From the Executive Director, Lee Ann Jourdan
Since 1975, Girls Inc. of Monroe County has been delivering life-changing programs that inspire girls to be strong, smart, and bold. We are advocates that empower girls to reach their full potential and understand, value, and assert their rights. We provide girls with a safe environment where they can take risks, overcome challenges, and strive to be the best they can be. We accomplish our mission by facilitating innovative and educational after-school programming, winter and summer day camps, and organized sports leagues.

Thirty-six years ago, Girls Inc. was established to provide a safe place for girls in our community. We taught them the skills they would need to be good mothers and wives. We’ve transformed from being simply a safe place to being a support system for education and empowerment. Today, the Girls Inc. experience leads to healthy, educated, and independent girls. They make healthy choices, understand reproductive health, and have sound body image and healthy relationships. Our girls set goals for themselves and understand how their choices today can shape their future. They also have a voice and are resilient, motivated to achieve, and are engaged in school and set and achieve life and career goals.

Our organization saw an increase in membership in 2011, from 470 to 538 members (nearly a 13% increase). In the past 12 months, we ran 22 center-based programs to an average of 35 girls per day. While the average number of girls we are seeing daily in our after school program has decreased some due to the lengthened school day, 205 members utilized that service. We also operated 10 weeks of summer day camp with 77 campers, and organized more than 180 volleyball and basketball games for nearly 240 members. Lastly, we ran a dance program twice a week for 10 weeks.

In line with our national Girls Inc.’s strategic direction, our goal is to grow our membership and our budget by 30% total by the end of 2015 (from 2010 numbers). That would mean serving 611 members and having an annual budget of $312,000 in 2015. Our board and staff are dedicated to reaching this goal as laid out in our strategic plan. National Girls Inc. has provided our affiliate with template growth plans to help us have success. We plan to showcase Monroe County’s growth plan at the national conference in April 2012.

As a supporter, you played an important role in our history and we thank you! We are eternally grateful for your ability to inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold, so they can use their voices to do the same!

From the Board President, Dana Cummings
2011 was a very successful year for Girls Inc. of Monroe County! As a Board member, I couldn’t be prouder of what we’ve accomplished together!

As always, our staff continues to impress Board members, parents, and community members each day. Not only are they smart, hard-working, and dedicated, but each of them exemplifies what it means to be STRONG, SMART, and BOLD.

When a girl comes into the Girls Inc. center or participates in one of our programs, we can all feel good knowing that she is not only gaining valuable skills that will help her become a strong and independent woman, but that she is forming relationships with women who are modeling that behavior to them every day. Thank you to Lee Ann, Lucy, Erin, Debbie, and all of the support staff! We truly appreciate everything you do for Girls Inc. of Monroe County!

It is so gratifying to watch our members grow and develop while at Girls Inc. After nearly four years on the Board, I’ve had the pleasure of getting to know several of them by name. I marvel at the intelligence, poise, and conscientious attitude they demonstrate whenever I’m around them.

There is no question – these girls need the services provided by Girls Inc. and truly benefit from their membership with us.

Finally, our Board of Directors continues to grow and do good work on behalf of our agency. Many of us had the honor of attending the Girls Inc. regional conference that was held in Indianapolis this year. Not only did we learn a lot about our favorite organization, but we also enjoyed camaraderie and fellowship with some of the incredible women involved with other Girls Inc. affiliates from all across the country!

As Board President, it has been my pleasure to work alongside my fellow Board members—all of whom are dedicated and passionate about Girls Inc. of Monroe County.

Thanks to all of you for your service to our favorite agency!

Thank you for supporting Girls Inc. of Monroe County! 2012 is already off to a great start and it promises to be another exciting year for our agency. We hope you’ll join us!

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**Mission**
The mission of Girls Incorporated of Monroe County is to inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold℠.

**Vision**
The vision of the agency is empowered girls and an equitable society. We exist to empower girls to become responsible, self-reliant, successful women.
So, what is a strong, smart and bold girl? Girls that are **strong** are actively involved with physical activity and develop healthy lifelong habits; maintain safe relationships, and are role models; make informed decisions around life choices and have a positive body image. Girls that are **smart** set their goals and develop a plan for achieving academic and life goals; possess good decision-making and communication skills; are learners, leaders, and philanthropists. Girls that are **bold** are economically literate and financially independent; take positive risks and challenge themselves; are assertive - they can resolve conflict and are advocates for themselves and others.

It is one of our top priorities at Girls Inc. to provide the highest quality programming at a cost that makes it accessible to every girl in our community. We are not willing to compromise the integrity of the programming to save a few dollars. We generously offer scholarship opportunities to ensure all girls can participate, and 100% of families that can demonstrate a need receive financial support.

We were able to give out more than $10,000 in scholarships in 2011.
Thank you for your generosity, friendship, advocacy and support. At Girls Inc., we are committed to empowering girls and using our message to lead the way in creating an equitable society for all. We are determined to get our message to every girl in this country; it is a message that all girls need and deserve to hear. Our girls today are the leaders of tomorrow, who have the courage and the vision to change the world. Because of your help, we can achieve a nation of empowered girls and a society that is truly equitable for all.

A Special Thank You To Our 2011 Donors and Sponsors

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Through our after school, camp and sports programs, we utilized more than 200 trained adult volunteers, allowing girls to form healthy relationships with caring adults and allowing community members and college students to make a difference for the girls we serve.