



# Building Networks for Success

Women's Foundation of Minnesota  
girlsBEST Convening Program

April 25, 2009 • TIES Conference Center

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Conference Registration, Continental Breakfast**

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Welcome & Morning Ice-Breaker**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Morning Workshops**

## GIRLS SPACE

Making the Most of Mentoring Relationships

A good mentor can help you achieve your dreams for the future — but you need to know how to make the most of the mentoring relationship. This workshop, designed especially for girls, will define the mentor relationship and provide pointers for maximizing the experience of having a mentor.

**Presented by:** Lindsey Carlson, MPM Promise Fellow, Mentoring Partnership of MN



## MENTOR TRAINING

Mentoring Works! How to Create a Quality Mentoring Experience for Girls & Women

Mentors can be a powerful force in empowering girls and young women to overcome challenges and achieve their goals. However, mentoring is not “one-size-fits-all.” Attend this workshop and explore the different kinds of relationships that girls and young women seek from adult mentors. Learn about a variety of local mentoring programs for girls and young women, and take away concrete steps and valuable resources to help you implement or enhance your own mentoring program.

**Presented by:** April Riordan, Director of Training & Community Partnerships, Mentoring Partnership of MN

11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Grantee Group Picture & Break**

11:45 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Progressive Lunch** Over lunch, girls and staff from grantee programs will share information about their programs and celebrate their accomplishments toward building economic success for girls. The broader network of Women's Foundation stakeholders, including donors, board members, volunteers and staff, will move from table to table during each course of the meal, connecting with grantees and learning more about their programs. Conversations at each table will be moderated by a Women's Foundation staff member and guided by a specific discussion question for each of three courses.

**SPECIAL NOTE TO GRANTEES** How to prepare for the Progressive Lunch.

**Discussion Questions:** Prior to the convening's Progressive Lunch, please prepare your girls to respond to the following discussion questions, in this order: (1) *How have they been impacted by participating in the girlsBEST program?*; (2) *What do they hope to get out of participating in the program?*; and (3) *What are their favorite program activities?*

**At the Lunch:** At the beginning of each lunch course, please facilitate table introductions — the girls should introduce themselves — and provide a brief description of your program. **We expect conversations at the tables will be lively and informative!**

**1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. LEADING WOMEN: Reatha Clark King**

View a special screening of the new, 30-minute broadcast series featuring the life, leadership, and contributions of Dr. Reatha Clark King. After the screening, Dr. Clark King will be present to answer questions about her personal success story. This production was co-produced by the Women's Foundation and Twin Cities Public Television.

**2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Afternoon Workshops**

**GIRLS SPACE**

**2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Networking Training & Tips**

Getting where you want to go often depends on who you know. One way to connect with other people that can help you accomplish your goals is through networking. In this workshop, girls will learn about the value of networking and the skills it takes to be a good networker. They will then have the opportunity to put their new skills to work during a networking mixer with women professionals.

**Presented by:** Mary Jo Sherwood, Executive Managing Director, eWomenNetwork Minneapolis/St. Paul



**2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Networking with Women Professionals**

*How did you get where you are today?  
What advice do you have for someone who is still a student? What ways can you help me accomplish my goals?* – A volunteer corps of professional women will be available to answer these and other questions from participating girls. The networking mixer will pair up girls and women in fifteen minute intervals to practice networking skills and make valuable connections.

**MENTOR TRAINING**

**2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Mentor Peer Learning & Evaluation Help**

In this session, mentors will share notable practices each program is using to help girls develop awareness, agency, and activism. The session will also provide an opportunity for girlsBEST staff and mentors to discuss strategies to help document your best practices and record your successes. Foundation staff will review the evaluation tools and findings from the first year and provide assistance with evaluation materials due for this year.

**Presented by:** Sida Ly-Xiong, Reatha Clark King Fellow, Associate Director of Evaluation & Research, Women's Foundation of Minnesota, and Carol McGee Johnson, Evaluation Consultant

