowledge, skills, and attitudes to make healthy decisions, achieve academic success and develop positive relationships with adults and peers. The programs are designed with age and personal growth transitions in mind.

Stem-literacy and mentoring are major components of the Middle School Programs: **Odyssey**, and **Eureka!**. Girls Inc. continues the process of building self-esteem, self-awareness and leadership skills to further their chances for a successful high school career leading to post-secondary education.



**Eureka! Program**—fostering an interest of science, technology, engineering and math.

**Programs at Girls Inc. of Lynn are holistic, compensatory, intentional, and focused on the individual needs of girls, providing a wide variety of high-impact opportunities that low-income girls might not otherwise experience.**



Partners such as Google's "**Made with Code**" work with Girls Inc. to promote a strong understanding of the web, social media, and encourage internet safety.



**Smart Girl Summit 2017**—each year 125 Middle School girls come together at Girls Inc. for a day of STEM workshops taught by women in STEM professions.



**TEEN PROGRAMS** are diverse in interest and offer ample leadership opportunities to young women ages 14–18. All young women learn about career choices, college admissions, and other facets of post-secondary education through One-on-One College Mentoring, Junior Mentoring, Career Path, and the Learning Center. Girls are given a toolkit to enter the world feeling educated and empowered.

**100% OF OUR TEENS  
WENT ON TO COLLEGE  
RECEIVING OVER \$800,000  
IN SCHOLARSHIPS**



*Teens have access to academic workshops, tutoring, computers, and adult mentors.*



**29<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration Luncheon**—Celebrating our Girl Hero Scholars with Latoyia Edwards of NBC10/NECN. Over 550 business community leaders and individuals attended as we honored the GE Women's Network.

**Through our high-expectation year-round programming, Girls Inc. provides opportunities for girls to assume more leadership roles at Girls Inc. of Lynn and within their communities.**



**POS (Part of the Solution)** girls advocated for youth across Lynn and successfully had legislation passed in Lynn to limit the number of tobacco licenses for convenient stores and raised the legal age from 18 to 21 in which you can buy tobacco products.

**Teens address important issues such as: sexism, racism, the prevention of early sexual activity, underage drinking and drug use, and use self-advocacy through the following programs: Part of the Solution (POS), Sister 2 Sister, and Teen Health Ambassadors (THA).**



## DEDICATED STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, AND MENTORS

A special shout out to our #strongsmartbold staff, volunteers, and mentors. Each year we welcome a cadre of caring volunteers and mentors, some of these friends are Girls Inc. participants and graduates. They give their time and provide care and support for the girls as they negotiate homework, college applications and life challenges.

**344 volunteers providing  
3274 hours of service!**



*GE Aviation Paint*



*Each year, Girls Inc. works with great Americorp leaders.*



*Our **BOLD Futures Mentoring Program** allows mentors to do small group activities and develop relationships with the girls. Girls report improvement in academic performance and increases in social emotional competencies.*

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Inspiring all girls to be  
strong, smart, and bold



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1. *Girls have the right to **be themselves and to resist gender stereotypes.***
2. *Girls have the right to **express themselves with originality and enthusiasm.***
3. *Girls have the right to **take risks, to strive freely, and to take pride in success.***
4. *Girls have the right to **accept and appreciate their bodies.***
5. *Girls have the right to **have confidence in themselves and be safe in the world.***
6. *Girls have the right to **prepare for interesting work and economic independence.***



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## **Annual Report 2017—Girls Inc. of Lynn**