Date <u>12-4-13</u>

#### **TESTIMONY**

9:30 TIME CERTAIN

# APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO ADDRESS HUMAN TRAFFICKING

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

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Sarah	Hobbs	2140 NW KEGIMY # 612					
Stephani	e Mathis	28B SE 48th Ave Portland	smathis@warnerpaintiz.e	edy			
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Date <u>12-4-13</u>

Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Mayor Hales and Portland City Commissioners,

We are a class of college freshman at Warner Pacific College. Through our First Year Learning Community class titled Faith, Justice and Portland and have been learning about the issue of the commercialized sexual exploitation of children in Portland and the massive impact that it has.

Throughout our studies, we have come to see what child sex trafficking industry really is: modern day human slavery. Girls and boys are being taken against their wills and are being forced to commit horrible sexual acts to strange and dangerous people. We cannot let this horrible atrocity continue within our great city and these vulnerable children need our help.

We must not turn a blind eye to the needs of these children who have been taken advantage of. The funding for these vital resources could make a drastic impact on some of the most marginalized persons in our community. If girls had help with recovery and healing from sexual assault, violence, and manipulation, they could live better lives and are less likely to return to the streets. If survivors had beds to return to, just a small place to call home and sleep safely, they could get back on their feet in a healthier environment. And if we could teach more young kids, about the dangers of these relationships that pimps build with young girls and boys, we could kill the problem at the root. The average entry age of a female victim is 12-14 and average age of a male or transgender victim is 11-13. We need to warn and give kids proper, whole person education when they are most vulnerable.

Our class, along with the Warner Pacific College community, urges you to approve Commissioner Fritz's entire budget request for:

- 1) Funding for the Sexual Assault Resource Center and Lifeworks NW's New Options for Women program, to expand case management and culturally specific mentoring of survivors 18-25.
- 2) Funding for beds for young people 18-25 at the Janus Youth program's Athena House. Currently, if a survivor leaves the program and later wants to return, they can't if they are over 18.
- 3) Creating a "BoysStrength" pilot program and expanding the GirlStrength program run by staff in the Portland Police Bureau, provided to middle school students to teach them appropriate relationship behaviors and what to do if they encounter relationship violence and/or trafficking

Respectfully,

The Warner Pacific College "Faith, Justice and Portland" freshman class

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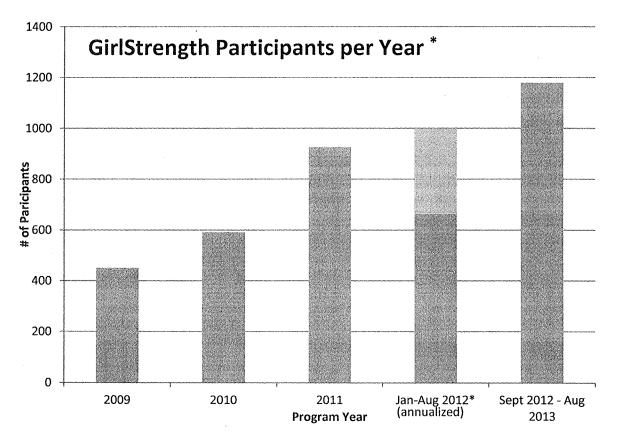
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# **Progress Report**

	Jan 2009 - Aug 2013	Sept 2012- Aug 2013
Girls participating in programs, camps & workshops:	3817	1180
8-9 week programs:	70	20
Workshops (1-4 hours):	108	28
Camps:	32	9
Volunteer Hours:	4926	1630
Savings to the City (\$20/volunteer hour):	\$98,520	\$32,600



<sup>\*</sup> Reporting schedule changed to align with the academic year.



### Last Year's Key Accomplishments

- Reached over 1000 girls in 40+ venues
- Recruited ten new part-time administrative volunteers
- Graduated 14 full and part-time GirlStrength volunteer instructors in spring/summer
- Offered nine summer camps in community centers throughout Portland
- Reached students in nine new schools (Fir Ridge, Creative Science, Lincoln HS, Marysville, Vestal, Parkrose Middle, Parkrose SUN, Boise-Eliot, Robert Gray)
- Offered program through seven new organizations (Bienestar de la Familia, Northwest Housing Alternatives, Wildflower/White Shield, Parkrose LEAP, Home Forward, Elevate Oregon, Independent Living Program
- Awarded nine Presidential Volunteer Service Awards at New Volunteer Graduation, Spring 2012
- Continued piloting curriculum for GirlStrength high school program used in two schools (Fir Ridge & Lincoln)
- Modified and updated curriculum for elementary school program used in four schools (Woodmere, Sabin, Creative Science School, Whitman)
- Created two workshops for students with special needs Life Education for Adults of Parkrose (L.E.A.P.) Park Rose HS

## **Additional Community Outreach & Education**

- Participated in Earl Boyles National Night Out; PCC Cascade's National Night Out; SE Portland Youth Services Fair; Rock 'n' Roll camp (2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- Participated in Barbie DU Project through Portland Community College Rock Creek
- GirlStrength presented at:
  - o NW Teachers for Social Justice conference 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year
  - o PPS Educators' Workshop, "Cultures Connecting"
  - Oregon Peacemaker's Conference at University of Portland
- GirlStrength Director participated in:
  - PPB sponsored Intergroup Dialogue on Race
  - o East Portland Intervention Committee (EPIC) 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year
  - o PPB's Diversity & Inclusion Leadership Council 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year

