

Girls' Health in Girls' Hands

An Initiative of the Women's Fund
of the Community Foundation for
Monterey County



Girls' Health in Girls' Hands 2014 Fall Summit

Girls' Health in Girls' Hands (GHGH) is an initiative of the Women's Fund designed to give girls the skills and support they need to make healthy choices and be agents for change in their communities. With support from Women's Fund donors and our funding partners, a multi-agency collaborative was formed early in 2012 to work together to actualize the girls' vision established in their 2009 action research project.

The collaborative is comprised of six organizations that are delivering high-quality girl programming. **Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County, Girls Inc. of the Central Coast, Monterey County Health Department, Monterey County Rape Crisis Center, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte and the YWCA Monterey County** are partnering with the Women's Fund to bolster programs and share resources for greater impact. Each partner agency has enhanced their girl programming to include health education, leadership training and activities, research and advocacy.

GHGH Highlights

- 6-agency collaborative
- More than 600 girls participating in partner agency leadership programs
- 22 sites enhancing girl programming across the county
- Countywide GHGH summits bring girls together for advocacy, capacity building and collaboration
- Integrated evaluation with Monterey County Health Department measures changes in girls, partner organizations and policies
- More than \$1,000,000 invested (2012-2015)

Thanks to our funding partners:

The Peggy and Jack Baskin Foundation
The Claire Giannini Fund
Monterey Peninsula Foundation
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation
and Women's Fund donors

Girl Leaders Take Action



"I feel more confident and I know I can be successful in life."

— GHGH participant

At the Fall 2014 GHGH girl-led health summit, members of the Girls' Leadership Network (GLN) found that over 43% of participants believe that social and emotional health is the most important health issue facing local youth. GHGH defines social and emotional health as "positive self-esteem and the access to resources to cope with life's difficulties." The GLN drafted a resolution in support of prioritizing this issue and organized a countywide petition with over 580 signatures from 18 schools and 3 community sites. The Board of Supervisors adopted the resolution in March. GLN members will be speaking with county offices asking for better training of teachers, school staff and counselors and an allocation of funds to support the social and emotional needs of Monterey County youth.

GHGH 
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Richard Green



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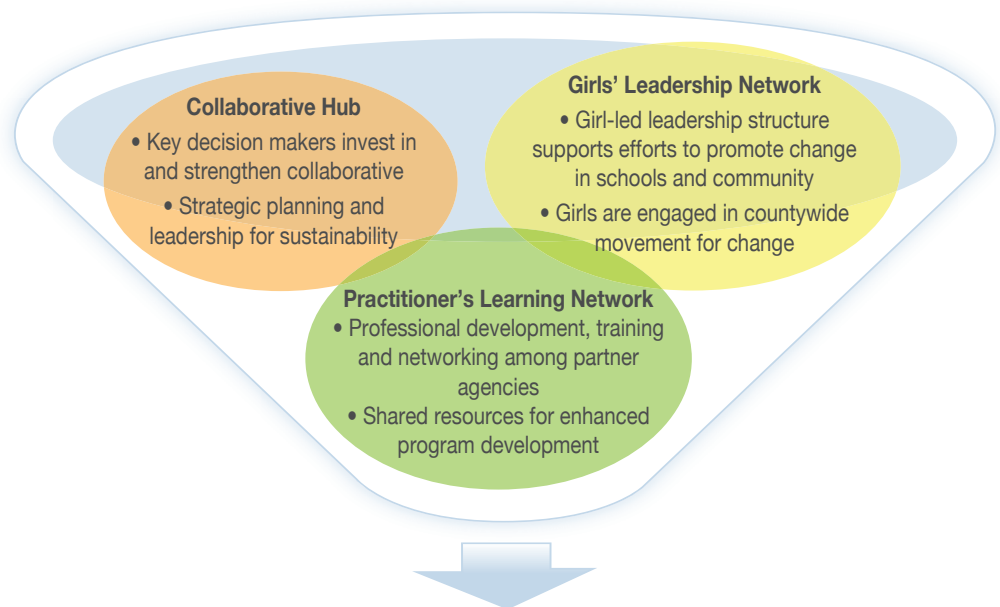
Moving Forward

GHGH is gaining momentum as agency partners increasingly collaborate for the health and empowerment of girls in Monterey County through enhanced services, countywide girl-led summits and training for program staff.

We are deepening partner programs in leadership and advocacy, building a GHGH girl-led leadership structure, applying best practices in youth development, and documenting and measuring our impact on the girls and partner organizations.

Our vision is a collaborative, girl-centered program model and leadership structure that is sustainable in the long term and an inspiration for other communities.

Girls' Health in Girls' Hands Structure



Collaborative Hub

- Key decision makers invest in and strengthen collaborative
- Strategic planning and leadership for sustainability

Girls' Leadership Network

- Girl-led leadership structure supports efforts to promote change in schools and community
- Girls are engaged in countywide movement for change

Practitioner's Learning Network

- Professional development, training and networking among partner agencies
- Shared resources for enhanced program development

Girls' Health in Girls' Hands

An initiative for community change, dedicated to leadership development, advocacy & empowerment and increasing access to health education and resources for girls in Monterey County

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