

Close

girls for a change

moxie

June 2005 Edition

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girls for a change news



GFC would like to extend a special thank you to [Voce Communications](#). The team at Voce has generously added GFC as a pro bono client. Voce is supporting all aspects of public relations and marketing for our national GFC launch. This is an incredible gift to the organization and we love working with them! Thank you Rich, Tim, and Katie!

National Site Update

Drumroll please.... We have chosen our next site! GFC will be expanding to Phoenix, Arizona! We finalized this site selection for the second GFC site after many meetings and one school calling or emailing practically everyday. This begins the chapter of Girls For A Change as a national organization. We are beginning fundraising and community building in Phoenix over the summer and we will be hiring an Executive Director by the beginning of September. We have already built wonderful partnerships with the Phoenix community and look forward to connecting the Bay Area GFC with the Phoenix GFC! Keep an eye out for changes to our website and updates in our newsletter.

If you have a contact or colleague in Phoenix, AZ that we should know please contact Whitney Smith at

Girls Donate to Spread Social Change



Girl Action Team #14, from Mountain View High School, presented to middle schoolers on how to break down stereotypes and discrimination. The girls from Team 14 were so impacted by the power of their team's ability to create change, they decided to give their portion of their fundraising monies to GFC.

These generous girl donors love the idea of GFC going global. They see GFC as an important organization whose programming must one day be a "global support to young women" if broad and long lasting social change is going to happen.

Thank you Team 14 for your empowered decision to lead the way for social change. Your donation will be used to reach and empower more girls around the world!

If you are interested in [donating to Girls For A Change](#), please visit our [website](#).

You can now donate directly on our [website](#) with your credit card! Just visit our website, click on the *Donate Now Secure Donations by Groundspring.org* button on the top right of the homepage, or on the *Investing in Change* tab under Donate Now! You can also click on the *Donate Now* button at the bottom of this newsletter.

Summertime is the most popular time to get married...now you can support Girls For A Change by registering with the I Do Foundation. I Do Foundation allows couples and their guests to make wedding related purchases that generate donations for GFC! The I Do Foundation's Donation Registry service also makes it easy for guests to make donations in lieu of gifts. Check out www.IDoFoundation.org and be sure to suggest Girls For A Change as the beneficiary of your contribution.

blogging for social change



GFC has a national, and even global vision. We have decided to put our feelers out into the world to begin to gather what girls around the nation and world have to say about society.

GFC has a commitment to being entrepreneurial, to taking measured risks for long lasting social change. So, we have decided to harness the power of the internet to continue the change we have put into motion! Come visit us at our new **BLOG**...where girls' voices dialogue with women's voices to re-shape our communities around the world. Come check us out at

whitney@girlsforachange.org.

Girl Action Teams

Will break for summer 2005 and will begin meeting again in September 2005. Carrie Ellett and Patty Torres, Program Staff, will spend summer partnering with community organizations, EHC Sobrato Family Living Center and the Sequoia Union High School District Migrant Education Program, to deliver social change and leadership workshops to girls!

GFC Annual Girl Summit

Mark your calendars for November 3, 2005 at the San Jose Convention Center for a day of over 1,000 young women and social change. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Whitney Smith at whitney@girlsforachange.org.

Spring Into Action 2005

Was held with 100 girls and 35 coaches on March 19, 2005. It was a magical day of social change training and empowerment. We would like to thank our guests and the following contributors:

Nazelah Jamison, SLAM poet
Baja Fresh, Palo Alto
Noah's Bagels, Mountain View and Redwood City
Trader Joe's, Mountain View and Menlo Park
Whole Foods, Redwood City
The Left Bank, Menlo Park
Chef Chu's, Los Altos
Wine Cellar, Los Gatos
All of our fabulous volunteers!
Synopsis, for generously donating event space for 2 consecutive years!

note from

Niko and Whitney

An open letter to GFC Girl Action Team Coaches,

Summer is here! We are so pleased to report that we have completed our 3rd successful Girls For A Change program year. Wow, three years, we can hardly believe it! It seems like just yesterday when we had that first Girl Summit at Great America. This magic would not be possible without our amazing coaches, and so to them we extend our deepest gratitude. Without these women, GFC would be lost. This year we had 63 coaches who met with our 34 Girl Actions Team many times a month all over the Bay Area and created long lasting social change.

