Dear Members, Volunteers, and all Friends,

2017 was an unbelievable year at Girls Inc. of Monroe County.

Executive Directors write that often at the beginning of annual report letters, but this year it’s true. For the first time in our forty-three year history, Girls Inc. started programming during the school day. What is most exciting is that we are now leading programs with girls in Richland-Bean Blossom Schools. We can now truly say we are an organization supporting all girls in Monroe County.

The girls who participate in during-school programs took advantage of a new curriculum that we also presented after school. One of the programs, titled “Work It Out,” teaches the girls about respect, fairness, and empathy. The goal is to change negative behaviors among girls in third through fifth grade, a time when some girls start to feel isolated from others and bully-type behaviors form. Girls in sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade took part in “Redefining Beauty.” This program helps girls challenge conventional beauty standards, and analyze the influence that peers, family, and media have on their body image. Girls from Stinesville Elementary school learned financial skills with an economic literacy program.

We also offered a new opportunity for spring break camp in 2017. The “Sports of All Sorts” camp offered girls a chance to try sports that are not typically considered “girl” activities, or are just unusual. Volunteers from the community taught them skills in fencing, kickboxing, yoga, soccer roller derby, and rock climbing. They also spent a day with Bloomington’s Bleeding Heartland roller derby team and members of the Indy Crash professional women’s football team.

After-school programs grew, as well. Dwindling attendance from girls in middle school and high school forced a change in programming. Thanks to one of our outstanding ninth-graders, though, we began a counselors-in-training program that encourages high school girls to participate in programs with the younger girls. This near-peer mentoring program was a hit with the younger girls and expanded in 2018.

Mentoring became a larger focus for Girls Inc. during the year. Through a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters, supported by the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County, we were able to match several Girls Inc. girls with Big Sisters. The Bigs and Littles meet at the Girls Inc. center after school to play, create, and tutor. Many more Big/Little matches got underway by the end of the year.

We also enjoyed several activities and fundraisers. The annual Holiday Hoopla was a huge success with more attendees than in the previous three years. We were most proud of the “holiday boutique” where children could purchase gifts for family members with “snow bucks.” Generous donors provided gifts and money to allow children from low-income families to purchase gifts for their entire family. Volunteers from Delta Sigma Theta wrapped presents after purchase.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to Monroe County girls. They face many challenges as they grow, but with your help they will succeed.

Amy M. Stark
Executive Director
Impact

50,400  Hours of programs offered in Monroe County
517   Total girls participating in at least one program
87   Girls participating in more than 50 hours of programs
228   Girls participating in at least one sports league
100%   Girls Inc. girls promoted to the next grade

2017 Programs by Category

2017 Attendance by Location
2017 Board of Trustees

Jonathan Apgar
Laura Baich
Jeannine Bell
Elizabeth Bodamer
Taylor Erickson
Steven Fortune
Nikia Jefferson
Angela Martin
Catherine Matthews
Mande Miskewycz
Sarah Nagy
Jennifer Prusak
Megan Rothrock
Jennifer Upton
Kerrie Wilkins-Yel
Financial Responsibility

- 10.75% Special Events
- 10.81% Individual/Business Contributions
- 21.7% Program Fees
- 1.65% Miscellaneous Business Income
- 0.28% Investments
- 54.2% Corporate, Foundation, & Government Grants
- 6.83% Buses
- 14.74% Sports Programs
- 27.41% Administration
- 13.25% Fundraising
- 37.77% In-School & In-Center Programs
Girls Inc. girls stand up for their beliefs.

83%
do what they believe is right, even if their friends make fun of them.
Our Donors

Affordable Termite and Pest Control
American Legion Burton Woolery Post
Bloomington Family Dental Inc.
Bloomington Lions Club
Bloomington Moose Lodge No. 1081
Bloomington North Rotary
Bloomington Township Trustee
Boilmakers Local 374
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Burger & Robertson
Cafe Pizzaria Inc
Carpets by Don
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Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen
Chipotle Mexican Grill
Christman Enterprises
Comfort Keepers
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Crossfit Bloomington
DeAngelo’s
Delta Theta Tau
Duke Energy
First United Church, Inc.
Force Fitness and Performance
FormFit Personal Training
German American Bancorp
Glenn & Mary Miller Charitable Foundation
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Green Hat Media, LLC
Hoosier Energy Rec Inc
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Kids Play Gym
Kroger College Mall
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Lilly Endowment
Lisa Baker, DDS
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Monroe County Commissioners
Monroe County Sports Marketing & Consulting
Old National Bank Foundation
Oliver Wine Co., Inc.
Panera LLC
Paypal Charitable Giving Fund
Räke Cabinet and Surface Solutions
Raymond James Financial
Red Frazier Bison
Smithville Charitable Foundation
St. John Associates
The Eye Center of Southern Indiana
Town & Country Veterinary Clinic
United Way of Monroe County
Venus Leah Photography
WelcomeMat Services
World Wide Automotive Service
Wylie Foundation
Your Medical Claims Expert
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Carole Allen
Jon Apgar
Mariella Arredondo
Sacha Arterberry
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Marahai Beczkiewicz
Margery Belisle
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Kura Bolinger
Leslie Bolinger
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Amber Owen

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Martha & Charles Zuppann
I think I’m smart because I’m the best reader in my class, I’m one of the best mathematicians in my class, and I’m above average in school.

—Tori, 9