



# Honoring Our Legacy. Building Her Future.

50 *years*

**girls  
inc.**

of Omaha

Dear Friends,

This year, we paused to honor something truly special. We celebrated fifty years of Girls Inc. of Omaha. Fifty years of showing up for girls. Fifty years of believing in their brilliance, even when the world made that belief hard. Fifty years of community, courage, and love wrapped around generations of girls and young women.

50 years

## A Look Back and a Look Forward

*Grounding ourselves in our legacy so we can move forward with clarity and courage.*

As we reflected on our journey, I found myself thinking about all the hands, hearts, and hopes that built this organization. Girls Inc. has always been more than programs or buildings. It has been a promise. A promise that girls would be seen, heard, protected, and empowered to become exactly who they are meant to be. Our strength has never come from standing still. It has come from our willingness to listen, to grow, and to respond to what girls truly need in each moment.

This past year was one of intentional movement and meaningful progress. We strengthened programs, deepened partnerships, and continued to create spaces where girls feel safe, supported, and inspired.



From health and wellness to education, leadership, and career readiness, our work remains rooted in care, connection, and belief in every girl's potential. We are honest about where we are, thoughtful about where we are going, and committed to growing in ways that serve girls well.

Looking ahead, I am filled with excitement and gratitude. One of the most meaningful steps forward is the New South Omaha Emma Lozier Center. This space represents more than growth. It represents access, opportunity, and our commitment to meeting girls and families where they are. It is a reflection of who we are becoming as an organization and how deeply we believe that girls deserve spaces designed with them in mind, spaces that feel like home and possibility.

Celebrating our 50th anniversary was not about looking back alone. It was about grounding ourselves in our legacy so we can move forward with clarity and courage. We are building a Girls Inc. that is strong, responsive, inclusive, and prepared for the next generation of girls. The future before us is full of promise, and it is being shaped right now by the choices we make together.

Thank you for being part of this story. Thank you for believing in girls. Thank you for walking with us through the past, standing with us in the present, and helping us build a future filled with opportunity, healing, growth, and hope.

With gratitude and love,

**Candias "Candi" Jones**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Girls Inc. of Omaha



# 50 years

## Fifty Years of Showing Up for Girls

### Our Mission

To inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold.

### Our Vision

Powerful girls in an equitable society.

### Our Values

Recognize and support the strength in every girl.

Respect the dignity of each human being and demonstrate genuine care and concern for the well-being of others.

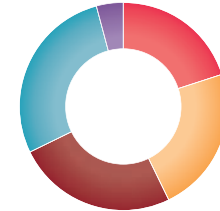
Understand and appreciate diversity, embrace inclusiveness, and advance equity.

Drive for results anchored in integrity and accountability.

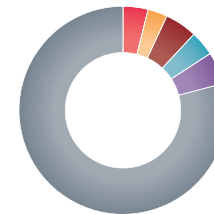
Collaborate for impact.

Total Girls Served  
**540**

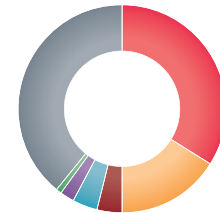
### Age Groups



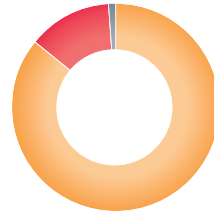
### Household Income



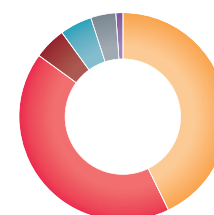
### Family Structure



### Ethnicity



### Race



# A Supportive Place for Girls to Grow, Learn, and Lead

*Our work remains rooted in care, connection, and belief in every girl's potential.*

At Girls Inc., we focus on the development of the whole girl. Each girl learns to value herself, take risks, and discover and develop her inherent strengths. The combination of long-lasting mentoring relationships, a pro-girl environment, and evidence-based programming equips girls to grow up healthy, educated, and independent.

**People:** Trusting relationships help young people attain the psychological and social skills that are necessary for success in education and in life.

