



Girls In Real Life Situations (GIRLS)
Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS – September 1 – 15, 2010

Girls in Real Leadership Situations (GIRLS) empowers individual girls to increase awareness and readiness to educate the community and achieve economic well-being by promoting programming that teaches and supports girls in business planning and development, in how to operate their own non-profit business. GIRLS seeks to engage high school girls (ages 13-18) from communities of color, poverty and low-economic and immigrant backgrounds.

GIRLS will empower participants to create forums that will promote opportunities to educate the community regarding issues that are important to them today and for years to come. Participants in GIRLS will:

- Develop positive leadership skills
- Gain awareness of economics and issues that impact their economic success and learn how speaking out informs the community and empowers them to succeed.
- Gain knowledge and understanding through internships that encourage interaction with women business owners of non-profit organizations.
- Gain skills in business concepts, product development, marketing, goal setting, finance and public speaking.
- Gain an understanding of the power of entrepreneurship and philanthropy.
- Gain friends and authentic relationships and a sense of purpose

GIRLS is a special program of the Pink Purse Project™. The Pink Purse Project™ was formed as a result of President Obama's call to the nation to serve in our own communities. This is a not for profit organization that currently serves the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area. At the Pink Purse Project™, we believe that the right purse can resurrect a woman's confidence. **Our mission is to empower women with renewed confidence and a positive self-image.** Not just a bag for lipstick and gum, the Pink Purse Project™ holds access to community resources, emotional and physical support and financial services. We're distributing more than purses and personal items, we're sharing the value of self-worth.

The Pink Purse Project™ targets women with a history of homelessness, human trafficking, domestic abuse, financial difficulty, low self esteem, depression and overall insecurity. Through the gift of a purse, this project reaches women and provides them with encouragement, strength, and resources to assist them in overcoming their current situations.

Consequently, it enables them to make positive life changing decisions that will increase their confidence as well as empower them to become assertive influential women in their communities.

In 2009, with the help of our distribution partners, volunteers and donors, we distributed over 650 filled purses to women across the Twin Cities. It is our goal to continue to connect and partner with other organizations across the state in order to reach more women who are in need of encouragement and support. It is our long term goal to take this project across the nation to build and strengthen women and communities.

Eligibility and Requirements:

GIRLS is seeking 15 participants for the 2010-11 school year.

Participants will receive:

- Financial stipend upon completion of the program
- A desktop computer upon completion of the program
- Woman mentor from October 2010 – May 2011
- Free tutoring from October 2010 - June 2011
- Leadership training and development
- Entrepreneurial training and development

Eligibility for the program:

- Participants must meet the federal/state free and reduced lunch program requirements
- Commit to participating in sessions beginning October 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011
- Commit to completing assignments and activities requested by staff and mentor
- Commit to meet with mentor once per month
- Commit to completing an electronic journal weekly
- Commit to learning and personal development

If you are interested in participating please contact us at 763-657-0133 to set up an intake appointment and orientation.