



of Central Alabama

# 2020 Annual 2021 Report

# A Message

### FROM THE CEO



of Central Alabama



Even as we left the office in March 2020, we did not believe we would still be at home when the new fiscal year began in April.

As the severity of the pandemic became obvious, we responded by creating virtual classes and reaching out to the girls in our programs through phone calls and texts. When schools decided to offer virtual classes, we realized working parents had no place for their daughters to do online school while they were at work. Our Rising Leaders Academy at Crestwood met this need for 80 girls during the 2020-2021 school year. Each day girls came to Girls Inc. to participate in their online classes.

We are grateful for the building that has been our home for 30 years this month. It allowed us to respond to a pandemic that no one imagined when it was built. It has served as a safe learning space for girls since 1991, but especially in the last year. As we turn our attention to learning recovery and the mental health issues that so many young people have experienced, we are once again grateful to have a pro-girl, girl-only environment like the one in Crestwood.

Many thanks to all of you who made this space possible and who help us to continue our mission every day.

# Mission

Girls Inc. of Central Alabama is dedicated to inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold.

At the heart of Girls Inc. is a comprehensive approach to whole girl development that equips girls to navigate gender, economic, and social barriers to grow up healthy, educated, and independent.

Connie Hill, Ph.D. President & CEO

Girls Inc. of Central Alabama

## **GIRLS INC.** RESPONDS TO THE PANDEMIC

Girls Inc. created the Rising Leaders Academy, a safe space for girls to do online school while their parents were at work. Over the course of the last school year, we were able to provide this support to 80 girls.

100% of these girls were promoted to the next grade.



Our Community Impact Department offered both virtual and in-person classes, allowing us to reach 2,922 girls in 2020.

Through our Eureka! and Teen Leadership Program we were able to provide exposure to STEM subjects, college readiness, and career education for **74 girls**.

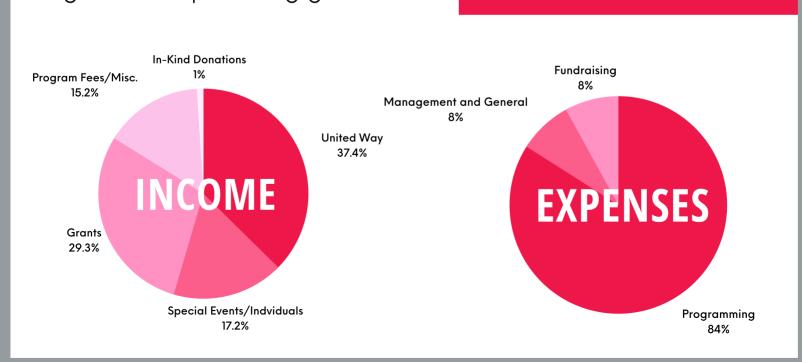
Our Crestwood Center and our Walker County Center were able to serve 375 girls through in person activities, virtual programs, and take-home summer learning kits.



89% of the girls we served were from low-to-moderate income households, those most impacted by COVID-19.

For every dollar given to Girls Inc. of Central Alabama 84¢ goes to empowering girls.

## 2020-2021 FINANCIALS







Compared to other girls in their communities, girls who have had the mentoring relationships and the all-girl, pro-girl environment that Girls Inc. offers are more likely to have positive relationships with adults and see them as allies, as well as to see themselves as leaders.



Girls Inc. girls are more likely to stand up for their beliefs and for fairness, and they are also more likely to believe that they can influence and improve their local communities.



The opportunities that Girls Inc. girls receive—whether learning about nutrition and exercise or simply developing a stronger self-image—make them more likely to participate in sports teams and exercise regularly.



Girls Inc. girls are more likely to attend school and be positively engaged in school. In fact, their school suspension rates are 79 percent lower.

# IN HER CORNER

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year our staff worked closely with girls in our Rising Leaders Academy and realized five of our 1st graders did not know the alphabet.

Staff quickly contacted school officials to advocate for more resources for these girls. Staff members also worked closely with their families. They shared resources parents could use to help girls develop their reading skills. Girls Inc. also partnered with other local agencies to assist these girls individually.

By the end of the school year, all five girls not only knew the alphabet but were reading on grade level. Three of the girls even made honor roll! Now that they are attending school in person again, the girls continue to receive the resources needed to sustain their progress.



# Girls Inc. of Central Alabama Leadership

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# 2020-2021 CHAMPIONS FOR GIRLS

# Thank you to the members of our Champions for Girls Giving Society. Your investment creates long-lasting, positive change and inspires girls to be strong, smart, and bold.

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#### A LOOK BACK AT YOUR SUPPORT - THANK YOU!





