

girls
inc.

of Orange County

Summer 2026 IMPACT REPORT



Inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold!

Summer Camps and Programs

In the summer of 2026, Girls Inc. served 1,070 participants in Orange County through summer camps, programmatic events, workshops, and community engagement. Below is a snap shot of the students served across camps and events.

**smart↑
ups**

35
participants
served

**STEM
Camps**

168
participants
served

eureka!

74
participants
served

**summer
STRONG**

133
participants
served

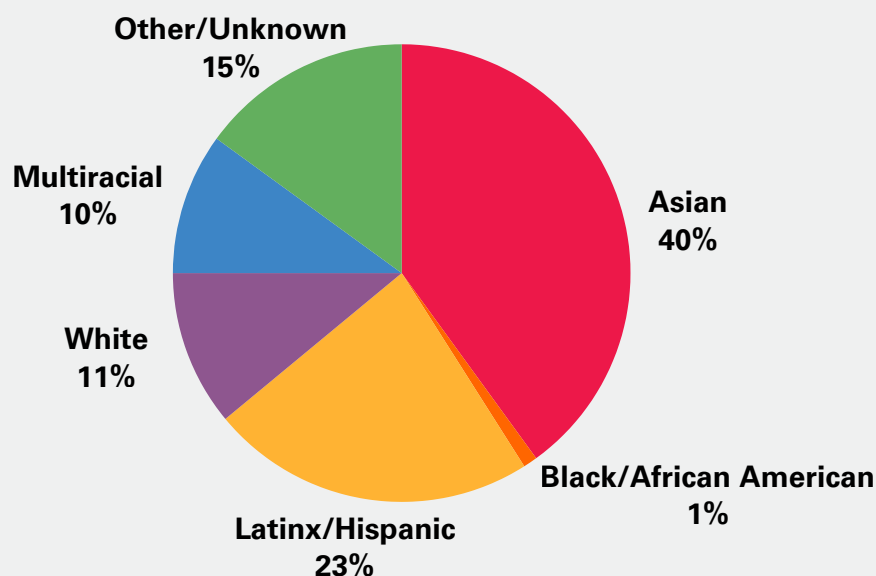
girls meet 
the workforce

131
participants
served

**Other
Programming
Events**

529
participants
served

Participant Racial/Ethnic Breakdown



Participant Cities Represented

Anaheim
Chino Hills
Costa Mesa
Cypress
Fountain Valley
Garden Grove
Huntington Beach
Irvine
Orange
Santa Ana
Tustin

...and more!

Summer Highlights

Summer Strong

Grades: Kinder to 8th

This summer, Summer Strong welcomed **133 girls and boys** across 4 week-long camps sessions. Camp participants enjoyed a summer of learning about STEM concepts like animal anatomy, habitats, and survival mechanisms. They also explored stress management, strengthen literacy with canine, and enjoyed summer park days.

97% of participants demonstrated an understanding of things that bring them joy and help them feel better.

94% of participants demonstrated knowledge of how animals and plants survive in the desert.

92% of participants will know healthy ways to manage stress and support their emotional well-being.



Smart Ups

Grades: 3rd to 6th

This summer, Smart Ups welcomed **35 girls** to develop business and leadership skills. Over the course of four weeks, participants explored the process of starting a business. From assigning team roles and creating prototypes to developing and pitching their business ideas. Along the way, they built valuable financial literacy and entrepreneurship skills.

See media highlights for the culminating Shark Tank Showcase:

- CBS Los Angeles: [63-280 CBS TV \(6-25-26\).mp4](#)
- LA Times Daily Pilot: [63-280 LA Times Daily Pilot ONLINE \(6-26-26\).pdf](#)

95% of participants know how to develop and establish a viable business.

93% of participants understand basic financial concepts and money management.



Summer Highlights

Eureka!

Grades: 7th to 9th

This summer, Eureka! welcomed **74 girls** across two Eureka camp locations for a summer of learning, leadership, and fun. Eureka! explored topics such as college readiness, advocacy, menstrual health, and STEM while also enjoying exciting outings like touring the Chapman University campus and a special visit from the Ontario Buzzers mascot. It was a summer filled with unforgettable experiences, new friendships, and skills that will last beyond the camp.

[Hear the impact of our programs from a Eureka parent:](#)
[Watch the Speech Here](#)

95% of participants demonstrated an understanding of how to advocate for something they care about.

100% of participants demonstrated awareness and interest in STEM-focused careers and non-traditional career options for women.



Girls Meet the Workforce

Grades: 9th to 11th

This summer, Girls Meet the Workforce participants put into practice their workforce readiness skills including networking, professionalism, and communication through externship and apprenticeship opportunities. Over the course of the summer, **115 participants** engaged in summer externships while **16 participants** completed an apprenticeship track.

Apprentices gained valuable career exposure through financial literacy and professional development workshops, tours of the Superior Court of California and UC Riverside, an AI certification through Santa Ana College, and participation in the IgniteHER Summit. Meanwhile, 115 externs successfully completed their summer placements, gaining hands-on workplace experience and earning stipends in recognition of their hard work and professional growth.

99% of participants developed and strengthened professional competencies for career success.

98% of participants gained understanding of what their rights are as an employee of a company or organization.



Summer 2026

Summer of Advocacy & Empowerment

Girls Leading Change in St. Louis

13 students participating in our Leadership and Advocacy programs had the opportunity to attend the inaugural **Girls Leading Change Summit in St. Louis**. Over the course of the week, our Girls Inc. of Orange County girls showcased their leadership and advocacy skills alongside Girls Inc. participants from across the country, and presented an **advocacy project on healthcare accessibility**. They collaborated with peers, explored important issues, and proudly presented their advocacy project focused on healthcare accessibility, gaining valuable experience in using their voices to create meaningful change.



This program has shaped me into a stronger leader and made me more aware of social injustice issues in my community and ways to contribute to change.

-11th grade participant



of participants demonstrated confidence in their ability to inspire and motivate their peers toward shared goals.



of participants demonstrated understanding of how to advocate for something they care about.

IgniteHER Summit

The 3rd Annual IgniteHER Summit was held at Irvine Valley College on July 24, 2026 in partnership with Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris' office to empower participants to explore their passions, build confidence, and connect with resources that support their personal and future success.

This summer **199 participants** heard from keynote speaker California Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, who shared her journey and encouraged girls to embrace their voices and pursue their goals. Through engaging workshops, discussions, and connections with community partners, girls gained new skills, knowledge, and support to help them create change in their communities and beyond.



of respondents agreed that they enjoyed the IgniteHER Summit.



of respondents agreed that they felt that they can apply what they've learned at the IgniteHER Summit to their daily life.



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of Orange County



Thank you for supporting Girls Inc. of
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