



**Ohio House Finance Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education
Interested Party Testimony
HB 33 – FY24-25 State Operating Budget**

**Fallon Pulley, Director, Girl Experience
Girl Scouts of North East Ohio
March 21, 2023**

Chair Richardson, Ranking Member Isaacsohn, and Members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to speak to you in support of the amendment for the Girl Scouts of North East Ohio’s Equity Outreach Program.

My name is Fallon Pulley, and I am Director, Girl Experience for the Girl Scouts of North East Ohio. I have been working with the Girl Scouts for over sixteen years and it has been my privilege to be a part of the Equity Outreach Program in a successful partnership with the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, which we intend to scale and deploy in communities throughout Northeast Ohio.

We asked our Girl Scouts who participate in the Equity Outreach Program to share some testimonials about their experiences, because while the measured outcomes that Jane presented illustrate the impact of the program, the individual stories are even more compelling.

**Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority
Girl Scout Participants:**

- 2017-2018 – 8 sites; 167 Girl Scouts
- 2018-2019 – 8 sites; 192 Girl Scouts
- 2019-2020 – 6 sites; 122 Girl Scouts
- 2021-2022 – 6 sites; 135 Girl Scouts

Here are some of the statements we received:

Za’Naya - 8th grade, Cleveland:

“What I like about Girl Scouts is how we’re able to communicate and you won’t be judged for it, how we’re able to pick an activity and not just be told they’ve decided we should go. I’d be grateful for whatever, I just love that choice-making. I also love Ms. Belinda for her and how she is for the time being.”

Janaya R. - 7th grade, Cleveland:

“What Girl Scouts means to me is the respect and the people. The way we care for one another. And we all make sure we are okay.

‘Girl Scouts is now placed in my heart. Cut so deep, I feel that I’ve made a new start. Wish I could stay there forever until I’m old, but I have too many problems it makes me feel cold.’

That was a mini poem from my heart for Girl Scouts!!”

Amari I. 10th grade, Cleveland:

“Since about 2013 I have gotten the amazing opportunity to participate in Girl Scouts. I have gone to camps, programs and even visited colleges like Case Western Reserve University, which elicited my want to go there for grad school in a few years. Through Girl Scouts I have made amazing connections and had experiences I never would’ve had otherwise.”

Thank you for the opportunity to share the impact of this program today.

Fallon Pulley, Director, Girl Experience
Girl Scouts of North East Ohio

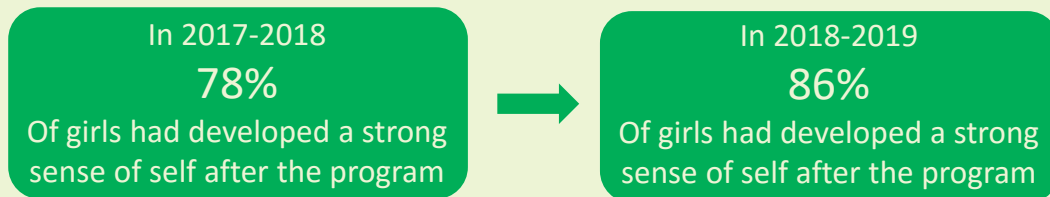


Funded by:

Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority

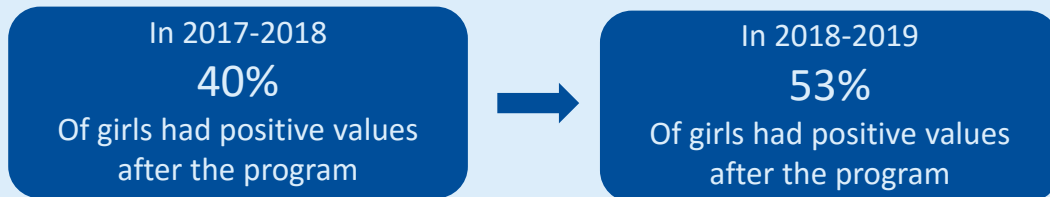
Outcome 1: Strong Sense of Self

Girls have confidence in themselves and their abilities



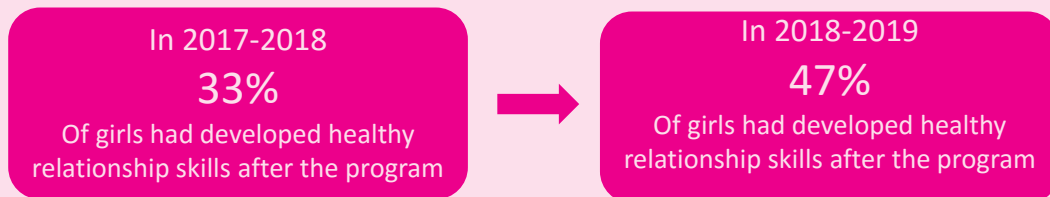
Outcome 2: Positive Values

Girls act honestly and responsibly, and show concern for others



Outcome 3: Healthy Relationships

Girls develop and maintain health relationships by communicating their feelings



Outcome 4: Community Program Solving

Girls desire to contribute to the world in a purposeful and meaningful way

