



STEMS4Girls Family and Friends,

As inspired as I am about what STEMS4Girls (science, technology, engineering, and math studies - S4G) has already accomplished, I am looking most eagerly to the coming year ahead of us. In each past year, there has been a time or so to reorganize and review our objectives before moving onward. Teamwork played a main role in choosing the best reset paths.

With confidence in our faithful donors, dedicated leaders and able volunteers, S4G is preparing for a new year. Our plans to sustain and maintain the services we provide would be at risk if we don't plan for our future. Over the summer, the Board of Directors will meet to decide how we are going to manage our biggest challenges: space, staff, and budget. If you are interested in participating in these meetings, please reach out to us, at 850-688-2718 or email us for the dates and times of these meetings. The need for permanent space, skilled staff, and fundraising to sustain this year's budget is paramount if we are to continue to advocate for and be actively engaged in the mission of exposing and creating pathways for a new generation of learners to enter in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers. It is our priority to serve, especially, those who have had little to no access or the resources to participate in after school STEM/STEAM learning opportunities.

Overall, I am thrilled at the accomplishments we achieved this 1st quarter of 2023 in three of our six initiatives. Our STEM Literacy Program, Volunteer/Community Service Program, and Community

Engagement Program exceed our expectations in a big way. The STEM Literacy Program services exceeded all its objectives in student enrollment, and the percentage of participants who will maintain or improve their grades in science and math. This year we added language arts to the Literacy program as well. We are so proud of our participants who made the honor roll at their schools and, especially so of those for whom it was the first time to receive the honor roll certificate.



We are seeing these academic gains, increases in enrollment and attendance, and an interest in wanting to learn more in the regular participants who attend our Saturday programs. This can be attributed to many factors: providing space where they feel they belong, affordability of our programs, and high-quality tutoring and enrichment sessions we bring. One parent shared with us that their student's grades drop when they are not in attendance at the group tutoring session. The students are experiencing teamwork, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and receiving lessons that support their learning in the classroom, as well as developing their STEM identity. Recently, paraphrasing what one of the participants said when speaking at our Volunteer Appreciation event, "Since attending STEMS4Girls, I feel more informed when in class."

S4G has been blessed with many talented and insightful volunteers who demonstrate dedication as well as versatility. We want to give a big shout-out to our volunteers whose dedication helps our participants improve their skills, leading to better grades and other accomplishments. Our volunteers were honored and celebrated on March 25. Their efforts yielded significant gains in community service hours compared to the 3rd quarter of last year. We also want to give a generous thank you to our local colleges and universities, community agencies, and collaborative partners whose community engagement opportunities keep us very busy.



I must acknowledge the profound role that Donors play at all levels in this review of our success. With such dedicated donors, S4G would be relatively unlimited in the resources that allow for many opportunities that our participants enjoy. We hope your partnership with us in providing financial support has been rewarding!

In closing, over the past five years, we have intentionally hosted two major fundraisers each year and asked for financial support to help us sustain our programs (Spring Campaign and our Giving Tuesday Year-End Kickoff that begins the 3rd week in November). In just a few weeks and throughout the month of June, our Spring fundraiser will take place. We hope for the outpouring of your support with whatever resources you are able to share with us. We all share the responsibility to create pathways for all youth, regardless of their zip code, to be prepared for 21st century workforce skills and become overall contributors to society. PLEASE SUPPORT STEMS4GIRLS in our work to improve and sustain our high quality programming and services, not only for our future scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians, but also for a stronger community and a skilled workforce.

Best Regards,
Kaye Crawford
STEMS4Girls Executive Director

