# girls inc.

# 2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

of Durham



1-398 Bayly Street West

Ajax, Ontario

L1S 1P1

Charitable Registration # BN118809268 RR0001





www.girlsinc-durham.org / 905-428-8111 / info@durham.girls-inc.org

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Message from the Leadership	3
Who We Are	
About Girls Inc	4-5
Our Bill of Rights	6
Quick Stats	7
The Essential Elements	8
Our Strategic Direction	9
Board of Directors	10
Volunteers	11
Staff	12-13
What We Deliver	
Our Programs	14-17
Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program	
Community Partners	19
Because of Girls Inc	20
Highlights of the Year 2022-2023	21
Financial Overview	22-24
Our Investors	25-28
Girls Inc. Merchandise	29
Cirle Inc. Events	



Empowered girls living in an equitable society.

#### **OUR MISSION:**

Girls Inc. is a registered charity that empowers girls to believe in themselves and reach their full potential.

We inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold through advocacy, education and programs.









#### **Message from Leadership**

At Girls Inc., our vision remains constant: we seek to contribute to a world in which every girl values her whole self, discovers her inherent strengths, and achieves her goals. To ensure a thriving community of healthy, educated and independent, girls, Girls Inc. must be able to adapt to the changing social and economic landscape that the coming years will bring.

Girls Inc. girls face daily challenges with the resolve to be strong, smart, and bold, so we must continue to approach the change and transition that are demanded of us with a sense of collective strength, secure in our mission and historical context—and also with the confidence to face the unknown boldly.

Over the last 37 years, we have risen to the challenge to provide girls the best possible support to overcome obstacles and achieve their full potential. Girls Inc. must continue to do so, despite ongoing uncertainty, because the girls who are our collective future depend on it. During these challenging times, our revenue has been impacted as a result of not being able to hold our in-person summer camps, cancellation of our bingo, and in-person fundraising events but what has increased is the intersectional needs and challenges of many girls and families in our community. The Board of Directors monitored the effects of the pandemic on the Organization and mitigated the impact by ensuring we had a reserve fund, and applied for available government assistance through the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) loan, the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and the 10% Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers. We pivoted programming, delivery of services and fundraising activities to ensure our staff, our girls and community were safe. I am grateful to you, our donors, friends, and supporters, for making this work possible.

I am deeply appreciative of our staff, board and volunteers whose determination and expertise are at the core of the Girls Inc. Experience, which every day provides girls with the support they need to achieve their full potential. We could not have achieved such success without your belief in us and in the remarkable girls who will change our future.

Jill Button, Board President and Yvette Nechvatal-Drew, Executive Director



## WHO WE ARE

#### ABOUT GIRLS INC. OF DURHAM

Girls Inc. of Durham, part of a network of local affiliates across Canada and the United States, works with schools and in communities in Durham Region to help girls prepare for their futures and reach their full potential. Our evidence-based programming is proven to make a measurable difference in the lives of girls. We also work to advance the rights and opportunities of girls and young women through public policy and advocacy. Together with partners and supporters, Girls Inc. inspires all girls to be strong, smart, and bold.

In 2022 the needs of our girls were compounded with the ongoing challenges recovering from the pandemic; isolation, mental health issues and anxiety. We were dedicated to reaching and impacting our girls by delivering research-based, age-appropriate after-school, in-school, virtual, hybrid and summer programs.

Serving 1374 girls In 2022

## WHO WE SERVE

We dedicate our work to building a safe and nurturing environment that focuses on meeting girls where they are and embraces each girl's unique strength. We work to eliminate the barriers girls face, and to reform systems that impede their success. We approach this work with an equity lens, focusing in particular on the

# STRONG SMART

**BOLD** 

Girls gain knowledge to embrace physical activity, positive body image, and nutrition while decreasing or delaying substance use and sexual activity.

9 out of 10 Girls Inc. girls care about school.

82% of Girls Inc. girls plan to attend College or University.

We build resiliency - over half of Girls Inc. girls reported that they bounce back quickly all or most of the time when things do not go their way.



needs of girls who face racism, and other forms face multiple,



multiple barriers (i.e. of discrimination) and intersectional



poverty, those who challenges

## THE NEED

78%

of high school girls report being unhappy with their bodies.

1 in 4

girls are sexually abused or assaulted by age 17.