**Environment:** The Girls Inc. environment is safe - physically, socially, and emotionally. It is a place where girls are expected to succeed and grownups take them seriously for the persons they are now and for the women they will become.

**Programming:** At Girls Inc., we focus on the development of the whole girl. Each girl learns to value herself, take risks, and discover and develop her inherent strengths in three categories:

- **Strong:** To create strong girls who are healthy and productive.
- **Smart:** To develop educated girls through homework help and our hands-on programs.
- **Bold/Independent:** To develop the social and emotional skills girls need to be successful.

# Collaborations are Our Foundation

*We are grateful for the variety of collaborations we had in 2025 that provided additional time, expertise, and guidance to our girls.*

**Volunteers:** Some lend their time. Some lend their skills. All volunteers build strong futures.

**Program Partners:** Specialized skills, knowledge, and expertise help spark curiosity and exploration. Program partners build smart futures.

**Pathfinders Mentoring:** Girls with mentors are more likely than their peers to have positive relationships with adults and see them as allies. Mentors build bold futures.



The Girls Inc. Experience



# 50 years Fifty Years of Girls Inc. of Omaha

Founded in 1975, Girls Inc. of Omaha has spent fifty years responding to the evolving needs of girls and young women in our community. Originally, the organization began as a bold vision grounded in equity and opportunity. It has grown into a trusted, girl-centric organization serving hundreds of girls each year across Omaha and beyond. From after school and summer programming to college and career preparation, mental health support, and transitional housing, our work has always centered girls and their futures.

# The Future is Bright

## LOOKING AHEAD – THE NEXT 50 YEARS

The next chapter of Girls Inc. of Omaha is guided by growth with intention. We are expanding access to programs, strengthening partnerships, and investing in spaces and initiatives that meet girls where they are while preparing them for where they want to go. With the groundbreaking of our New Emma Lozier Center, this state-of-the-art facility in South Omaha will amplify our reach for the next generation of leaders. With our community beside us, the future is bright, powerful, and full of possibility.





# A Celebration of Belief, Community, and Girls

*Each year, Lunch For The Girls brings together a community that believes deeply in the power of girls.*

Our 2025 luncheon was a moment to pause and take pride in all that has been built together. Stories of growth, resilience, and possibility reminded us that our impact has always been rooted in people coming together on behalf of girls.

We also looked ahead with intention. Funds raised through Lunch For The Girls support the programs, spaces, and opportunities that help girls build confidence, leadership, and independence. The celebration made one thing clear - our legacy is strong, and the future we are building for girls is filled with promise.

As we celebrated fifty years, we looked back at the generations of girls whose lives have been shaped by care, opportunity, and unwavering belief.

Treasured individuals and families whose gifts have helped sustain and grow our mission were recognized for their contributions during the luncheon.



### LUNCH FOR THE GIRLS HONOREES:

- The Landen Family
- The Lozier Family
- The Buffett Family
- John Morgan
- Past Executive Directors
- Former Girls Inc. Team Leaders



# Lunch For The Girls





## Legacies of Our Alumnae

*Accomplishments set the example for the Girls Inc. girls' futures.*

### **MONIQUE FARMER, MOM OF AALIYAH:**

*Is there a memory or moment from Girls Inc. that really stands out to you?*

So many memories stick with me, especially the summer job experiences. I remember traveling between the South and North Centers. That always stood out for me. It gave us a chance to meet other girls we wouldn't normally cross paths with. There was this sense of expansion, like our world was getting bigger every time we connected.

One moment that's forever stamped in my mind: the day Barbara Jordan came to speak to us. Seeing a woman of such power, grace, and purpose in our space, with us. As a girl of about 14 at the time, that left a lasting impression. It reminded us of who we could be.

*When you think about Girls Inc. now, what does it mean to you?*

Thinking about Girls Inc. now, I see it as one of the earliest places that affirmed who I was and helped shape who I would become. It's a launching pad for bold, brilliant, resilient girls who go on to do powerful things. Girls Inc. saw us, invested in us, and gave us the confidence to take up space and lead.

