



# Girls in Action™

*"Ready for the World, Ready to Compete."*

## ***Girls in Action Newsletter March 2008***

### **In this issue:**

[Students, Parents and Colleges Unite at Cub Foods](#)

[Girls in Action Expands Nationally](#)

["Sexy Without Sex" Premiere](#)

[Girls in Action Reaches Across the Globe](#)

### **In Next Month's Issue:**

[Youth Speak Out](#)

[Rights to Passage](#)

[Service Learning Demonstrations](#)

### **Upcoming Events:**

[Career Exploration to Augsburg College](#)

[Field Exploration to Feed My Starving Children](#)

[National Service Learning Conference:  
April 9-12, 2008: Minneapolis Convention Center](#)

[TEALIT- May 30, 2008](#)

### **Thank You to Our Funders:**

The Minneapolis Foundation  
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General Mills Foundation  
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## **Welcome to Girls in Action™**

We are having another successful year of the **Girls in Action™** Project! This Spring, we conducted a survey of our girls to explore the issues they face today. Several of the major issues chosen were domestic violence, drug abuse, gang and community violence and STI prevention.

As a result, during the Service Learning component of the program, **Girls in Action™** participants will start working with a community organizations of their choice to address how to help solve one of these issues.

Thank you for your continued support in making **Girls in Action™** a success!

*Dr. Verna Cornelia Price*

President/Principal Consultant, J. Cameron & Associates  
Founder, **Girls in Action™**



## Girls in Action Day at General Mills

On January 22, 2008 General Mills hosted North Community High School **Girls in Action™** participants for a day of fun and learning! Thanks to General Mills President of Snacks Unlimited, Kim Nelson, her assistant Antoinette Coleman and a host of General Mills women leaders, the exploration was an informative and inspirational experience for our participants. The theme for the day was "choices" where the girls received hands-on marketing, sales, professional development, research and development and consumer insight strategies and tools. Each workshop was conducted by professional women of color that gave a precise breakdown of each department.

General mills provided the girls with a day full of exciting activities leaving them feeling exuberant and ready to take the next steps towards success! Several girls mentioned that they could see themselves working at a company like General Mills. "We saw women that looked like us and that was very encouraging. This opportunity made me realize that I need to take science and math more seriously", exclaimed one **Girls in Action™** participant.



## Students, Parent and Colleges Unite at Cub Foods

On Saturday February 2, 2008 between 11am and 6pm at Cub Foods located at 701 West Broadway in north Minneapolis, parents and families had a chance to do some college access shopping. Several college and university representatives partnered with community resource organizations to assist families in understanding the college admissions process, financial aid completion, scholarship availability for their children. This event was sponsored by Achieve! Minneapolis in partnership with the Minneapolis Public Schools and College Goal Sunday. Nine members of **Girls in Action™** served as volunteers.



## Girls in Action Expands Nationally

Inkster Public Schools, located in the Detroit area, welcomed the **Girls in Action™** Project as an innovative program for their high school girls. On Wednesday, January 30, 2008, **Girls in Action™** Founder / Director, Dr. Verna Cornelia Price joined forces with Inkster Public Schools to launch the city's first **Girls in Action™** program. Inkster High School's Superintendent Thomas G. Maridada, II was recently named Michigan's 2008 Superintendent of the Year! It comes as no surprise that some of Detroit's most dynamic and powerful women leaders have also joined the team to make the expansion of **Girls in Action™** at Inkster High School a success. The project brings together high school girls, educators, women leaders and community-based organizations to make a difference in their schools and communities.

"Our national expansion launch is truly a remarkable and exciting time for the project. I believe Detroit is ready to get their girls to their next level of success in school and life and **Girls in Action™** will work with them to make that happen," says Dr. Price. The **Girls in Action™** national expansion was supported by a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation located in Battle Creek, Michigan.

## "Sexy Without Sex" Premiere

On Friday, February 8, 2008, in collaboration with U Care Minnesota, tpt and Fremont Clinic, **Girls in Action™** participants showcased "Sexy Without Sex", a 30-minute documentary addressing the issues of sexually transmitted infections (STI's), teen sex and decision making at North Community High School. "Sexy Without Sex", produced and hosted by participants in the **Girls in Action™** Project, encourages teens to be abstinent and sexually responsible. At the same time, the video recognizes that teens are sexually active and need resources readily available for them.

During the documentary, teens discuss factual information, receive support from health services and tap into pure communication with each other to look at the reality that teens are having sex. To watch the video in its entirety, Twin Cities Public Television airs "Sexy Without Sex" frequently on tpt, Channel 17.



## Girls in Action Reaches Across the Globe

**Girls in Action™** Site Liaison Ann Dillard recently visited Senegal, West Africa for ten days with her family, Dr. Margaret Wright, and Dr. Barbara Garrison to distribute and provide medicine in order to keep the local medicine center open. In addition to adopting families and facilities, these phenomenal women started a pen pal program with students from the USA and students in Senegal.

Twenty African girls proudly wore **Girls in Action™** T-shirts and learned **Girls in Action™** affirmations during Ann's visit to the school! Beginning in March, **Girls in Action™ Rights to Passage™** participants will begin writing and communicating with their Senegalese pen pals. **Girls in Action™** Consultant, Natalie Johnson Lee sponsors a single parent family of six. For information on how you can contribute to this project contact [KIPconsult@msn.com](mailto:KIPconsult@msn.com).

## Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to work with a small group of girls in the **Girls in Action™** Project? Would you like to mentor/tutor one-on-one?

Volunteers can choose to work with our girls at North High School, Edison High School, Roosevelt High School and Henry High School. For just one hour a month, you can help our young ladies achieve success by getting them to their next level.

Contact **Girls in Action™** Development Specialist, Leah Hakkola, at [leah@jcama.com](mailto:leah@jcama.com)