1 in 7

women live in poverty

#### An impact study proves that girls who participate in Girls Inc. outpace their peers.

- They are more likely to see themselves as leaders with the skills and capabilities to influence and improve their communities.
- They are more likely to exercise regularly and participate on sports teams.
- They are more likely to have higher standardized math test scores and self-confidence in STEM subjects and see themselves in STEM careers.
- They are more likely to be engaged in and attend school and to be prepared for life after high school.

# **OUR BILL OF RIGHTS**

The Girls Inc. Girls Bill of Rights is what we will forever stand behind. We teach, mentor and challenge girls, customizing each approach to instill leadership values and skills for a lifetime. These are the six reasons why we are the leading girls organizations in the Durham Region.



GIRLS HAVE THE RIGHT TO

BE THEMSELVES AND TO RESIST GENDER STEREOTYPES.

GIRLS HAVE THE RIGHT TO

EXPRESS THEMSELVES WITH ORIGINALITY AND ENTHUSIASM.

GIRLS HAVE THE RIGHT TO

TAKE RISKS, TO STRIVE FREELY, AND TO TAKE PRIDE IN SUCCESS

GIRLS HAVE THE RIGHT TO

ACCEPT AND APPRECIATE THEIR BODIES.

GIRLS HAVE THE RIGHT TO

HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THEMSELVES AND BE SAFE IN THE WORLD.

GIRLS HAVE THE RIGHT TO

PREPARE FOR INTERESTING WORK AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE.

# **Quick STATS**

THE VIEW FROM OUR GIRLS

"Girls Inc. girls struggle with the stigma of mental health like other girls, giving of themselves, but reluctant to receive help: While 93% of Girls Inc. girls surveyed said they would offer help to a friend who was sad, stressed, or depressed, only 71% said they would reach out to a friend for help if they felt the same way.

**77**%

are happy with their bodies, compared to 48% of girls nationally.

Body positivity is important for girls and allows them to live comfortably in their own bodies with confidence and selfesteem

# COMMITTED & PARTIE INVESTED IN THEIR EDUCATION

#### 9 out of 10 Girls Inc. girls...

- Care about doing well in school.
- · Like learning new things.
- Try to find out more about the things that interest them.

## Changing the face of STEM

**89**%



find science or math interesting.

Even though women are underrepresented in STEM post-secondary programs and careers, Girls Inc. girls have the potential to close this gap and change the face of STEM for the next generation.



80%

believe they could handle harder science or math.

## THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS





#### THREE ELEMENTS ARE CRITICAL TO SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

#### **PEOPLE**

Trained staff and volunteers who build lasting, mentoring relationships. Our staff take the time to engage with families, encourage girls to pursue leadership positions, and serve as role models.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Girls-only, physically and emotionally safe; where there is a sisterhood of support, high expectations, and mutual respect.

#### RESEARCH-BASED PROGRAMMING

Research-based, hands-on, and minds-on, age-appropriate, meeting the needs of today's girls. Our trained staff develop locally-focused programs that ensure girls are exposed to new experiences.

# **OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION**

During the last several years, Girls Inc. of Durham has continued to serve more girls to meet the community's demand. To meet this demand, our revenue growth has been guided by three fundamental elements; our vision, our mission, and our values.

Our strategic plan is a continual work in progress ensuring we focus on the following:

# 1

#### Sustainable Funding

Ensuring Girls Inc. of Durham has the financial resources needed to achieve its vision and sustain our strategic growth, with impact.

# 2

#### **Excellence in Board Governance**

Ensuring board composition encompasses a wide range of skills, experiences and networks, while engaging members in all aspects of the Girls Inc. experience.

# 3

#### Leader in Girl-Focused Programming and Advocacy

Breaking social and economic barriers girls and young women face, and reform systems that impede their success.



"We know that through sustained exposure, interactive activities and with a girl's only environment, we are creating a safe place where girls can flourish, feel safe and plan for their future."

Tracey McCannell, Director of Programming

## **BOARD EXECUTIVE 2022-2023**

At Girls Inc., we are a team. We work together to deliver important services to our community, families, schools, and most especially the girls we serve.



President

Jill Button, June 2022



Secretary

Anessa Garcia,

June 2022/
sabbatical July 2023



Vice President

Anu Aduvala, June 2022



Acting Secretary

Tola Ladipo July 2023



Treasurer
Rico DeVega, February
2022

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023**

Clareleen Ivany
Laura Reid
Lisa Bower
Paula Ponte
Samantha Reynolds
Alicia Sarran \*resigned January 2023

\* COVID-19 continues to have an impact on the ability for many volunteers to continue to fulfill their volunteer commitments as they reassess their work life balances during a pandemic. Succession plan continues to be a high priority to ensure continued oversight and support for program delivery.

