



GIRLS 4 SCIENCE

Annual Report 2015–2016



MISSION STATEMENT

Enriching the lives of girls through Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

VISION

The Vision of Girls 4 Science (G4S) is to increase science literacy amongst girls ages 10-18 through scientific discovery and collaboration with external partnerships.

SATURDAY SCIENCE ACADEMY

Saturday Science Academy operates for six consecutive Saturdays every quarter at Olive Harvey City College of Chicago, Malcolm X City College of Chicago, University of St. Francis (Joliet). The Science Academy includes small group science exploration, themed field trips that allow participants to experience STEM "live and in action" and mentorship.



HISTORY

Girls 4 Science is a nonprofit organization dedicated to exposing girls in Chicago ages 10-18 years old to science, technology, engineering and math. We focus on developing skills, self-esteem, awareness and relationships to help girls overcome barriers that may prevent them from achieving greater success in these fields. Research shows boys and girls demonstrate similar attitudes toward science in elementary school. As they get older, girls' grades and interest decline. Only about 20 percent of women in the U.S. have careers in STEM fields.

G4S has an open enrollment policy that does not discriminate on the basis of financial status. Many who take part do not have readily available resources to support educational opportunities. Others, who once had access to enrichment programs, no longer do because of budget cuts during these difficult economic times. Consequently, they share a lack of positive images and varied role models that can isolate them in male-dominated STEM fields.

G4S draws upon external partners to provide comprehensive hands-on, personal experiences during our year-round six-week sessions. It is Chicago's only all-girls science initiative providing instructors in a state of the art laboratories. It is also an organization that offers a noncompetitive, peer-to-peer environment of encouragement.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



This is our sixth year anniversary taking science, technology, engineering and mathematics to the next level at Olive Harvey, Malcolm X and University of St. Francis. Through our partnership with University of St. Francis our girls now qualify for a college scholarship post high school. This partnership merges the mission of G4S to promote the educational goals of the students at all levels.

G4S has doubled its program offering but still continues to perform marginally across its financial goals. The measure of our success is truly not the value of money. However, there is a cost associated with offering a program for free i.e. administrative and operational costs. There are "Angels" who probono assist G4S with legal, marketing, financial, and business consultation. There have been numerous requests to expand G4S to a fourth site. Our business model is quality over quantity and therefore we have postponed some opportunities so that we can manage our success.

As an Ambassador for G4S I hope for even greater prosperity in the lives of our students and their families for 2016. Thanks for choosing G4S as a solution to your child's educational goals.

Cordially,

Jackie Lomax

Founder/Executive Director

Girls 4 Science

LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

I have had the opportunity to observe Girls 4 Science grow into a “butterfly” on all levels. As the Chairperson of G4S Board of Directors I have assisted the Board to develop solutions regarding programming and governance. The student experience is always a primary focus of G4S. We continued to improve in this area with laboratory experiments facilitated by subject matter experts and exciting and engaging field trips. The Program Committee oversees the quarterly themed modules and ensures that it meets the goals regarding student development.



Connecting the community with the mission of G4S is another initiative that has helped sustain G4S growth. I host an annual Garden Party Fundraiser each summer to help raise money for future Saturday Science Academy modules. The formation of the Advisory Board has impacted recruitment and policy implementation.

Many thanks to all of the G4S donors and sponsors for “leading by example”.

Amy E. Wilson, Ph.D., J.D.

Board Chair
Girls 4 Science



2016 REPORT CARD*



Age Range — 10 - 18

African-American participants — 68%

White participants — 12%

Hispanic participants — 11%

Asian participants — 7%

Native American participants — 1%

Hispanic participants — 11%

Schools represented through out
the Chicagoland area — 176

Elementary aged girls registered at all
sites — 517 (78%)

High school aged girls registered at all
sites — 148 (22%)

New registered in 2016 — 200

New volunteers per quarter — 8 (approx)

97% want to study STEM in college

94% are confident in Science

90% are confident in Math

**After completing a Saturday Science Academy our girls reported the following: (data compiled from pre/post surveys of the four program quarters of 2016)*

2015-2016 SATURDAY SCIENCE ACADEMY PROGRAMS

WINTER 2015

January 10
February 14
ENGINEERING

SPRING 2015

April 4 - May 9
ECONOMICS

SUMMER 2015

July 11 - August 15
PERSONAL HEALTH

FALL 2015

October 3 - November 7
CHEMISTRY

WINTER 2016

January 16 - February 20
BIOLOGY

SPRING 2016

April 2 - May 7
ZOOLOGY

SUMMER 2016

July 16 - August 20
SCIENCE OF BUILDING

FALL 2016

October 1 - November 5
BOTANY

CAREERS IN SCIENCE

Girls 4 Science (G4S) is positioning itself to be the leader in STEM exposure for girls throughout the Chicagoland area for years and years to come. Girls 4 Science's program model collaborations with STEM professionals and corporations, and intentional efforts to celebrate and raise awareness of women in STEM - will change the overall perception of STEM in Chicago. G4S is committed to making STEM exposure and learning accessible and fun so that girls are excited about STEM. The G4S model is rooted in girls believing in themselves and their ability to contribute to the community and society at large in a field where women are under-represented. If more girls have access to G4S programming there is great potential for more women to study STEM on a collegiate level, pursue STEM professions and offer unique perspectives to future STEM innovation.

