

Sample Submission Form: GirlForward 2012

=====

Project Name: Girl Forward's Safe Spaces Project

Applicant Name: YOUR NAME HERE

Other Crew Members:

Charlotte Stroumza, Safe Spaces Project Coordinator

Zahra Kagalwalla, Development Assistant

Temí Famodu, Outreach Intern

Laura Bowers, Outreach Intern

Phone Number: 123-456-7890

Email: name@emailwebsite.org

Project and/or organization URL: girlforward.org

Total Project Cost: 1200

Amount Requested: 1000

Geographic Location(s) Served: This project serves Chicago's Far North Side, specifically the neighborhoods of Rogers Park, Edgewater, Uptown, Albany Park, and West Ridge.

Project Start Date: 10/1/2012

Project End Date: 5/31/2013

This project is: New

Describe your project:

GirlForward is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and the only organization dedicated to empowering adolescent refugee girls who have been resettled in Chicago from war-torn countries around the world. Teen refugee girls face tremendous challenges once resettled in the U.S. - poverty, language barriers, social isolation, among others. After growing up in refugee camps and violent urban environments, most girls are reluctant to venture into their new communities, and most parents/guardians are reluctant to allow girls to leave their homes. The Safe Spaces Project aims to increase mobility among refugee girls, address safety concerns of family members, and engage our community in providing safe spaces to girls. The project will be executed through the following steps:

- 1) Mapping: GirlForward staff will create a map of girls' homes, schools, and locations frequently visited by girls and their families.
- 2) Identifying pathways: Staff will identify main bus, train, and pedestrian routes that girls use to access these points.
- 3) Securing community partners: Staff and girls will work to identify and secure partner

businesses and organizations within the neighborhoods where the project will take place. Community partners will sign a contract outlining the details of becoming a GirlForward Safe Space, and will agree to place a sticker in the business window to indicate that the location is a member of the project.

4) Outreach: GirlForward's outreach interns will communicate with girls and families regarding the project, and will distribute Safe Spaces maps to families. Outreach interns will also share the project with our partner organizations and schools. The Executive Director and Development Intern will focus on outreach to local news organizations to promote the project.

These steps will be completed from October 2012 - spring 2013. The target date to finalize the project is June 2013, prior to the end of the school year

What does your budget look like:

Printing (maps, community partner contracts) - \$300

Safe Spaces supplies (window decals, notebooks) - \$500

Transport (CTA passes) - \$50

Outreach/promotion supplies (supplies for community meetings, advertising) - \$150

Is your project being sponsored by other groups or organizations?

Our project is not currently financially sponsored by other groups or organizations. We do partner with other organizations in the community, and will include our partners in the execution of this project. Community partners include RefugeeOne, Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights, the Indo-American Center, and Communities in Schools of Chicago.

What community will this serve, and how do they benefit?

GirlForward serves refugee girls ages 12-19 who have been resettled in Chicago from countries that include Bhutan, Iraq, Somalia, DR Congo, and Burma, among others. All of the girls we serve live in poverty, are English language learners, and have been directly affected by war. This project expands GirlForward's reach to serve not only refugee girls, but entire families. Girls and families will benefit from a network of safe locations; they will have increased feelings of security and increased mobility in their communities. Community partners will benefit from positive exposure on our GirlForward web site and social media. The Safe Spaces Project will bring together refugee communities, other residents, and local businesses in providing safe spaces to girls.

Which of Burning Man's 10 principles apply to your project?

The principles of Radical Inclusion, Communal Effort, and Participation are central to the Safe Spaces Project.

How is your project interactive and participatory?

This project will be carried out not only by GirlForward staff, but also the girls in our programs, families, and local businesses. Girls will assist with all phases of the project. The project brings together members of different communities for the common cause of creating safe spaces for

girls.

Describe your past projects, if any:

GirlForward's other programs include our Mentorship Program, which matches refugee girls with women mentors who help girls set and achieve educational goals, and Camp GirlForward, our summer program designed to help refugee girls succeed socially and academically. Since 2011, GirlForward has served over 50 refugee girls representing 12 countries.

Discuss volunteer opportunities that are available with your project.

GirlForward staff will lead this project, however volunteer opportunities will be available. Volunteers can help connect with potential community partners, deliver Safe Spaces information, and conduct outreach to raise awareness of the project. Volunteers can also help at outreach events, promoting the project in our neighborhood.

What is the afterlife of this project?

After the project is initiated, GirlForward will renew community partnerships on a yearly basis, and continue to seek additional community partners on an ongoing basis. Outreach to girls and families will also continue after the first phase of the project.

How will you define success?

We aim to secure 25 community partners in this first phase of the project, and for the girls in our programs to experience increased feelings of security as a result of the project.

Are you able to make the Nov. 15th BwB Salon?

Yes