

Close

# girls for a change

## moxie

July 2006

### Save The Date!

The 4th Annual Girl Summit will be held on  
Thursday, October 12, 2006  
at the San Jose Convention Center

The key to a successful Summit is the Volunteers. We are recruiting 100 volunteers and would be thrilled if you can contribute your time for the event! For more information or to sign on please email: [olivia@girlsforachange.org](mailto:olivia@girlsforachange.org)

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### Seeking Girl Action Team Coaches



The volunteer coach position with GFC is a dynamic and rewarding experience that leads to connections with girls and other adult women in the Bay Area, implementation of a social change project and a contribution toward putting women at the global leadership table.

Coaches and girls form teams that meet twice a month. GFC also provides orientation, monthly training, a coach manual and full time support.

As a volunteer coach you work with a partner coach and a group of 5-10 girls. Coaches guide girls through the process of identifying a community issue and solving it.

**Most importantly coaches partner with girls and in doing so let girls know that they are powerful and valued.**

Coaches are the most important link in GFC reaching girls. Coaches are the women who empower girls to see their potential and understand their power.



Congratulations to Girl Action Team 49 member, Terralynn Mosby. Terralynn, pictured above with her mother and Bertice Berry, was the recipient of the 2006 Professional Business Women of California scholarship in the category of female high school senior. [Click here](#) and check out the Note from Whitney and Niko below for more details.

### What's hot

#### Program Year Results

- 53 Girl Action Teams created change throughout San Jose, San Francisco and Oakland
- 550 girls participated in Girl Action Teams
- 110 coaches partnered with young women to create social change
- More than 3,000 young people throughout the Bay Area participated in and were impacted by Girl Action Team social change projects during the 2005- 2006 school year!

#### Program Evaluation Highlights

Evaluations for the 2005-2006 year are in and are fantastic! Highlights include:

- 90% of girls indicated that they felt

Girls For A Change coaches also participate in personal and professional development through the training program. Coaches report improved:

- Time management skills
- Communication & listening skills
- Confidence in facilitation
- Project management skills
- Attitudes at work and in personal life
- Networks of professionals
- Patience
- Insight in to the lives of youth
- Self-image, coaches now see themselves as agents of social change

We ask coaches to commit from September 2006- May 2007. The monthly time commitment is 15 hours per month including two meetings per month with your team. Coach opportunities are available throughout Santa Clara County, San Mateo County, Alameda County and San Francisco.

[Click here](#) to download an application or visit the GFC website under Volunteer for more information and the coach application. Please contact Patty Torres, Silicon Valley Program Director at [patricia@girlsforachange.org](mailto:patricia@girlsforachange.org) for additional information.

Orientation for coaches will take place in September 2006.

## Coach Highlight

**Team 8, August Boeger  
Middle School, East San  
Jose:**

Stopping the Name Calling  
at School

Team 8 knew that many of the fights and broken friendships at their school resulted from rumors, name calling and talking about other people. The team created one day at the school where students were encouraged to stop name-calling and stop talking negatively about others. The girls and coaches were role models on *Don't Hate Appreciate Day* by wearing special t-shirts and being leaders in the effort. They also presented to Ida Jew Elementary School students about the issue and encouraged the students there to participate in the movement.

First year coaches Sasha and Sarah had this to say about their experience:

*"The wisdom the girls brought to the project amazed us. The growth and connection we experienced as a team was so rewarding, and then on top of that we felt so proud to see the girls follow through on tasks every week. This experience taught us so much!"*

Thank you Sasha, Sarah and Team 8 for the change you've



more powerful or confident since joining GFC.

- 80% of girls responded that they had a vision or idea about how the world should be since joining GFC.

*In their own words...*

- My coaches inspired me to become an active member of my society.
- GFC has really opened up my confidence in myself.

*Coaches said the GFC experience has affected them by:*

- It made me understand how different people with different backgrounds can come together and make a difference.
- Coach training has made me not only a better coach, but a better person and I can use these skills in my life.

## Completion Ceremony

Over 300 girls, coaches, community members and GFC supporters gathered for the annual Completion Ceremony. Teams were honored for their social change, and [CA Assembly Woman Sally Lieber](#) was honored as an IT Girl, someone who has inspired others to create social change through the change she has made. GFC would like to thank everyone who made this event possible:

- AT&T
- Our host, The Tech Museum of Innovation
- CA Senator Jackie Speier
- CA Senator Elaine Alquist
- CA Assembly Member Sally Lieber
- Member of Congress Zoe Lofgren
- Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss
- San Jose City Council Member Nora Campos
- Girl Action Team Consultants
- School and Community Supporters
- Girls, Families and Adult Allies!

## Change The World Breakfast

Thank you to all the 250 guests who attended our annual spring fundraiser on June 2, 2006! This was a wildly successful event which demonstrated the power of girls as agents of social change and your

created this year.

## Girl Action Team Highlight



**Team 42, San Antonio Elementary School, East San Jose:**

Bringing Students Together Through Dance

In order for their peers to get along better and make the school a better place for everyone, the girls from Team 42 started an after school

dance class. Every Wednesday after school they taught a dance class for 4th, 5th and 6th graders. They believe that by offering an activity that will bring students together, it will create a more positive school atmosphere where students support each other and create friendships.

