



## girls for a change Silicon Valley

### GIRLS FOR A CHANGE MOXIE

SILICON VALLEY  
MAY 2007

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#### Note from Whitney and Niko

*"How important it is for us to recognize  
and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!"*

- Maya Angelou

Girls For A Change is growing up! We would like to celebrate the completion of our fifth program year in Silicon Valley! Almost 2000 girls and women from the Bay Area attended the Girl Summit to participate in workshops, over 250 girls and coaches developed their skills and connected with resources at Spring Into Action, and 44 Girl Action Teams launched social change projects in their communities. Teams have developed projects to provide alternatives to gang violence, raise awareness about immigrant rights, promote positive and diverse images of beauty, stop substance abuse, create safe spaces for girls to express

[New Website](#)

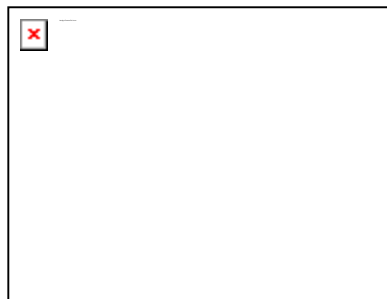
**Celebrate the Power of Change:  
5th Annual Completion Ceremony**

Girls For A Change is finishing its fifth program year in Silicon Valley! Hundreds of girls from throughout the Bay Area will be honored at GFC's annual Completion Ceremony for their exciting work on social change projects in their communities!

The event is sponsored by [Citibank](#) and [Juniper Networks](#) with support from the Santa Clara Convention Center.

There will be a video presentation to celebrate the projects that over 40 Girl Action Teams have planned and implemented in the Bay Area. Social change projects that will be highlighted range from creating gang prevention workshops to advocating for rights for immigrant families.

The program also includes a presentation of the second annual IT Girl Award, a unique recognition of a woman who has dedicated her life to social change. This year, Jocelyn Deona de Leon, a Bay Area artist, poet, educator, and youth development worker, will be honored and will also perform for the opening ceremonies. For more information, please visit her [website](#).



In addition, community leaders from the government, non-profit, and corporate sectors will be acknowledging both the girls and volunteer coaches for their contributions throughout the evening.

themselves, and more!

In Phoenix, GFC is finishing its second program year with 21 Girl Action Teams. Some examples of team projects are bringing people of various ethnicities together to discuss racism, connecting teens to local services for drug-related addictions, researching and speaking publicly about community issues, and creating PSAs about conflict resolution!

Girls For A Change is also preparing to take the GFC vision to new locations. We are excited to be able to continue expanding the GFC movement!

We would like to take a moment to thank all the people that are part of GFC and have made this growth possible: the girls, volunteers, community supporters, and staff. You are our she-roes and heroes!

**GFC Program Is Hiring**

Girls For A Change is hiring a Program Director and a Program Manager for our Silicon Valley site based in Santa Clara. Both positions start in June.

The Director position entails managing strategy, vision and all components of programming in the site, in addition to managing teams and the Girl Steering Committee. The Manager position includes managing teams, event planning, volunteer management and working in partnership with the Director on many projects.

Both positions also include leadership roles in the Girl

Join us to celebrate and raise awareness about the change agents in our communities!

**EVENT:** Girls For A Change Completion Ceremony

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 15th, 2007

**TIME:** 6:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

*Doors open at 6:00 p.m.*

**LOCATION:** Santa Clara Convention Center  
Ballrooms G and H

For more information, please visit our [website](#) or contact Patricia Torres, Silicon Valley Program Director, at [patricia@girlsforachange.org](mailto:patricia@girlsforachange.org) or 408-515-8147.

### Woman For A Change: KQED Honors CEO as Local Hero

*Emily LoSavio accepting for Niko Everett with other honorees and KQED and Wells Fargo representatives.*

*Photo Credit: Dong Lin.*

KQED celebrated Women's History Month by honoring five local heroes, including Niko Everett, one of the Co-CEOs of Girls For A Change.

Summit in the fall.

Please share this opportunity with any potential candidates, listservs, and your networks. If you have any questions or would like full job descriptions, contact Carrie Ellett, National Program Director, at [carrie@girlsforachange.org](mailto:carrie@girlsforachange.org).

### A Parent's Voice

*"One last note, it is us who should thank you! for making a difference in our daughter's life. I can't tell you how much you have inspired [our daughter] - her self esteem has improved a great deal since she has been involved with Girls For A Change under your leadership. You make a difference each and every day - you touch our daughter's heart and we can't thank you enough."*

- A GFC Parent

### Join the GFC Movement!

Image not available

Please join Girls For A Change for our monthly Networking Nights and learn about our mission to train girls to create social change.

**BE INSPIRED:** Hear from powerful young women about how GFC impacted their lives and how they are transforming *your* world.

**EXPAND YOUR NETWORK:**

Join us in congratulating Niko for her exceptional leadership!

This event was sponsored by Wells Fargo and Gap, Inc.

For more information, check out the [article](#).

### **Don't Be Fooled: Girl Action Team #32**

The girls of Girl Action Team 32 in East Palo Alto have seen enough. They are tired of their peers joining gangs because it seems like "the cool thing to do" and/or because youth are unsure of where to find outlets to express themselves.