# **THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS**

COVID-19 had a major impact on volunteering in the charitable sector. Even with the many provincial COVID-19 lockdown mandates we still had over 65 volunteers help us in many ways: on committees, food delivery, at community events, and to deliver quality programs to girls across Durham Region. It's because of their support that our vision of empowered girls living in an equitable society gets closer to becoming a reality. We deeply appreciate their dedication.

**Fundraisers** 

Program Interns

Yoga Teachers

**Board of Directors** 

Career Panel

**Committees** 

**Mentors** 

Office Support

**Photographers** 

Bingo

Gardening

**Community Events** 

Face Painting

Over 65 volunteers providing 9,000 hours of service





# **STAFF**



**Executive Director** Yvette Nechvatal-Drew



**Director of Programming** Tracey McCannell



Events/ **Communications** Coordinator



Coordinator Elyse Comire
\*returned to school Sep 2023



**Fund Development** (subcontracted) Darren Levine



**Program Coordina**tor Heather Buckner

# FUEL HER FIRE, AND SHE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

## **STAFF**



**Program Coordinator** Vanessa De Ryck



**Prenatal Nutrition Program Program Support Shannon Comire** 



**Program Facilitator** Bronwyn Wagg



**Program** Clarissa Benedicto, Early Childhood Educator / Program Facilitator

**Prenatal Nutrition** 





**Human Resources and Skills Development Canada** 



Madeline McGeough \*started June 2023

# WHAT WE DELIVER

Funding support from United Way Durham, Durham Community Foundation, Second Harvest, Ontario Trillium Foundation, and Delta Bingo allowed us to continue to meet the needs of the girls in Durham region. We offered in-school programming, in-person and virtual after-school program and summer programming in 2022/2023

#### **PROGRAMS OFFERED**

Allies in Action: Bullying prevention for girls in grades 3 - 8

Informed and InCharge: Sexual health and violence prevention for girls in grades 7 & 8

GirlSTART: Literacy and reading support for girls in grades 1 - 3
 In Our Own Hands Leadership and Community Action for grades 6 - 8



#### In partnership with our many funders and donors









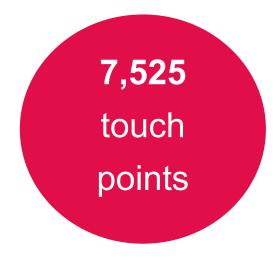




An agency of the Government of Ontario Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

#### **AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

During this challenging year, our staff were able to offer touch points, weekly by connecting with parents/guardians of the girls we serve. We dropped off kits of supplies, food, snack, and materials for programming to their residences. Serving our girls with driveway meet-ups, package drop-offs as well as texts, calls, and emails. Our programming moved to in-person in the fall of 2022.



# **Mind+Body**



With funding this program focuses on four pillars of health; stress management, nutrition, body image, and physical activity. In 2022, we served 202 girls aged 11-18.



#### **GirlZONE**



FONDATION CANADIENNE DES FEMMES

GirlZONE is an evidence-based leadership and educational program for girls aged 13-18. We served 195 girls in 2022

Our GirlZONE participants also act as peer mentors to the younger girls in GirlSPACE.





#### **GirISPACE**

Focuses on developing skills, abilities, and self esteem for girls aged 6-12, we served 229 girls with the support of Telus.





# PROGRAMS FOR THE FUTURE

Over 91% of all revenue goes directly to providing programming





# STRONGER SMARTER BOLDER: GIRLS TAKE THE LEAD

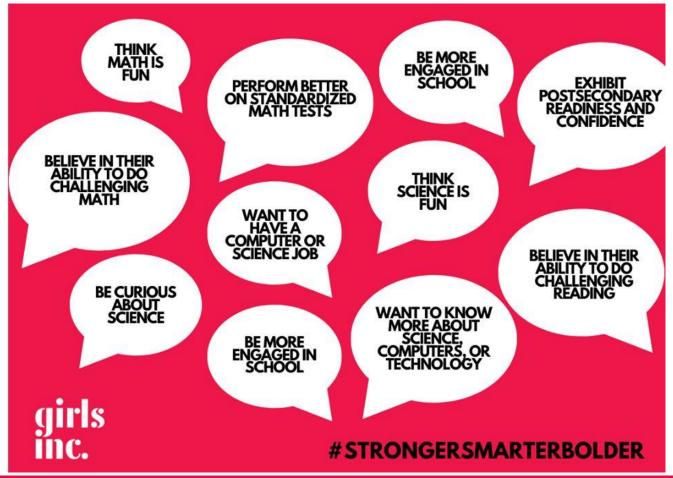
Girls Inc. **PREPARES**girls with the space and opportunities they need to see themselves as leaders of positive change in their own lives, and in their communities.

