

2016 Report to the Community



"I feel like this is home away from home for my daughter. It's amazing how the people here go above and beyond for these girls."

- Rachel Williams, Parent



CEO Letter

Dear Friends:

Like the girls we serve, Girls Inc. of St. Louis is becoming stronger, smarter and bolder. The stories in this annual report demonstrate our shift to focus more on academics in our after school, summer and outreach programs. Our Eureka!® program, in partnership with the University of Missouri – St. Louis, Maryville University and Washington University, is the only multi-year STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program for middle and high school girls in the St. Louis area. Participants are learning subjects such as coding and nanosciences!

Through our summer partnership with the Riverview Gardens School District, girls in 2nd-5th grades are improving their English Language Arts and Mathematics skills. After our four-week summer program, each grade level met and/or exceeded the outcome measurement of increasing student achievement by 10% in both subjects.

Thanks to a three-year grant from our national organization, we are expanding our programs to serve more girls in low-income communities who not only face gender and social barriers but also struggle with cognitive and developmental issues. This grant is a testament from our national organization that we are making a positive impact on St. Louis area girls in K-12th grades.

Last but not least, we lost some dear friends and supporters of Girls Inc. of St. Louis, including our founders, Senator Betty Sims and Thelma Cook. Their contributions and those of several others, have helped us and our girls to become STRONG, SMART and BOLD.

Forever grateful for the opportunity to serve,



Cheryl L. Jones
President & CEO

girls
inc.®



Mission

The mission of Girls Incorporated of St. Louis is to provide educational, recreational, and cultural programs to girls in a safe environment; to enable them to raise their aspirations and realize their potential. Girls Inc. inspires all girls to be strong, smart and bold.

Six Essential Elements

Our Girls Inc. Experience has six essential elements that equip girls to navigate gender, economic and social barriers and to grow into healthy, educated and independent adults:

- Girls-only environment
- Mentoring relationships
- Intentional programming
- Research-based curricula
- Interactive activities
- Sustained exposure

Together these elements provide a holistic approach grounded in a belief in girls' rights and abilities.



