

GIRLS INC. OF SARASOTA COUNTY

Initiative: Girls Inc. Gym Renovations

FAC: Education

Organization Mission Statement: Girls Inc. inspires all girls to be strong, smart, and bold.

Nonprofit's Description of its Organization and its History of Impact:

In 1973, Girls Club of Sarasota County was formed through the initiative of community leaders to provide a safe place for girls to receive after school enrichment. With community support, a multi-use facility, complete with a swimming pool, gymnasium, tennis courts, playground, classrooms, kitchen, garden, science lab, theater, library, and computer lab was built on Tuttle Avenue. At this time, it offers a variety of programming in order to serve girls in most areas of Sarasota County. The center-based afterschool and summer programs are research-based, gender-specific, and age-appropriate. Upon entering Girls Inc., girls in kindergarten – 8th grade are transported to Dream Harbor, the miniature community of businesses and agencies run by the girls that reflect real world experiences.

The High School Initiative, added in 2013, focuses on girls achieving on-time grade advancement, graduating from high school, enrolling in post-secondary opportunities, and learning life skills. In August 2017, as a recipient of one of 17 Affiliate Growth Grants awarded through National Girls Inc., it began delivering school-based educational programming during and/or after school to 17 schools in areas currently underserved in the county. It also offers comprehensive mental health services to all of its families through its Family Strengthening Program.

Impact100 SRQ's Description of the Initiative:

The Impact100 SRQ grant will **FUND** the renovation of its multi-use gym facility that is over 40 years old. The \$101,000 will contribute to the total cost of the renovation which is \$134,041. The remaining amount will be funded by Girls Inc. The renovation expenses include painting, wall panels, labor, roof materials, electrical and HVAC maintenance, and other construction expenses.

The Initiative's **IMPACT** will allow over 800 participating girls in the Sarasota area to have access to a high-quality, safe, multi-purpose use gymnasium space where they can develop movement and athletic skills, cooperative and competitive spirits, and healthy habits, while experiencing the benefits and excitement of taking positive

risks that bolster their self-confidence. The gym is the most utilized part of the Girls Inc. facility. The gym is used for basketball, soccer, volleyball, and non-sports programming including arts, drama, cultural events, movies, homework, small group peer counseling and since it is the space with the highest indoor capacity, it is the gathering place for all the girls attending facility-wide assemblies, celebrations, and performances. The gym needs renovation, as much of the structure is original and over 40 years old. It is usable but needs repair. There are rusted beams, chlorine pitting from the adjacent pool, wall panels that need to be replaced and the space would benefit from fresh paint. In its current condition, Girls Inc. is concerned about the negative impacts of an intense hurricane season and would prefer to act proactively before any larger problems arise. In addition to improving the appearance and the safety of the gym, the updates will provide additional classroom space and allow Girls Inc. to expand its services to outside families. The gym is currently rented to recreational, community sports teams for practices and games so Girls Inc. plans to grow these partnerships. The construction is planned to provide minimal disruption to the programming.

The Initiative will be **SUSTAINED** through routine building maintenance and additional funding that will allow Girls Inc. to offer a modernized facility to its families. When the renovation is completed, Girls Inc. will work to ensure that the gym remains well maintained and will not require an additional large-scale renovation for another 50 years. The income earned from being able to rent out the gym to community partners can be directed back into the gym's maintenance and program costs. This will allow them to cover any small damages, updates, or beautification that may be needed.

Please use our SRQ 5Q when you are reviewing these executive summaries.

Q1. Is the Initiative clearly defined?

Q2. Is the Initiative viable?

Q3. Is the Initiative sustainable?

Q4. Is the Initiative going to positively Impact the community?

Q5. Are we being good stewards of the dollars we have been entrusted?