# PROGRAMS FOR FUTURE LEADERS





**GIRLSINC-DURHAM.ORG** 



# **Supporting Young Moms**

#### Food '4' Thought

#### THE CANADA PRENATAL NUTRITION PROGRAM also known as "Food '4"

Thought", is a community-based initiative federally funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, and Durham Region's Social Investment Fund and is administered by Girls Inc. of Durham. The financial impact of COVID-19 has been devastating, causing many more families to seek help. We have pivoted and risen to meet the needs of our clients. Girls Inc. of Durham NEVER stopped providing assistance to the community and have expanded services as the need has increased during the pandemic.

"Food '4' Thought" has traditionally been a drop-in program for young pregnant women and new mothers under 26 years of age, where young moms get materials on health and wellness and food.

During the pandemic we pivoted to offering deliveries of fresh fruit, vegetables, milk, food staples and prenatal vitamins. Our program staff and volunteers have continued to offer text, phone support, and driveway connections that aim to support women in vulnerable, challenging, and isolating situations. Our driveway deliveries offered not only essential necessities but also a feeling of connection and support.

We use a population health approach, which attempts to preserve and improve the health of the population as a whole; as well as closing gaps to reduce inequality in health among subsets of the population (e.g. mental health concerns, food instability, vulnerable families with young children; high-risk expectant mothers and racialized peoples).



# **OUR COMMUNITY**

#### 2022 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

"It takes a village to raise a child". With this proverb in mind, Girls Inc. of Durham takes pride in its community partnerships. Partnering with a variety of community organizations and institutions, we have been able to continue to deliver and expand upon a variety of exceptional programs and support systems to hundreds of girls across Durham Region.

Affordable Access to Recreation Committee Canadian Mental Health CAREA, Ajax and Oshawa Centennial College City of Pickering Community Development Council of Durham Community Living Durham CP 24 Chum Christmas Wish Durham Mental Health Network **Durham Children's Aid Society** Durham College **Durham District School Board Durham Non-Profit Housing Corporation Durham Region Police Services** Durham Region Public Health Department **Durham Youth Housing Support Services** ETFO, Status of Women & Equity Committee Family Community Action Program Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Ontario Network of Expertise George Brown College Humber College John Howard Society Kids Up Front McMaster University Ontario Women's Health Network OTU Rose of Durham Ryerson University

Salvation Army Whitby Seneca College Sunrise Youth Town of Ajax Town of Uxbridge Town of Whitby Trent University University of Toronto Women's Multicultural Resource & Counselling Centre York University Youth Services Network YMCA (CAPC)





# BECAUSE OF

# **GIRLS INC...**

My daughter has progressed significantly in sharing her ideas and opinions, has built confidence in herself and learned to treat others with respect.



Parent, 6th grade student

...I've found my confidence and voice to speak up when something isn't right.

A Girls Inc. participant



... I know I can be a successful woman and push myself to be my best.

A Girls Inc. high school participants



# girls inc.

# Highlights of the Year

Sources of Revenue

\$415,923

In Government Grants (including Prenatal Nutrition Project and HRSDC Canada Summer Jobs)





Individual Donors \$41,985

monthly and one time donors





\$373,054

Corporate Donations \$55,913







\$58,025

BINGO Revenue



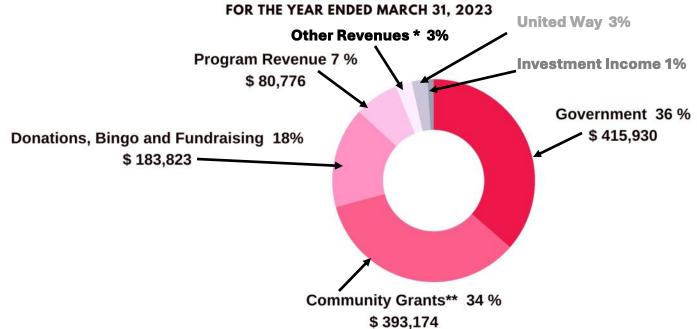
Visit our website for a copy of our audited financial statements