2016 By the Numbers

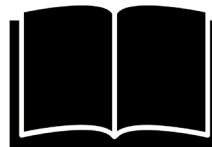
6,721

girls served in grades K-12



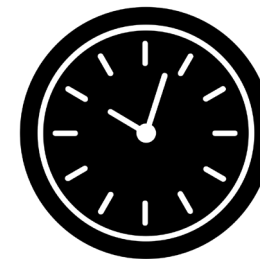
100%

girls graduate
to next
grade level



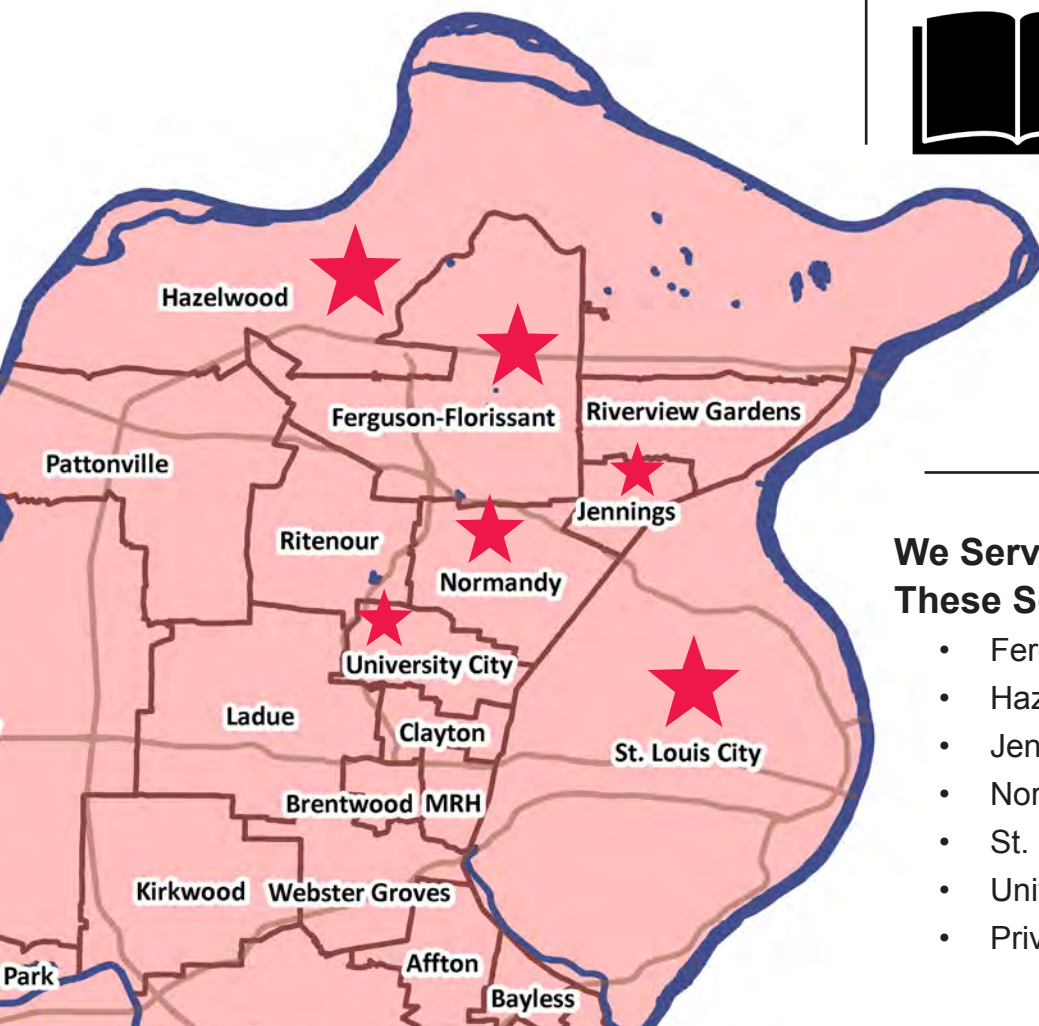
3,322

hours of literacy



395,686

hours of violence prevention/
health relationship



97%

consider Girls Inc.
a second home



We Serve **52** Schools in
These School Districts:

- Ferguson-Florissant
- Hazelwood
- Jennings
- Normandy
- St. Louis Public
- University City
- Private Schools

21,346

hours of STEM

(Science, Technology,
Engineering and Math)



Eureka!® Only Multi-Year STEM Program for Area Middle and High School Girls

The Nanosciences. DNA research. Forensic science. These are just some of the subjects 30 St. Louis area high school girls learn through Girls Inc. of St. Louis' Eureka! program. Thanks to partnerships with Washington University, Maryville University and the University of Missouri – St. Louis, more than 100 girls explore the cutting edge world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) through six weeks of hands-on experiences.

Eureka! is critically important because recent Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) test results show that 52% of eighth grade female students score below the math basic skill level and 65% below the science basic skill level. MAP is a requirement for high school graduation.

Besides STEM classes, the girls also participate in complimentary activities such as sports and physical fitness, healthy living and financial literacy. As girls move through the five-year program, they stay together in cohorts of 30 sharing hands-on, minds-on, untimed and ungraded opportunities. The program's goal is to build girls' confidence and skills, while preparing them for college and a potential future STEM career. Through Eureka! our girls can find success!

Expected Eureka! Participant Outcomes

- Demonstrate increased awareness and knowledge of range of career and post-secondary educational opportunities
- Increase or maintain confidence in STEM
- Participate in summer internships and interactive job-training experiences
- Be on track to graduate high school and have plans for post-secondary education or training.



“The Eureka! program helped me get into the school I am in now, Cardinal Ritter College Prep High School. Through the program I took coding at UMSL, robotics at Maryville and geometry at Washington University.”

– Rosemary G.
10th grade

Summer Program Combined Educational Enrichment and Fun

For four weeks in the summer of 2016, more than 100 girls in the 2nd through 5th grades at Riverview Gardens School District came together for educational enrichment and fun. Certified teachers taught the girls English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics at Koch Elementary. The ELA program focused on teaching literacy skills through guided reading, language building activities, academic vocabulary, independent reading time and journal writing. The mathematics program taught basic concepts through numbers sense. As a result, each grade level met and/or exceeded the outcome measurement of increasing student achievement by 10% in both ELA and Mathematics. The program showed that the themes of education, enrichment, consistency and structure can achieve success. Girls Inc. of St. Louis is continuing to work with the elementary schools to bring extended learning opportunities to all district students.




