



Girls Incorporated®
of Greater Indianapolis



MEDIA RELEASE

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GIRLS INC. RECEIVES GRANT FROM LILLY ENDOWMENT, INC **Funding will allow collaboration throughout Indiana**

Indianapolis — Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis received a \$2 million grant that will support the roll out of two programs, Work It Out and Redefining Beauty, to the entire Indiana Girls Inc. network.

Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis will support the other six affiliates in Indiana in launching these innovative programs in collaboration with schools and other community partners. Both programs are designed to help girls as they face a variety of challenges and pressures that can affect them academically, emotionally and socially.

Girls in Indiana are up against a number of difficult trends from being bullied, to considering and attempting suicide, to having negative body image, and most unfortunately to being victims of sexual assault. These trends threaten many aspects of the lives of Indiana girls: their safety, happiness, and ability to succeed in school.

Work it Out teaches effective methods to resolve issues associated with bullying and conflict resolution, which help eliminate the stresses of everyday social interactions with peers as well as the physical violence associated with inability to effectively work through emotions and frustrations.

Redefining Beauty offers girls a way to challenge narrow cultural messages about physical beauty and self-worth, thus helping girls early and reversing the effects of poor body image as they mature.

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Community Partner



Lilly Endowment Support Girls Inc. (page 2 of 2)



The \$2 million grant to Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis will help it coordinate work with affiliates and provide program curricula, outcome measures, and training and guidance in outreach program implementation.

“We are delighted that Lilly Endowment has supported the extension of our two most successful programs throughout the network of Indiana Girls Inc. affiliates,” said Patricia Wachtel, the President & CEO of Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis. “This three year grant will fund our sister agencies to touch the lives of many more girls in their communities through expanded outreach programming. Our common goal is to equip girls with information and life skills that will produce the healthy, educated, and independent Hoosier women of the future.”

“Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis has successfully reached many more girls by building partnerships with schools and other community organizations,” said David Biber, the Endowment’s director of youth programs. “We look forward to seeing how Girls Inc. affiliates across Indiana can successfully increase their impact on their communities by deepening their relationships with schools and other partner organizations that are committed to helping girls thrive.”

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Girls Inc. affiliates taking part in the project are in Greater Indianapolis, Jackson County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Monroe County, Shelby County, and Wayne County.

These seven Indiana Girls Inc. affiliates have a combined 365 years of history inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold, by providing thousands of Hoosier girls with life-changing hands-on activities and solutions to the unique challenges they face. Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis inspires all girls to be strong, smart, and bold. Girls Inc. provides hands-on programs that address the challenges that girls face today, such as self-esteem and bullying. We want girls to be healthy, educated, and independent. All Girls Inc. programs are outcome-based and age-appropriate. For more information, please visit girlsincindy.org.

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family -- J.K. Lilly Sr. and sons J.K. Jr. and Eli -- through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. In keeping with the founders’ wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion and maintains a special commitment to its hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.



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