

OUR POSITIVE IMPACT ON GIRLS: TESTIMONIALS FROM PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Our program evaluation activities demonstrate that HOTGIRLS has a positive impact on the girls we serve.

Girls learn important information about their health in a safe space that fosters self-expression and supportive interactions with other girls.



"HOTGIRLS has changed my life. I learned a lot of stuff about young ladies that I didn't know about dating violence, sexual abuse, and sex. I met a lot of young ladies and got to talk to them about their problems and share my problems as well. The new FIREGRL web site will be good for females to explore with questions. They will be able to go onto the web site and be able to get answers to their questions. I believe that the web site will help girls to open up more and feel good knowing that they are not the only black female going through problems." – *founding Street Team member*

"In today's society the young pre-teen/teen needs as much guidance and direction more than ever, this program provides that and more. It allowed me to interact with females my age and discuss and be involved "hands on" with the situations that are at hand with young girls like myself." – *Street Team member*

"The summit was a good learning experience and I had a lot of fun learning about different things such as street harassment and self defense. I felt comfortable discussing the situations I've been through with others. It was a good way to express our feelings about ourselves and the way others think of us [*black teen girls*]. I saw how other black teenage girls like me feel about certain situations." – *Summit participant*

Girls have fun working with other girls on topics of importance to them.

"I enjoyed the summit, and it was a very fun and exciting time for me." – *Summit participant*

"Everything at the summit was fun. Carla and the A-Town HOTGIRLS, keep up the good work!" – *Summit participant*

"I loved the summit and I had loads of fun. Not only was it entertaining, it was also informative. I hope to attend another one very soon. The notebook is great! I love it and can really use it in the future. I can help myself and others." – *Summit participant*

"The Street Team should organize a summit next year so other incoming members can have the same experience that we had." – *Street Team member*



Girls feel valued and grateful that their unique experiences as young black women are affirmed.

"It was wonderful seeing someone caring about young black females." – *Summit participant*

"I think that it's wonderful that someone is looking out for our young black girls and women, we need more people like you guys." – *Anonymous web site visitor, age 15*

Girls are inspired by their positive interactions with adult black women role models.

"HOTGIRLS, Inc. gives girls the awareness that black teen girls need...It lets them realize that life is hard for 'blacks,' but sometimes even harder for the 'black teen girl'! It also gives them other strong, independent, confident, and intelligent black women, as role models to give them a positive outlook on their lives!"

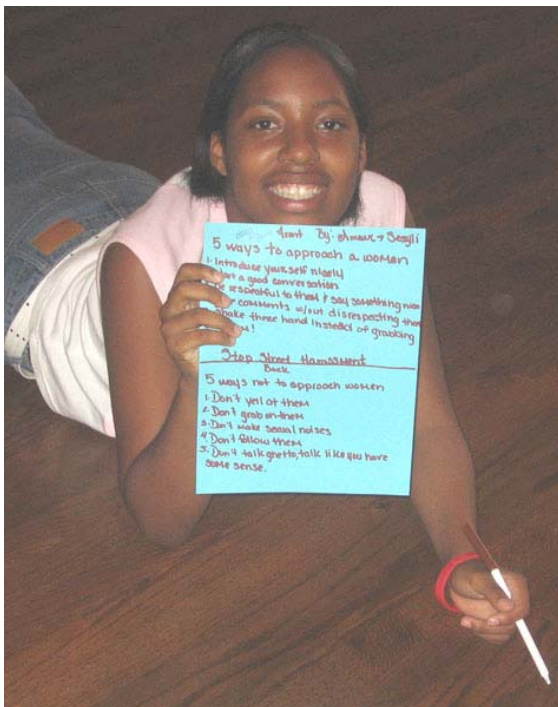
– *Street Team member*



Pictured above: HOT 107.9's Rashan Ali made an appearance at our 2004 Summit

"Thanks Carla, from the heart. Your dedication to this program is inspiring because being someone as young and smart as you are, you could be doing other things with your time!! It's a great program!! That's why I'm in it." – *Street Team member*

Girls feel empowered to make positive decisions about their health.



"I liked the Summit. It was wonderful. I love that someone cares enough to give young black women something to do besides run the streets...I learned how important it is to protect yourself when you become sexually involved with someone...it made me think twice about losing my virginity...Thank you." – *Summit participant*

"This is a very great web page and it is very informative about the dangers of premarital and unprotected sex. Because of this page I have thought twice about the person that I have sexual relations with. Keep up the good work and thank you because y'all are spreadin' the word and I don't want to be another statistic." – *Anonymous web site visitor, age 16*

"Having started HOTGIRLS about two years ago, I can say that it has helped me mature and grow. My feelings and thoughts were able to develop, so that now I am able to make the right decisions, and stay away from the wrong ones!" – *Street Team member*

Girls are motivated to take action to create social change.

"If we spread the word about street harassment, there can be a change!" – *Summit participant*