https://girlsinc-durham.org/about-us/financials/



# **Financial Overview**

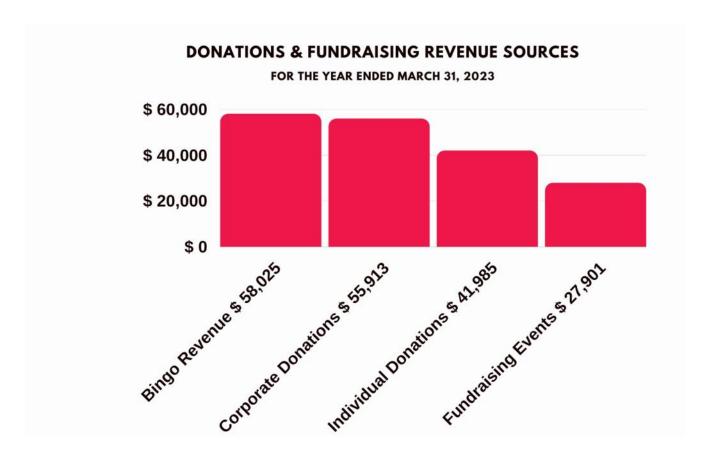
# MAJOR REVENUE SOURCES



- \* Other Revenue represents flow through funding from Girls Inc. (USA); third party fundraising and merchandise sales
- \*\* Community Grants represents Ontario
  Trillium Grants (Resilient and Growth
  grants), Canadian Women's Foundation;
  Catapult Canada- Rideau Hall Foundation;
  Ministry of the Solicitor General Safer and
  Vital Communities Fund; Canadian
  Jumpstart Canada; CAF Charities Aid
  Foundation Canada; The Benevity
  Community Impact Fund; Enterprise
  ERAC Foundation; Durham Community
  Foundation; RBC Foundation; Telus
  Friendly Future Foundation and CHUM
  Charitable Foundation

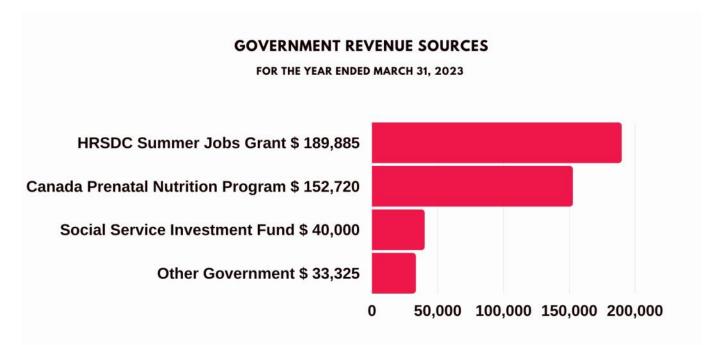


# **Financial Overview**









Other Government includes Second Harvest Food Support Emergency Food Security Fund and Town of Whitby's Mayor's Fund



#### **OUR INVESTORS: CHAMPIONS FOR GIRLS**

The life-changing work being done by Girls Inc. of Durham is possible thanks to the support of the many corporations, foundations, groups, and individuals that invest each year.

#### MAKING IT POSSIBLE

\$ 100,000 +

Canadian Women's Foundation Human Resource & Skills Development of Canada (summer camp staffing) Public Health Agency of Canada (CPNP Food '4' Thought)

#### **INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT**

\$ 50,000- \$ 99,999

Catapult Canada- Rideau Hall Foundation
Ontario Government (Safer Vital Communities Grant)
Ontario Trillium Foundation

#### **ADVOCATE**

\$ 10,000- \$ 49,999

Canadian JumpStart Canada
Delta Bingo
Durham CHC (CAREA)
Enterprise Holding Foundation (ERAC)
General Motors Corporate Giving
Girls Incorporated
Government of Canada (CEWS)
Regional Municipality of Durham
Second Harvest Food Support
Telus Friendly Future Foundation
United Way of Durham Region

#### CREATING DREAMS

\$ 5,000- \$ 9,999

The Benevity Community Impact Fund Cascades
Clareleen Ivany family
Discovery Dental
Honda Canada Foundation
Ontario Power Generation
RBC Foundation
Town of Ajax
Town of Whitby



#### **OUR INVESTORS: CHAMPIONS FOR GIRLS**

#### **CHAMPIONS FOR GIRLS**

\$ 1,000 - \$ 4,999

1799879 Ontario Inc. Durham High Voltage

Abarquez Group

Aecon Aecon

Ajax -Pickering Board of Trade Charity of Choice Event

Anu Aduvala

**Approved Auto Loans** 

**Beauty Foundations** 

Canada online Giving Canada Helps

Carla Pickard

Chris Fortin

**CHUM Charitable Foundation** 

**CIBC** 

Deer Creek Cares Charitable Foundation

Donna Rowley

**Durham College** 

**Durham Community Foundation** 

Elexicon Energy Inc. Corporate Giving

Ellis Packaging Limited

**Grant Thornton Foundation** 

Heathbridge Capital Management Ltd.

