



An unprecedented alliance to address the challenges girls face in the crucial middle-school transition years.  
Our work is funded through the generous support of the *Fred Harris Daniels Foundation*

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#### **MISSION:**

The mission of the Investing in Girls Alliance is to improve services for middle school girls in central Massachusetts through research, education, advocacy, and collaboration.

#### **VISION:**

The ultimate vision of the Investing in Girls Alliance is that all girls grow up to be happy, healthy, and productive.

**WHAT WE DO:** Investing in Girls has three **priority areas** to impact girls' well-being:

**Physical, Mental and Sexual Health** are core to girls well being and good health provides the foundation for girls' achievements throughout their lifetime.

**Education and Economic Empowerment** give girls the tools and opportunities they need to be in charge of their lives and actively engage in their families and communities.

**Safety and Freedom from Violence** where girls grow, learn, work, and play is essential to girls' success.

#### **IIGA WORKS IN FOUR KEY STRATEGIES**

- ★ **Data and Research** to effectively measure the well being of local girls and understand their current and emerging needs
- ★ **Public Education** to raise community awareness of the unique needs, assets and challenges of middle school-aged girls
- ★ **Promoting Best Practices** through networked training and peer sharing
- ★ **Advocacy** to secure gender equitable policies and sufficient resources for girls by aligning with like partners across the state including the MA Commissions on the Status of Women and Girls

#### **IIGA KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- ★ Providing gender specific data on girls aged 10-14 to youth serving organizations, funders, policy makers and the whole community since 2007
- ★ Building capacity through ongoing training and educational events on gender responsive programs, practices and policies that meet the needs of middle school-aged girls
- ★ Convening community partners locally and across the state to strengthen our collective voices in support of girls - our statewide gathering has been the "go to" place for this work across the state since 2013
- ★ Bringing together policy makers, girl-serving organizations, youth workers and girls to increase investment in girls through government allocation and philanthropy

## BENEFITS OF IIGA MEMBERSHIP

- ✦ Engage in ongoing assessment of the well-being of girls in central MA and beyond
- ✦ Join your voice with others raising the importance of investing and supporting girls in our community and impact policy, programs and services for girls
- ✦ Learn about gender responsive best practices and policies
- ✦ Access to professional development on best practices for staff

**INVESTING IN GIRLS ALLIANCE** welcomes anyone who is passionate about supporting middle school aged girls to our public education events and our annual statewide gathering. We hold monthly Alliance Meetings with leadership representatives from our member organizations.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- ✦ Visit us virtually at: [investinggirls.org](http://investinggirls.org)
- ✦ Like and follow us on Facebook
- ✦ Attend Alliance events and trainings
- ✦ Participate in our working group



## INVESTING IN GIRLS ALLIANCE LEADERSHIP

State Senator Harriet Chandler serves as Honorary Chair

Tri-Chairs: Linda Cavaioli, YWCA Central MA

Pattie Hallberg, Girl Scouts of Central and Western MA

Victoria Waterman, Girls Incorporated of Worcester

**To find out more contact:**

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## CURRENT MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE

AAUW

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Boys & Girls Club Worcester

Department of Youth Services

Edwards Street Child Services

Fred Harris Daniels Foundation

Girl Scouts

Girls Inc.

Junior League of Worcester

Living in Freedom Together (LIFT)

MassEDCO

Notre Dame Academy

Planned Parenthood League of MA

Southeast Asian Coalition

UMASS Memorial Health Care

WICN Public Radio

United Way of Central MA

Women's Initiative

Worcester Commission on the Status of Women

Worcester Public Schools

Worcester Division of Youth Opportunities

Youth Opportunities Upheld (Y.O.U.) Inc.

YouthConnect

YWCA of Central MA