### **AALIYAH FARMER, DAUGHTER OF MONIQUE:**

*Is there a memory or moment from Girls Inc. that really stands out to you?*

One memory I'll never forget is dissecting a shark during the Eureka! program. The smell was intense, but the experience was unforgettable. It sparked my curiosity and deepened my interest in science and anatomy.

*When you think about Girls Inc. now, what does it mean to you?*

Girls Inc. helped shape the woman I am today. It gave me the confidence to lead, the courage to chase my dreams, and the belief that I can achieve anything I set my mind to.

### **PRECIOUS MCKESSON, MOM OF TAYLOR:**

*Is there a memory or moment from Girls Inc. that really stands out to you?*

So many memories. One that stands out is receiving the Carolyn "CT" Green Parent of the Year Award. As a single mom, it meant so much to be recognized by Girls Inc. As a staff and parent, Taylor shared me with so many girls. I was able to pour into them the same way I poured into Taylor, Ariyah, Bria, Anaea, Dre'Ana, Jamece, and JaLeah.

*When you think about Girls Inc. now, what does it mean to you?*

Girls Inc. means the world to me. The organization opens the doors to so many opportunities for girls in Omaha. It gives girls the chance to dream bigger than ever. I love the exposure the girls get by taking them out of their comfort zone. Girls Inc. has provided my girls with so many resources as they pursue higher education.

### **TAYLOR MCKESSON, DAUGHTER OF PRECIOUS:**

*Is there a memory or moment from Girls Inc. that really stands out to you?*

A moment I always reflect often is the first time I had the chance to speak at Lunch for the Girls. I was a kindergartner and the event took place in our old gym. This memory always reflects the growth of the organization, and my growth along with it.

*When you think about Girls Inc. now, what does it mean to you?*

I can't put into words how Girls Inc. has impacted me as a young African American woman. Joining Girls Inc. at the age of four, I continue to be a part of the program today as a program specialist, giving back to young ladies who stand where I once stood.

I have met so many amazing people from friends to mentors who are still a part of my journey. Girls Inc. represents unity and equity for all girls, no matter their race, size, or background. It is a home away from home and stands as a powerful representation of support for girls of color. Without the Girls Inc. Experience, I don't think my future would be as bright as it is now. It helped answer questions I had while growing up. Girls Inc. helped shape the woman I am today!

# Outcomes Build Futures

*Girls Inc. is dedicated to making a measurable difference in the lives of girls, and has developed the Girls Inc. Strong, Smart, and Bold Outcomes Survey to measure indicators of girl success in a nationwide network survey each year.*

More than 63 affiliates and 6,300 girls ages 9+ participated in the 2025 national survey.

**In Omaha, 167 of our girls shared how they feel and what they think about their Girls Inc. Experience.**

**97.9%** of participants feel like they have a great future ahead of them.

**97%** of participants know they will graduate from high school.

**94.6%** of participants say there are adults at Girls Inc. who they respect.

**93.9%** of participants say that at Girls Inc., girls learn to make a difference in the world.

**92.6%** of participants plan on graduating from college.

**90.5%** of teens say that it is important to be an active and informed citizen.

# Scholarship Recipients

*These girls are trailblazers building their futures.*

## MAYA RODGERS

I am currently a freshman at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and I am majoring in biological systems engineering. I graduated from Omaha Central High School Summa Cum Laude. I was involved in the track and volleyball teams, and was captain of both. Throughout my track seasons, I had many accomplishments like becoming the new record holder for the indoor 60-meter dash as well as the 100-meter dash. I also medaled in several events at the Nebraska State Track and Field Championships. I was also selected by my teachers to participate in Girls State, which is a program where young women learn about the government through their own mock state and local governments. In this immersive program, I was elected county engineer by my peers. I was also involved in Eureka! and participated in multiple comedy events to help fundraise money for the Eureka! program. I am now involved in the National Society of Black Engineers and was elected treasurer for the NSBE freshman executive board.