Janet Letros

Jill Button

Lisa Bower

Miles Goacher

Nancy Van Rooy

Paula Ponte

**RBC** Foundation

Rico (Quirico)De Vega

Robert Ford

Rotary Club of Ajax

Ruth McCannell

Samantha Reynolds

Tola Ladipo

United Way of Greater Toronto

Yvette Nechvatal-Drew







#### OUR INVESTORS

All donors \$100+ are listed. Please let us know if we missed your name.



# EXPANDING LEADERSHIP

\$ 500 - \$ 999

Alexis Andrew Alicia Sarran Ana Milne Car Doc 8790671 Canada Inc. Hanna Stojanovski Mortgages Lynne Sinclair Townsend Mike Schierholtz & Associates Marilyn Crawford Melissa Pringle Michael Ricafort Natassa Zervopoulos Nina Romano Samantha Lucifora Sandra Thomas Sheila Burns Town Brewery Inc. Tracey McCannell Unifor Local 2221 Canada Women's Health Physiotherapy



\$ 250 - \$ 499

Analiese St. Aubin Annika Arts Unleashed Barbara Oram Body Works Physiotheraphy Break Away Technologies Inc. Brenda Mills Motors Cat Bates donation in honour of Marnie & Charlie Bates **Durham Pelvic Health** Fit Mom Durham -Jennifer Rogers Foxy Fit Mama- Emma Ivens **GTACC Hidden Mist Beauty Aesthetics** Joni Dandenault Julie Robertson Laura Reid Lisa Ahlberg

Lydia Stewart
Lysa Borland
Michelle MacInnis
Michael Christian
Paul Etherington
RedXTechnology
Robert Ford
Saints Beauty Bar
Sangeeta Bhatnagar
Sarah and Sean Netley
Sarah Jones

**66** 

To support Girls Inc. and its participants is to invest in the future.

**NICOLE** 

Birls Inc. Alumni



#### \$ 100 - \$ 249

Adam McCannell Alan Sinclair Anessa Garcia Angela Bhutani Anne Marie Renada Brianna Capone Cassandra Hynds Cathy MacAskill Charlene Smith Cheryl Nicholson Frances Wright Geoffrey McPherson Giant Tiger Greg Lapard Jennifer Snoddon Joan Fortin Josie Della Pia Julia Seaton Karen Campbell Laura Bisset Lauren Chung Lisa Sinisi Lvdia Jackson Malcom Humphrey Marcy Ruparelia Marissa Humphrey Marty Britton

Mary & Bill Graham Michelle Leblanc Nancy Bynoe Olivia Yoon Paul Hewitt Rudy Sarran Sandy Gardner Susanne Healy Yuna Kim

Donations enable us to reduce the costs of programs; making them affordable and accessible by providing subsidies for families where the cost may be a barrier.













# **GIRLS INC EVENTS**



With the funds raised it helps us provide programs that focus on the

#### WHOLE GIRL.

Our comprehensive approach address all aspects of a girl's life and helps her discover and develop her inherent strengths. Girls receive programming to grow up healthy, educated and

independent.



AND SHE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD



# **POWER OF THE** PURSE

Thank
you! Together we raised over \$76,300



We felt the impact of COVID-19 at Girls Inc. of Durham causing us to cancel our Spirit of Girls Breakfast event in May 2022 but it did not stop us from being laser focused, working hard to once again provide an excellent in person Annual Power of the Purse fundraising event. This event raised over \$76,300 (Net income raised over \$57,000). Raising over 37% more revenue than the previous year.

A huge thank you to our powerful speakers Maya Ruparelia, and Kayla-Marie Tracy. Thank you to Layne the Auctionista and our hardworking Events Committee: Stephanie Bourque, Anu Aduvala, Lauren Chung, Shanondoah Nicholson, Laura Reid, Julie Robertson, Elyse Comire and Tracey McCannell. We could not do this without this incredible team! For more information, please visit Power of the Purse at www.girlsinc-durham.org

# 