Each grade level met and/or exceeded the outcome measurement of increasing student achievement by 10% in both English Language Arts and Mathematics.

More Girls in Low-Income Communities Being Served

Girls Inc. of St. Louis was one of 17 affiliates in the United States and Canada to receive a \$400,000 three-year grant to expand its programs and services to more girls in low-income communities. The St. Louis affiliate is a member of the first grant class. “Girls Inc. of St. Louis has a strong track record of making a measurable difference in the lives of girls,” said Judy Vredenburgh, President and CEO of Girls Inc. “As a well-run, sound organization, they are poised for expansion and growth, preparing more girls for responsible and confident adulthood, economic independence and personal fulfillment. We are thrilled at the national level to recognize their impact and invest in their future success.”

The grant requires Girls Inc. of St. Louis to leverage local support to ensure that we have the necessary resources to sustain and grow even more after the grant period ends. Thus we are partnering with local nonprofits and schools to bring the Girls Inc. experience to more girls, many of whom not only face gender and social barriers but also struggle with cognitive and developmental issues. With the national grant, Girls Inc. of St. Louis is positioned to have significant and life-changing impact on girls who otherwise would have few opportunities.



“Girls Inc. of St. Louis has a strong track record of making a measurable difference in the lives of girls.”

— Judy Vredenburgh, President and CEO of Girls Inc.

Betty Sims “Wow” Scholarship Supports College Bound Girls

Skylr S. says the late Senator Betty Sims was an inspiration to her. Skylr’s mother says her 18-year-old daughter shares some of Betty’s characteristics – hard worker, integrity and determination. It’s no surprise then that Skylr is one of the first two recipients of the Betty Sims “Wow” Scholarship. As a founder of Girls Inc. of St. Louis, the late Senator Betty Sims cared deeply and passionately about helping girls become strong, smart and bold. In honor of Betty, her family and close friends have raised almost \$125,000 for a scholarship fund in her name.

As a “Wow” scholarship recipient, Skylr will receive \$2,000 a year for four years while she attends Spelman College to major in political science and minor in business management. To be considered for the scholarship, she had to maintain a 3.0 grade point average, be an active Girls Inc. member for the last two years (she’s been a member for 13 years) and be college bound. Skylr also had to submit an essay on what the “Wow Factor” means to her.

Skylr says one day she wants to be the first black female Congresswoman from the State of Missouri. No doubt Betty would be the first to say “Wow!”



“Without Girls Inc., I would have never found out how to code, to properly manage and save my money, to work well in groups, to love public speaking or even how beautiful and unique I am.”

– Excerpt from Skylr S.’s
“Wow” essay

In 35 years, we have served over 75,000 high risk and underserved girls in grades K-12

Ten Years of Strong, Smart & Bold Luncheons

A record number of 500 people attended our annual Strong, Smart & Bold luncheon on Thursday, November 3, 2016 at the Ritz-Carlton in Clayton, Missouri. Under the leadership of luncheon chair Dr. Nina Caldwell, more than \$65,000 was raised. The annual luncheon, our largest fundraiser, recognizes outstanding Girls Inc. of St. Louis volunteers and strong, smart and bold girls. Senator Betty Simms and Thelma Cook were honored posthumously for their outstanding volunteerism, along with Barbara Wilkinson. During the luncheon, four high school girls were recognized and two girls received Carol Rogers \$2,000 scholarships – 17-year-old Antonia R., a senior at Hazelwood Central High School, and 20-year-old Cimani Lumzy, a junior at Harris-Stowe state University majoring in pediatric hematology.



“A successful student is a student that can go out into the world and distinguish good from bad, and positive from negative, and be able to communicate. Girls Inc. has really turned my daughter around. She was very introverted, now she is well spoken, outspoken. She also received a 4-year scholarship through Girls Inc. to Cardinal Ritter.”

- Renee Stayton, Parent

Girls Inc. of St. Louis provides extended learning programs through our outreach, after school and summer programs

In Memoriam

The foundation of Girls Inc. of St. Louis has always been our friends and supporters. We have lost several people who strengthened our organization and left indelible marks. Each contributed their time, talent and treasure to help our girls become strong, smart and bold. All will be deeply missed but their work will remain a shining light as Girls Inc. of St. Louis moves forward.



