

NHBW Joliet Presents

Female Adolescent Health Education and Empowerment Program Teen Girls Get Away 2008

July 11, 2008 – July 13, 2008 at The Cove of Lake Geneva in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

"To Dr. Scott and the Hook-Up, I want to thank you for my daughter. Tonight for the first time in a long time she hugged me tight and told me she loved me. And she thanked me for letting her go. I can't remember her ever thanking me for nothing. You women are awesome and a blessing. I don't know what happened up there but I hope you brought some of it back."

A Message of Gratitude from an Unnamed Mother of a TGGA 2007 Participant, who cried throughout the entire message, recorded 4 days after the TGGA 2007 retreat.

Do you ever wonder about the future of young girls you see each day on the street waiting for the school bus, walking in the shopping mall, following her father in the grocery store, sitting impatiently with her mother in the bank, or falling asleep in the pew at church?

Imagine this future for your young girls...

- In Will County, 40.4% of students in the 11th grade <u>read below</u> the state standard.
- In 2000, 23.1% of youth ages 18-24 had NO high school diploma.
- In Joliet, only 13% of adults ages 25 and older have a bachelor's degree.
- In 2006, <u>each</u> of the two high schools in the Joliet Township School District, Central and West, <u>failed</u> to meet the conditions for making adequate yearly progress, based on the annual Illinois School Report Card.
- In 2005, 593 teens gave birth in Will County, representing 6% of all births (i.e., For every 100 births in Will County, 6 births occurred to teen girls)
- In 2006, 46% of all combined cases of Gonorrhea and Chlamydia (types of sexually transmitted diseases) in Will County, occurred in *females* residing in *Joliet*, all under the age of 25.
 - o In 2006, *female teens*, ages 15-19, represented *54*% of the cases in Will County and *58*% of cases in Joliet.

With the rise of teen poverty, illiteracy, school dropout, HIV and other STDs, teen pregnancy and parenting, our teen communities are being devastated before reaching their life potential. Now, you have the opportunity to positively impact youth development.

The National Hook-Up of Black Women, Inc. Joliet Chapter (NHBW Joliet) invites you to give a monetary donation to change the future of our young girls and enable them to make better use of their bodies, mind, and time. We are a nonprofit, charitable 501(c)(3) community service organization dedicated to improving the lives of families through support of the arts, culture, health and human services programs.





We have created an innovative holistic program to prevent and decrease the rate of unintended and repeat pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, among girls ages 13-18. Through the Female Health Adolescent Health Education and Empowerment Program (FAHEEP), you provide the financial means for girls to engage in educational activities and mentoring relationships that will change their self-image of "reproductive sexual beings" to one of "productive agents" in society, by attaining higher levels of education and joining the labor force.

Your monetary commitment allows 40 adolescent girls to participate in a 3 day retreat, Teen Girls Get Away 2008, designed to help them understand the relationship between their emotional well-being and behavior. Many topics are explored in dynamic and interactive workshops such as body image, self-esteem, teen beauty, sex, female anatomy, sisterhood, mental health, social etiquette, college, and career planning. You provide the opportunity for the participants to form bonds with other teenage girls as well as interact with women in various professions. You also allow the girls to remain in the program for one year, attending monthly workshops expanding on topics and challenges presented during the retreat.

NHBW Joliet has already demonstrated its commitment to our youth in Joliet and Will County through implementation of many programs, services, and scholarships accessible, at no cost to the community. When you give, you support your community in creating dreamers, leaders, and visionaries. Your monetary gift also fosters camaraderie among adolescents and the exchange of health information between young women, promoting a culture of social activism and accountability.

Last year we were able to make a difference in the lives of 22 young ladies. There was an overwhelming positive response from participants, chaperones and facilitators. The girls realized that, despite their social or economic circumstance, they always have a choice regarding the function of their bodies and pathway of their lives. Now you, too, can share in this wonderful occasion.

Our organization is not subsidized by the federal government, thus, we depend largely on fundraising and in-kind donations. As a nonprofit charitable 501(c)(3) organization, your tax-deductible donation will provide a once in a lifetime experience for 40 young girls living in Will County. Please send your monetary donation by April 15, 2008.

Annual operating expenses for Teen Girls Get Away 2008 are \$34, 470. As of January 24, 2008, we have secured 51% of our operating expenses, through the generous donations of our <u>primary benefactors</u>, Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center (Gold Sponsor), Silver Cross Hospital Foundation (Silver Sponsor), and Warner Chilcott Women's Care Division(Silver Sponsor). Last year, all three organizations gave generous donations towards the 2007 program. We have also received monetary contributions from individual sponsors (Friends of FAHEEP).

As a Sponsor, you will be acknowledged on our website and in all publicity and print materials. You will also receive personal letters of gratitude from the teen girls and updates from our committee. Please make checks payable to National Hook-Up of Black Women. When completing the Sponsor Registration Form, be sure to check the appropriate level of sponsorship. We still need those of you who are capable of pledging your financial support as a **Platinum Sponsor**. Donations, such as something of educational value or cash contributions, toward our TGGA Participant Bags would also be appreciated. Gift Sponsors will be considered Friends of FAHEEP.



We know you want to make a difference in the lives of our girls. Just consider this, your investment, today, may be the deposit of kindness extended to a child you know, in the future.

Sponsorship	Contribution			
Platinum Sponsor	\$10,000 +			
Gold Sponsor	\$5,000 to \$9,999			
Silver Sponsor	\$2,500 to \$4,999			
Bronze Sponsor	\$500 to \$2,499			
Friend of FAHEEP	Up to \$ 499			

We hope you are able to join us by mailing your check before April 15, 2008 in support of the FAHEEP Teen Girls Get Away 2008.

Thank you in advance.

Information Contact

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FAHEEP Teen Girls Get Away 2008

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Donations are tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to National Hook-Up of Black Women. Mail Sponsor Registration Form with payment, by April 15, 2008, to:

NHBW Joliet FAHEEP P.O. Box 1084 Joliet, IL 60434-1084

Our sincere thanks and appreciation for your support, The FAHEEP Committee