



MORGAN MICHELLE MAYERS

Dear Friends,

I am an African American teen girl born to a single, drug-addicted mom and have spent the last eleven years in foster care. Based on my background, research will tell you that I have little chance of being successful in high school, much less college.

Lucky for me, Girls Inc. doesn't believe in chance. They believe in life-changing programs, eye-opening experiences, and real world opportunities for girls to see and do all they possibly can. Lucky for me, my old school foster mom "Grandma Nettye" made sure I joined Girls Inc. eleven years ago and has kept my enrollment current every year since.

Today I am a hardworking senior at Benson High with a 3.5 GPA and a history of strong community involvement. I am also a 2009 recipient of a \$15,000 Girls Inc. National Scholarship. In my scholarship application, I told the review panel a little about my experiences with Girls Inc.:

I have been a Girls Inc. member since I was 6 years old. The first day I walked into Girls Inc. I was so scared. I didn't know anybody so I wanted to go home, but by the end of my first day I met my best friend... At Girls Inc. I learned how to count money, tell time, and write in cursive. I am still learning new things every day. As I grew, Girls Inc. grew with me. I have been on so many college tours, heard so many guest speakers, and been to so many banquets - I've lost count. I had the opportunity to travel to New York City, New Orleans, Washington D.C. and more. As a teen, I got involved in Success Prep to prepare me for the working world. When I turned 16, the staff helped me fill out a job application and create a resume. A couple of weeks later I was making \$9 an hour at infoUSA. Not bad for a 16-year-old! Girls Inc. has prepared me for everything. If I had walked out of the building on that first day, it would have been a big mistake.

I want to be the first person in my family to go to college. I am not really sure how to get there...but I do know that I am on the right path and Girls Inc. will help me. My education is all I have, so I am going to gain as much as I possibly can.

After a recent trip to Washington, D.C. (my third with Girls Inc.!) I am considering attending Howard University. With the help of Girls Inc. and my supportive foster family, I am excited to begin to make my dream of college a reality.

The girls at Girls Inc. are not just statistics on a chart. They are living, breathing girls with hopes and dreams of their very own. Your donation helps girls achieve those dreams the very same way I am achieving mine. Please make a donation today.

Sincerely,


Morgan Mayers