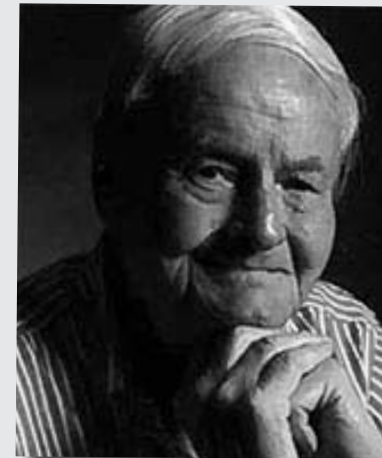
JoAnn Harmon Arnold



Thelma Cook



Carol Dowd



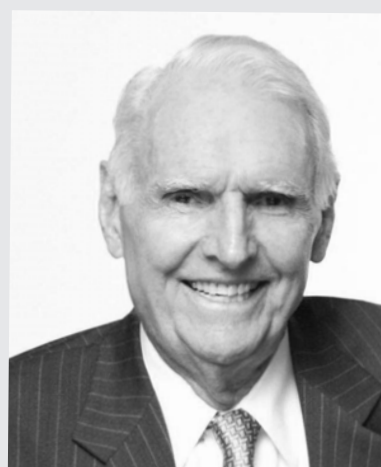
George Erker



Dennis Jones



Betty Sims



Jack Taylor



Ida Woolfolk

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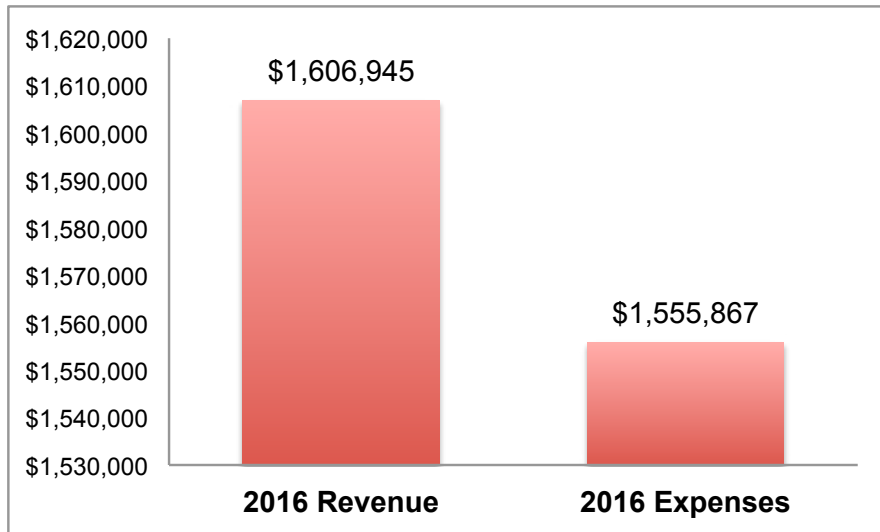
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Our Financials