## **New & Continuing Support Partnerships**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> year partnership with Hands On Portland (recruitment)
- National Charity League
- International Soroptimists of Gresham (possible expansion into Gresham for 2014)
- Trained two teachers in the St. Helens school district (possible expansion into St. Helens or 2014)
- City Summer Works Program (paid intern for three months)
- PSU/PPS post-graduate college credit offered for both winter/summer training of new volunteer instructors



## **Workshops Last Year**

September 2012 - August 2013

Location	<u>Grades</u>	# Girls	<u>Type</u>
Child's Play	parent/child	12	after school
Matt Dishman Community Center (4)	parent/child	72	after school
Woodmere SUN	5 <sup>th</sup>	15	during school
Creative Science School	5 <sup>th</sup>	26	after school
Bridger SUN School	5 <sup>th</sup>	26	after school
Bienestar de la Familia	5 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup>	10	after school
Northwest Housing Alternatives (2)	5 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup>	16	after school
Rock and Roll Workshop (2)	5 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>	60	school break
Friends of the children (2)	6 <sup>th</sup>	26	after school
Centennial SUN	6 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup>	20	after school
Beaumont Middle	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	80	after School
Caselli (parent/daughter)	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	13	after school
Girl Scouts (2)	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	22	after school
Soroptimist International of Gresham	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	20	during school
West Sylvan Middle School	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	120	after school
Harrison Park School	7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	5	after school
Wildflower/White Shield Center	9 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	9	during school
Independent Living Program	9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup>	6	after school
Lincoln High School	9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup>	21	during school
Parkrose High, LEAP special needs (2)	9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup>	15	during school

594 girls in 28 workshops



#### **9 Week Programs Last Year** September 2012 - August 2013

Location	Grades	# Girls	<u>Туре</u>
Woodmere SUN	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	18	after school
Sabin	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	20	after school
Creative Science School	5 <sup>th</sup>	24	after school
Marysville	5 <sup>th</sup>	17	after school
Whitman Elementary	5 <sup>th</sup>	30	after school
Boise-Eliot	6 <sup>th</sup>	23	after school
Sunnyside Middle (2)	6 <sup>th</sup>	26	during school
Faubion School	6 <sup>th</sup>	20	during school
Parkrose Middle	6 <sup>th</sup>	67	after school
Robert Gray Middle	6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup>	14	after school
Vernon SUN school	7 <sup>th</sup>	20	after school
Vestal	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	27	during school
Catlin Gable (2)	8 <sup>th</sup>	35	during school
Oregon Episcopal School (3)	8 <sup>th</sup>	53	during school
Fir Ridge Alternative High School	10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	10	after school
Parkrose SUN High School	10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	14	during school

## 418 girls in 20 programs

### **Camps Last Year**

September 2012 - August 2013

Location	<u>Grades</u>	# Girls	<u>Type</u>
Northeast Community Center	5 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup>	24	school break
Sellwood Community Center (3)  Home Forward - housing program	5 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup>	61	school break
(not public)	5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	12	school break
East Portland Community Center	6 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup>	25	school break
Montavilla Community Center	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	16	school break
Peninsula Community Center	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	15	school break
Elevate Oregon - urban youth program			
(not public)	8 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>	15	school break
		168 gir	ls in 9 camps

### **Quotes from GirlStrength Participants:**

- "It made me stronger and more assertive."
- "I will be more aware of my surroundings, look for details in people."
- "[The instructors] made sure we were positive and safe with each other."
- "Really good to see my daughter practicing I'll be more confident as she starts high school downtown."
- "This program helped by teaching me verbal and physical [skills] so I can be more confident when I walk somewhere."
- "The instructors felt really trusting and nice and understanding."
- "They encouraged everyone to speak and praised everyone who took a risk. No matter if they were right or wrong."
- "I don't have to think that my first option is fighting. Verbal is a big part as well."
- "The instructors were knowledgeable because they rapidly responded to every question."
- "The instructors helped me realize I should never second guess my instincts."
- "[The instructors] were open and honest and not degrading."
- "[The skills] are applicable to everyday life in a big city."
- "More about situations not going as expected (i.e. you say back off and they get angry)"
- "It was informative, fun, and educational. Thank you!"
- "[GirlStrength] let me know I can protect myself!"
- "[I will use the skills] to be more open and aware in my life."
- "It made me trust myself (intuition) and helped me have confidence because I can protect myself."
- "[The instructors] made me feel welcomed and earned my trust."
- "I am able to think in a way I couldn't before."
- "It makes me feel more prepared to defend myself."
- "I feel like I can really protect myself if I was attacked."
- "It was a safe environment because we were with a mentor we could trust."
- "I will make safety plans everywhere, in case of an attack. I will remember my skills."
- "[I learned] that saying no might be hard, but it's for your safety."
- "I feel like I can do anything. You made me gain my confidence back."
- "I feel more prepared for the future."