These women who volunteer their time to support the next generation of social

www.hercity.org

Do you find yourself wondering, what exactly is a BLOG? BLOG is short for web log. It is a public web site where people can instantly publish their ideas, thoughts, questions, information and imaginations. GFC stretches this definition. We see a BLOG as a democratic and accessible space. We moderate InHer City as a new BLOG space to empower girls and women to create social change in cities around the world. Join us.

Here's a sneak peek at our first posting:

Welcome to the first blog for females creating change. This is a blog where you will discover how you will impact your world - in your own self, your community, and abroad. This place will be the springboard for inspiring action and making your voices heard! As women and citizens of this world, it is our duty to educate ourselves about the issues affecting us and to make the changes we know are necessary. Every social change movement began with an inspiration, passionate perseverance, creative planning, and intelligent networking. As young women, we have all that we need within us to create social change. Margaret Mead, a famous anthropologist said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has." We are this group of citizens. Are you ready to change the world?

completion ceremony



our communities.

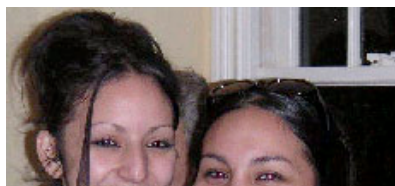
On Wednesday, May 25, 2005 the Girls For A Change community came together for an evening of power, celebration and social change! Nearly 40 Girl Action Teams and 70 coaches were honored by GFC staff, parents and guardians, schools, elected officials and community members for their commitment to empowerment and improving

The Fundraiser Event, held the same evening, was a huge success that educated the community at large about the great work GFC is up to. We would like to thank our supporters for making the Completion Ceremony and Fundraiser Event possible:

- Our host, National Semiconductor
- Our media sponsor, NBC 11
- Sandy Castellano, NBC Anchorwoman and event emcee
- CA Assembly members Joe Coto, Rebecca Cohen, Sally Lieber and Ira Ruskin
- Members of Congress Mike Honda, Zoe Lofgren
- Baja Fresh
- All our new and returning donors from the Fundraiser Event!
- Our Fabulous Volunteers!

More than 2,000 students throughout the Bay Area participated in Girl Action Team events during the 2004-05 school year! Thank you girls, coaches, and community members for creating social change!

girls for a change new additions



Summer Interns! Girls For A Change will be honored with the presence of GFC program alum Stephanie Ramirez, Alina Din, Naiema Din, and Katherine Zhang. The girls will bring their expertise on empowerment and social change to

change makers are *everyday activists*. They help provide structure through phone call reminders, rides, and helping to coordinate a meeting space. They provide much needed support through lots of talking and sharing. They provide expertise as women and leaders themselves in how to problem solve with the girls.

And these women are *thought leaders*. They believe in and practice the art of allowing girls to envision, take the lead and implement a solution to an issue which they feel passionate about changing.

So as we wrap this program year, we are saluting you, our COACHES, for your amazing work and dedication. For your gentle nature and your strength. For your hard work. For your consistency and your willingness to fail. For your sense of humor and ability to work through tough issues. For your desire to grow and your willingness to tap into your inner girl. For this year. For all that you do, thank you to our coaches.

With gratitude and love,

Niko & Whitney

what's hot

Team 47, East San Jose was honored by NBC 11 for Women's History month and also on the evening news for its social change project on gang prevention!