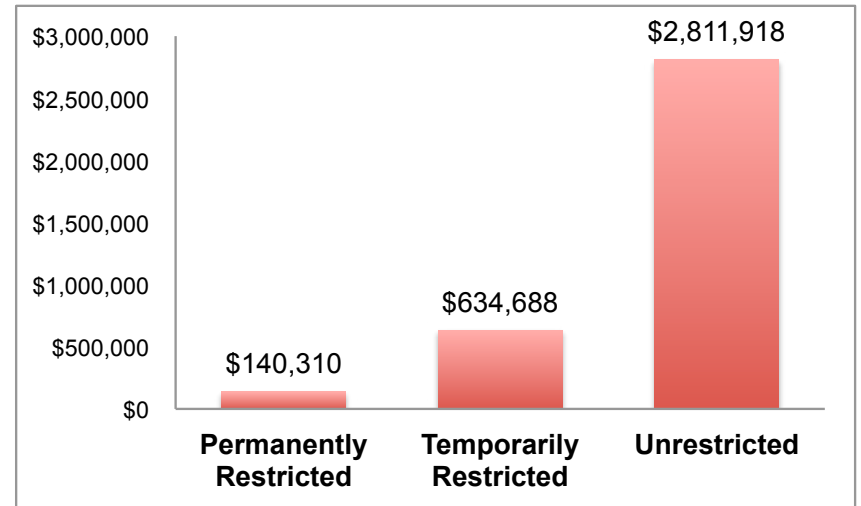
Year Ended December 31, 2016

Financial Summary

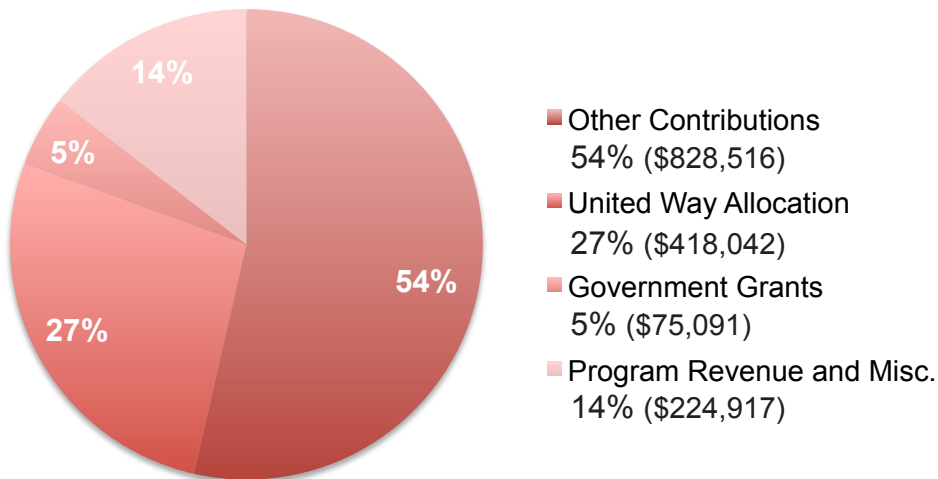


Ending Assets for FY 2016

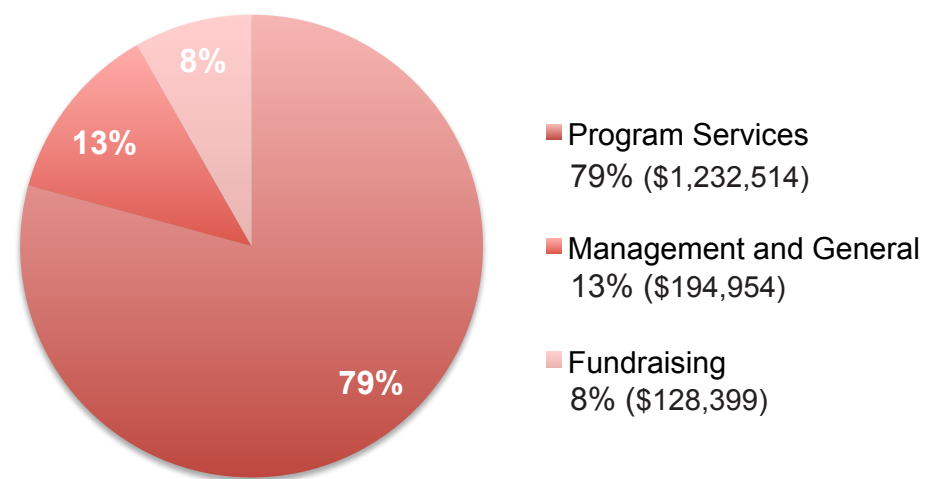
Total Net Assets on December 31, 2016 – \$3,586,916



2016 Revenue by Source



2016 Expenses by Source



*Information from RubinBrown LLP's Independent Auditor's Report dated June 22, 2017.

Our Donors

January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

The quality after school, summer and outreach programs we provide girls in K-12th grades would not be possible without the support of our partners and friends listed below. Thanks to them, we helped nearly 7,000 girls become strong, smart and bold!

\$100,000 & Above

Jerome & Catherine Gidlow
Alicia McDonnell

\$10,000 - \$20,000

Van-Lear & Marion Black
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\$5,000 - \$9,999

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\$2,000 - \$4,999

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Johanna Zoeller

\$1,000 - \$1,999

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