## JASMINE MENDEZ

My name is Jasmine Mendez, and I am a senior at Buena Vista High School. I have been a member of Girls Inc. since kindergarten and am part of the Eureka! program for the past five years. When I'm not in school or working my CNA jobs, I stay actively involved in my community. You can often find me volunteering at a local food pantry, assembling food boxes and hygiene kits, or serving the elderly.



I am also involved in several school organizations, including Latino Leaders and HOSA, and I am a proud member of the National Honor Society, Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, and Upward Bound. Through Girls Inc., I have completed two externships at UNMC and Methodist Hospital, and this past summer I interned at Children's Nebraska. These experiences have strengthened my passion for becoming a nurse.

This fall, I will be attending the College of Saint Mary to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. I truly believe in the Girls Inc. motto to be Strong, Smart, and Bold, and I hope to serve as a positive role model not only for my younger sisters, but for all young girls.

# Building on Your Support

*We are grateful to our generous Champion for Girls donors who invest in girls and their fullest potential. Many thanks to you all.*

## **Champion \$50,000+**

Anonymous  
Building Healthy Futures  
Dorothy B. Davis Foundation  
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Ties Giving Program

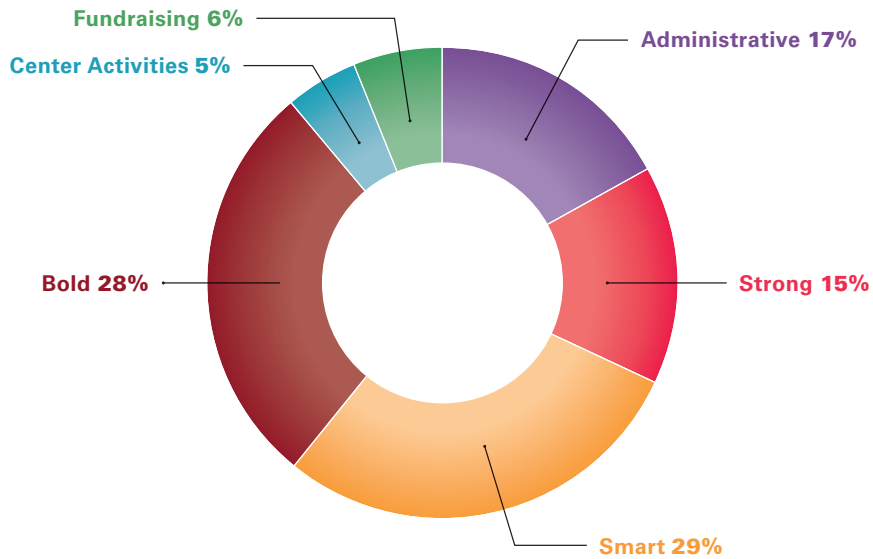
## **Enthusiast \$1,000-\$4,999**

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Walmart  
Brandi Waugh  
Mary Wells

# Financials

Fifty years of accountability continues as we put our money where are girls' futures are.



## EXPENSES

STRONG .....	\$618,937.51 .....	15%
SMART .....	\$1,191,225.29 .....	29%
BOLD .....	\$1,135,206.00 .....	28%
CENTER ACTIVITIES .....	\$209,674.14 .....	5%
FUNDRAISING.....	\$262,639.60 .....	6%
ADMINISTRATIVE .....	\$701,557.92 .....	17%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES.....</b>	<b>\$4,119,240.46</b>	

# Board & girlFRIENDS Guild

Their volunteer leadership helps build our success through their areas of expertise, fundraising efforts, and applying their lived experiences.

## BOARD

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*President*  
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Shawntal Mallory  
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Sherie Thomas  
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*We are building a Girls Inc. that is strong, responsive, inclusive, and prepared for the next generation of girls. The future before us is full of promise, and it is being shaped right now by the choices we make together.*



**Support our work  
with a donation**

**girls  
inc.**

of Omaha

**Katherine Fletcher Center**

2811 North 45th St.  
Omaha, NE 68104

**Emma Lozier Center**

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Omaha, NE 68107

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We regret any errors or omissions in acknowledging all the wonderful support we received in 2025.