Dulce Valencia, Team 4 member, Girl Steering Committee and Board member, was featured along with GFC staff Patty Torres, as an empowered young woman on NBC 11's Bay Vista!

Team 6, Los Altos High, was featured on the front page of the Mountain View Voice for its social change project on healthy relationships!

GFC would also like to thank our newest Foundation and Corporate Supporters:

Eva Gunther Foundation
Yahoo Employee Foundation
Hewlett Packard Foundation

Where I Am Now...

GFC Alum...Use this space to re-connect, share where you are in life, and continue the thread of change!

Two years after GFC, I will be starting my third year at UCLA double majoring in Political Science and Asian American Studies. I recently received the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California



replication and programming.

Girls For A Change would also like to welcome new additions to the Board of Directors. We have girls at every decision making level of GFC, and are proud to welcome 4 new girl and 2 new adult members!

We are pleased to welcome:

- Laura Damian~Girl member and student
- Alicia Gonzalez~Girl member and student
- Lorraine Ramirez~National Semiconductor
- Krissa Quero~Girl member and student
- Dulce Valencia~Girl member and student
- Barbara Williams~Sun Microsystems

Girls For A Change knows that unlikely relationships are transformative for people and our communities! We welcome our new additions who otherwise would not have the opportunity to work together and learn from each other. We look forward to the magic that will come from these unlikely relationships. Thank you and welcome!

girl action team project highlight



Team 18, St Elizabeth Seton, Palo Alto

Taking the Message to Sacramento

All the girls on this team come from immigrant families. They see the effects of legislation on their families every day - from driver's licenses to health insurance. The girls have called five elected officials, written letters to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger about their project and contacted the Governor's office to secure a meeting

with him.

Team 18 received a grant from the Eva Gunther Foundation to visit Sacramento on May 20th for meetings with elected officials as well as the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to discuss how they can get involved politically to fight for equal opportunities for immigrant families. The girls believe anyone who is here in the US with a job or a family should have rights.

girl action team project highlight



Team 8, August Boeger Middle School, East San Jose

Sexual Harassment Awareness

These 7th and 8th grade girls have dealt with sexual harassment in their middle school and they decided to start talking about it with other students. They created "Sexual Harassment Awareness Week" at their school in early May. The girls developed a presentation with facts about what sexual harassment means and also resources for help. They visited each classroom at their school to share their

2005 Scholarship for excellence in academics and community involvement, in particular my leadership role in the Groundbreakers Project where I led a team in writing a biography for Wilbur Woo, a founder of Cathay Bank. Also, I am working at NBC 11 as an Emma Bowen Intern Scholar for the third consecutive year. Next school year, I will be studying abroad at the National University of Singapore and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. I am looking forward to exploring Asia and studying the wonderful cultures and languages. I was on the Girl Steering Committee from 2001-2003, a spokesperson, and the closing speaker at the first Girl Summit. ~Becky H.

wish list:

Digital camera
Digital video
New laser printer with network capabilities
In kind graphic design
In kind conference call services

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email: patricia@girlsforachange.org

web: <http://www.girlsforachange.org>

presentation and answer questions. They also made posters with messages about the issue for their cafeteria.

After learning about the project, school administrators purchased brochures and fliers that include sexual harassment information and how to get help. The girls were able to hand these brochures to each student during their classroom visits. These brave girls took a stand against being harassed!

volunteer information

Interested in changing the world? Girls For A Change is beginning to recruit coaches! To sign up or get more information please visit our website under the [coach tab](#) or contact Carrie Ellett at 408.515.8148 or carrie@girlsforachange.org

Girls For A Change would like to thank our 85 consultants who constitute the New Girls Network! Your dedication and support of girls creating social change is revolutionary and teaching the power of networking to girls across the Bay Area. Thank you. For more information on becoming a New Girls Network consultant visit our website under the [consultant tab](#) or contact Patty Torres at 408.515.8147 or patricia@girlsforachange.org

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