The team will change how young people think about gangs by creating a magazine educating the youth of EPA about the harsh realities of gangs. The magazine will include information about alternatives to gangs, like participating in after-school programming and using creative expression as a tool to strengthen self-esteem. The girls will host a release party of the magazine where they will bring together parents/guardians, school officials, and youth of EPA to perform readings, poetry, and act out short excerpts from the magazine.

By creating this magazine, the team will educate and heighten youth awareness of the impact that gang involvement has in their lives and in their community. They also hope to unite the community in its efforts to guide youth to positive activities rather than gangs.

*Girl Action Team 32 with adult allies at the Very Important Adult night.*

We'd like to thank the parents and adult allies who attended the Very Important Adult night in January. The adults' attendance showed the girls that their efforts to change their community were valued. In addition, by the adults sharing what they would like

Meet and mingle with other passionate Bay area professionals and GFC alumni and coaches.

**TAKE ACTION:** Invite a friend, share your ideas for empowering this next generation of leaders, and find out how to become a part of our mission.

Join us at any Networking Night to learn how you can help, become involved, and spread the word. Leave your checkbooks at home - these are not fundraising events. Please feel free to bring guests.

Join us **Wednesday, May 30th** and **Wednesday, June 20th**.

Click [here](#) for a complete schedule.

Please send RSVPs to [Emily LoSavio](#), National Development Director.



### **Current and New GFC Supporters**

Adobe Systems Inc.  
Cadence Design Systems  
Cisco Systems  
Citigroup Foundation  
Development Training Institute  
Electronic Arts Foundation  
Franklin and Catherine Johnson  
Foundation

to change with the girls, it allowed the girls to see that the issues that are important to the adults in their community are the same as those that are important to the girls. Since then, asking the girls about their project progress has encouraged them to see themselves as thought leaders and agents of change in their community. Thanks to the adults in the community for supporting emerging leaders as they create a better world!

Throughout the year, stay updated about projects that Girl Action Teams are creating on our [website](#).

### Networking for Change

The New Girls Network is a community of over 100 men and women from throughout the Silicon Valley who have signed on to provide pro-bono consulting to Girl Action Teams on their projects. During the planning phase of projects, girls learn how to identify which resources are needed to execute or enhance their project. They communicate to GFC staff what skills they are looking for and GFC is able to search through our consultant network and match up teams with appropriate consultants!

This year the girls of Girl Action Team 19 from Pioneer Plus High School in San Jose have planned and arranged for all of the senior girls at their high school to attend an overnight retreat. Girls will participate in workshops on topics including time management, self esteem, and reflection on the transition from high school to young adulthood. Several New Girls Network Consultants, such as Lucy Pizano and Richelle Deveau, have donated their time and energy to facilitate workshops for the girls at the overnight retreat.

New Girls Network consultants such as Lucy and Richelle help girls experience the power of networking in a tangible and meaningful way. Thank you Lucy and Richelle and to all of our New Girls Network Consultants!

*Girl Action Team 19 after a planning meeting for the girl retreat.*



Genentech  
Heffernan Group  
IAPP  
Kellogg Foundation  
Lantern League  
New Profit  
Orative Corporation  
Simon Charitable Family Gift Fund  
Sun Microsystems

Thank you for your generosity and support!

### Spring Into Action Catalyzes Girl Action Teams

200 girls and 65 coaches attended Spring Into Action, our annual training event for girls and coaches!

Girls participated in workshops on networking, fundraising, public speaking, and contacting elected officials. These workshops developed skills that girls and volunteers could utilize for their projects with Girls For A Change and in other areas of their life.

For more information on the New Girls Network Consultant volunteer position, please contact Alicia Gregory at [alicia@girlsforachange.org](mailto:alicia@girlsforachange.org) or 408-529-9046.

## Tech CU Raises Contributions For GFC

Girls For A Change was the recipient of donations from Community Spirit Day held by a community partner, Technology Credit

Union. We appreciate all the efforts of Kim Vu, Assistant Vice President, and other Tech CU contributors in advancing the work of GFC.

Thank you Tech CU for all your support!

To learn more about Tech CU, please visit their [website](#).

For more information about organizing a company event to support Girls For A Change, please contact Emily LoSavio, National Development Director, at [emily@girlsforachange.org](mailto:emily@girlsforachange.org) or 408-515-3838.

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**[www.girlsforachange.org](http://www.girlsforachange.org)**

We especially want to thank [Cisco Systems](#), Donna Dearing, [Para La Gente](#), and Yosimar Reyes for their amazing contributions to the day. In addition, we would like to appreciate all the New Girls Network Consultants and other volunteers who assisted as workshop facilitators and event support!

## GFC Girls Work Toward Peaceful World

Members of the Girl Steering Committee attended [Carry the Vision](#), a two-day community nonviolence conference and youth leadership summit. Jennifer Uribe (left) also spent the day before working with Yolanda King and the grandchildren of Mahatma Gandhi and César Chávez. They had the opportunity to listen to panels and speeches, participate in workshops, and engage in discussions about building a culture of peace.

GFC girls are truly changing their communities and the world!

## A New Face to GFC!

Girls For A Change has a new and exciting website!

Click [here](#) to check it out.



**girls for a change**  
is a national organization that empowers girls to create social change.



**DONATE NOW!**

secure donations  
by [groundspring.org](http://groundspring.org)

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