## GFC New Additions

We are honored to introduce Emily LoSavio as the GFC Silicon Valley Development Director! Emily LoSavio is thrilled to join the team at Girls for a Change. Most recently, she served as the Director of Development at Springboard Schools, a non-profit that works to improve public schools in California. Previously, she helped b.a.y. fund for education get its fundraising operations off the ground as they developed their program mentoring and tutoring local youth.



Emily has been an active volunteer with an organizations serving homeless youth and a non profit that supports families with young children facing mental health risks. She currently sits on the Board of Spark, a global women's organization in San Francisco. She is the proud mentor to a promising San Francisco girl who is on track to become the first college graduate in her family.

Emily graduated with honors from UC Davis with majors in Law & Society and Communications. During her time at Davis she became involved in Youth Development and Community Rehabilitation projects that ignited her desire to work to improve opportunities for women. Prior to her philanthropic career, Emily spent a few years as both an underwriter and licensed broker for the Corporate Insurance Industry. In 2004, Emily completed the Coro Community Fellows Program for civic leadership and still remains active in Coro's work.

## GFC Alumni...Where I Am Now

Anita Sundarajan is a sophomore at Claremont McKenna College studying



commitment to empowering young women! This fundraiser was generously by the hosted the Microsoft Corporation.

## GFC Supporters

Girls For A Change would like to thank our most recent corporate and foundation supporters:

- Solectron Foundation
- The McMiles Foundation
- Yahoo Employee Foundation
- The Peninsula Community Foundation
- The Palo Alto Community Fund
- The Wallace Foundation of Arizona
- The Juniper Networks Foundation Fund
- The BEA Foundation
- The Franklin and Catherine Johnson Foundation
- Wells Fargo Foundation
- The Citigroup Foundation

## GFC News

### Job Opportunities with Girls For A Change!

We are hiring an Executive Director in Silicon Valley and a Program Director and Executive Director in Phoenix.

[Click here](#) or check out our website, under the About tab, for more details.

### GFC in the Community

Girls For A Change Program staff has been spreading the word about social change and youth empowerment throughout the community. Below are details of the most recent community outreach:

- The 2006 Adolescent Health Collaborative Health Rights of Teens Conference Youth Track coordinated by [Health Initiatives for Youth](#)

The CEO team has also been spreading the word about creating change. They have made the following presentations to local community leaders:

- Stanford University, Lecture and Workshop on Social Entrepreneurship
- [Voce Communications](#), Presentation to the GFC pro bono PR firm and the



International Relations, with a concentration in Eastern Europe. She became involved in politics through Girls For A Change when she met her first politician, Anna Eshoo, at an event. In addition, she



attended several political conferences representing GFC and obtained internships with Congress Woman Linda LeZotte and State Senator John Vaconcellos. This political experience allowed her to be selected for a semester internship in Washington, D.C. with USAID. Her work with USAID is focused on Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and India, and she attends different events about South and Central Asia. She has even met with the NATO Secretary General and the former Polish President! Despite being very busy with both a full-time internship and night classes, Anita says that she is having a blast. She will spend the summer in Padova, Italy to gain fluency in Italian and travel around Europe. Then, she will study in Krakow, Poland for an entire academic year.

Her participation in GFC gave her the confidence and contacts in the political world that have allowed her to attain these valuable opportunities. Not only was she exposed to women leaders involved in the local, state, and federal levels of the political world, but she learned how to speak in front of large crowds, lead meetings, and constantly make new friends, three of the fundamental skills needed for politics.

She states that she would not be where she is now without the support and resources provided by the GFC community. Even years later, Anita continues to contact her GFC friends and still obtains recommendations and advice from the leaders she grew to know in her time with the Girl Steering Committee. Anita strongly encourages every girl to become involved in GFC, because not only is it a fun experience, but it also develops the life-skills necessary in the real world.

Palo Alto community,  
acknowledgment of their amazing  
volunteer work for GFC

## Note From Whitney and Niko

Happy Summer!

Thank you all for the amazing support that you have all given to girls this year. It has been an exciting program year and the organization is growing! We have successfully launched a pilot of 8 teams and have assembled a Girl Steering Committee and Advisory Board in Phoenix. In addition we had our biggest year in the Silicon Valley, with over 53 Girl Action Teams completing projects in the Bay Area!

We were both lucky enough to be able to attend the Professional Business Women of California conference at the Moscone Center in May, where we got to watch one of our girls receive a \$5,000 scholarship to attend college. Terralyn Mosby, a Girl Action Team member from Lionel Wilson College Preparatory Academy in Oakland got up on the stage in front of over 6,000 women and accepted her award to huge applause. We are so proud of you Terralynn and can't wait to hear about your first year at Sacramento State University! As always we are amazed by the passion and power of the young women who have made a commitment to change their communities through Girls For A Change. We are honored to be in your presence!

Light and Peace to everyone!

Whitney & Niko

PS

We are excited to report that we have been chosen to attend an executive education seminar at Harvard Business School this month. This will be an amazing opportunity to learn about nonprofit strategy from the best minds in the nation. We will have a lot to report when we return and can't wait to bring all the learning back to GFC! On a lighter note, Whitney is excited to buy and wear the Harvard sweatshirt... and report that she did indeed attend Harvard if only for a week.

## Wish list

- Digital camera
- Digital video

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### Quick Links...

[Donate Now](#)

[InHer City - BLOG for Change!](#)

[Moxie Newsletter Archive](#)

[Girls For A Change](#)

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