G4S is changing the trajectory of the lives of many deserving young girls in Chicago.



Sariah Jemmison

I was in G4S for about two and a half years. I will be majoring in Industrial Engineering and attending Northern Illinois in the fall.

Girls 4 Science was a wonderful experience. It was basically a bunch of exposure to a lot of different science projects. ... My favorite project personally was building my own robot, which had it's little sensors, so when it would bump into things, it would go in the other direction, which kind of helped us understand the technology behind the little mopers that you see that mop the house while you are away, or whatever. ...

... After G4S my science grade did improve, ... I am an A - B student and I do have a 4.2 gpa and I graduated number 12 out of 421.

... G4S isn't just some club, or a group of girls who are nerdy and like to learn on a Saturday. G4S is a way to expose yourself to the many different STEM careers. G4S will be with me forever. It has impacted me. It is a wonderful place to meet other girls, you know. You can meet a mentor, be a mentor.

Kenyana Tyeska

I plan to double major in bio-chemistry and molecular and cellular biology with a minor in chemistry.

In G4S, I enjoy like the mentorship and the opportunities that I receive from G4S like, recently, I was able to go to space camp, and I also was able to meet like different female CEOs, such as the CEO of Ingredion and ComEd, and I was also able to receive financial support for college through different scholarships they recommended.

So, when I went to space camp, we had to do a space camp board to show to the CEO and one of the mentors viewed my board to send to the CEO. And, we had a general conversation and she ended up telling me that she worked in the lab at the University of Chicago and she gave me the opportunity to work with her. And in that lab they use a lot of cellular and molecular biology, so, that's how I picked my major.

I anticipate college to be a fun and a life learning experience. Hopefully, I get the best out of college with opportunities, I think being in G4S has allowed me to be more confident in the things that I want, so, I am a lot more outgoing, so I can reach out for things that I want now, so I think that will help me in college.



View additional interviews of our young women who are going on to pursue studies in STEM go to:

girls4science.org/2016promo.html

or scan the QR code below with your smartphone:





FISCAL YEAR 2015 REVIEW

January 1, 2015 — December 31, 2015

Expenses

Total \$163,680

Program Services
\$106,140

**General &
Administration**
\$35,266

Fundraising
\$22,274

Revenue and Support

Total \$223,379

Contributions
\$144,362

In-Kind Contributions
\$79,017



2015 DONORS

G4S is grateful for all contributions and time volunteered

\$25,000 and above

Cedar Concepts Corporation
ComEd
Ingredion Charitable Foundation
Kellogg School of Management
Vista Equity Partners III LLC

\$14,999 - \$10,000

Horizon Pharma

\$9,999 - \$5,000

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\$4,999 - \$1,000

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Erma J. Wilson
Mack Wilson
Jana Wozniak
Jacquelyn A. Young



FISCAL YEAR 2016 REVIEW

January 1, 2015 — December 31, 2015

Expenses

Total \$202,289

Program Services
\$127,575

**General &
Administration**
\$31,871

Fundraising
\$42,843

Revenue and Support

Total \$180,504

Contributions
\$84,822

In-Kind Contributions
\$95,682



2016 DONORS

G4S is grateful for all contributions and time volunteered

\$15,000 and above

Cedar Concepts Corporation
ComEd
Ingredion

\$14,999 - \$10,000

Horizon Pharma
Joseph & Bessie Feinberg
Foundation

\$9,999 - \$5,000

Illinois Tool Works Foundation
Rakoczy Molino Mazzochi
Siwik LLP

\$4,999 - \$1,000

Ronald Kaminski

\$999 and under

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Amy Wilson
Mack Wilson
Cheri Wilson-Chappelle
Jana Wozniak
James Zeller



OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Over the past six years Girls 4 Science has been able to do exemplary and impactful work to increase science literacy amongst our participants. Some organizations that have allowed us to provide dynamic and hands-on activities to our girls are:



WAYS TO PARTNER WITH G4S

- Sponsor a Saturday Science Academy
- Host a Saturday Science Academy Quarter
- Donate program supplies
- Sponsor a bus for a G4S field trip
- Provide refreshments for a G4S Saturday Science Academy
- Sponsor G4S t-shirts which include your company logo
- Become a board member



2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Girls 4 Science is honored to have a committed Board of Directors that actively guide and support us in our continued growth. If you are looking for an exciting opportunity to use your expertise and support a growing organization consider joining our Board of Directors.

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