

# 2021 GRATITUDE REPORT

## Silver Linings



NOT CANCELLED:

# Building Confident Girls

Dear Friends,

When hardship is faced with courage and flexibility, sometimes we find creativity, resilience and reward. Thanks to your generous support, Girls on the Run was able to do just that in 2020-2021.

With registration fees waived as a gift to our struggling community, we doubled the expected number of girls this spring. Ten Girls on the Run teams met at seven local parks. Every girl received her own “Activity Journal” to record important lessons learned. And 40 site-based 5Ks brought joyful smiles and a sense of accomplishment to 700 girls.

We look forward to carrying these silver linings forward with us as Girls on the Run builds back stronger in the year to come. **Thank you for making it possible.**



**Amy Collier**  
*Executive Director*



**Tania Bengtsson**  
*Board Chair*

# GOTR Creatively Pivots to Support Girls

## Registration Fees Waived

While donations were gratefully accepted, Girls on the Run waived all registration fees as a gift to our recovering community.

“Because the registration fee was waived, Nevaeh was able to participate in the program. She needed Girls on the Run this year more than I can say.” - GOTR mom



## Forty Site-Based 5Ks Celebrated

To keep girls and families safe, the magic of the signature Girls on the Run 5K was brought directly to every GOTR Team in 2021.



## Coach Hardship Reimbursement Offered

In 2021, reimbursement stipends supported coaches in overcoming transportation or childcare obstacles to volunteering.

“The stipend for Girls on the Run made it possible for me to be a coach for my second year. It helped tremendously with paying for extra time at the sitter. Without this stipend, I would not have been able to make such amazing connections with all of my girls and teach them how to love themselves, stay strong and be OK with making mistakes. I cannot wait for next year already!” — GOTR Coach



## Park Sites Added

In addition to over 48 school-based teams, seven new park locations hosted successful GOTR teams in 2021: Howard Park, Boehm Park, Walker Park, Leeper Park, Twin Branch Park, Harris Park, Potawatomi Park.

# 2021 Statement of Activities



<u>Support, Revenue &amp; Other Income:</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sponsorships	\$44,963.00
In-Kind Goods & Services	\$15,827.00
Individual Giving	\$77,267.09
SoleMates	\$5,971.90
Contributions & Grants	\$68,885.75
PPP Loan and Misc. Income	\$21,891.13
Merchandise Sales	\$2,296.68
	<b>\$237,102.55</b>

<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>Total</u>
Program	\$118,294.33
General & Administrative	\$31,431.44
Fundraising	\$34,255.16
	<b>\$183,980.93</b>



Thanks to nearly 500 amazing volunteers donating thousands of hours, GOTR program costs remain lower than many nonprofits.

Girls on the Run is grateful for the generous financial support and contributions from corporations, foundations, organizations and individuals that advance our mission of transforming the lives of girls.

## Girls on the Run Impact Team



Anonymous · Nancy & John Banks · Tania Bengtsson · Babette Boling · Stephanie Cerney ·  
Judy & Dave Eckrich · Sharon & Matt Edmonds · Jim Fulton · Jamie & Jeff Helman ·  
Kate & Tom Huber · Connie & Michael Joines · Jody & Frank Julian · Stacy Koebel · Kim & James Leep ·  
Katie & Will Mishler · Susan & Brent Sheppard · Audra & James Sieradzki ·  
Sara & Doug Smoker · Jen & Phil Smoker · Welter Foundation



## Sponsors

### *PRESENTING:*

The South Bend Clinic

### *GIRL POWER:*

Crowe, Pathfinders Advertising

### *PACE SETTER:*

Fleet Feet Mishawaka, Martin's Kids' Club, Lippert Components, Inc.

### *SPARKLE:*

Cressy Leadership, Gibson, Gurley Leep Subaru, Logistick,  
Mathnasium, Morris Animal Hospital, Smoker Craft, Inc.

### *LIMITLESS POTENTIAL:*

Beyond Zen Studio, Branches Salon, Helman Sechrist Architecture,  
Indiana Health Centers, MHS, Tire Rack

### *IN-KIND 5K SPONSORS:*

All Secure Storage

### *FOUNDATIONS:*

AEP Foundation, Community Foundation of Elkhart County,  
Fulton County Community Foundations, Lilly Endowment,  
The John, Anna and Martha Jane Fields Memorial Trust Foundation

### *COMMUNITY PARTNERS:*

Ave Maria Press, Boys and Girls Club of St. Joseph County, Boys and  
Girls Club of Elkhart County, Dick's Sporting Goods, Elkhart County  
Parks and Rec, Granger Sunrise Rotary, Mishawaka Parks and Rec, South  
Bend School Corporation, South Bend Venues Parks & Arts, WNIT

# Thank You!

## Board of Directors



Tania Bengtsson (Board Chair)  
Stephanie Cerney

Katelan Doyle  
Amanda Morris Feldman

Chris Hunting  
Emily Sims

Jeni Prosperi-Sullivan  
Jen Smoker

# Exciting News to Share!

## NEW GOTR PROGRAM FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS!

After 10 years of serving 3rd-5th grade girls, Girls on the Run Michiana is thrilled to announce the formal launch of our middle school program, “Heart & Sole,” for Spring 2022!

Heart & Sole will provide 6th-8th grade girls the opportunity to continue to build community and get active as they explore topics that are critical for that important stage of their lives.

### *Other Exciting News:*

We are thrilled to announce the addition of an Elkhart County-based Girls on the Run 5K in 2022! In addition, park-based sites will continue and a partnership with the South Bend Community Schools and Boys & Girls Clubs will ensure even more girls can grow joyful, healthy and confident.



# The Impact

Parents reported decreased levels of loneliness and increased levels of physical activity in their girls after participating in Girls on the Run.



“ I learned to speak up about issues that bother me. I learned to be a better friend and person to all people, no matter their differences.” — Taylor, age 10

“ She enjoyed being able to connect with girls her age. With being out of school and having limited friend interactions, Girls on the Run really improved her daily mindset and mental health.” — GOTR dad



## Our Mission:

We inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running.

## Our Vision:

We envision a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams.



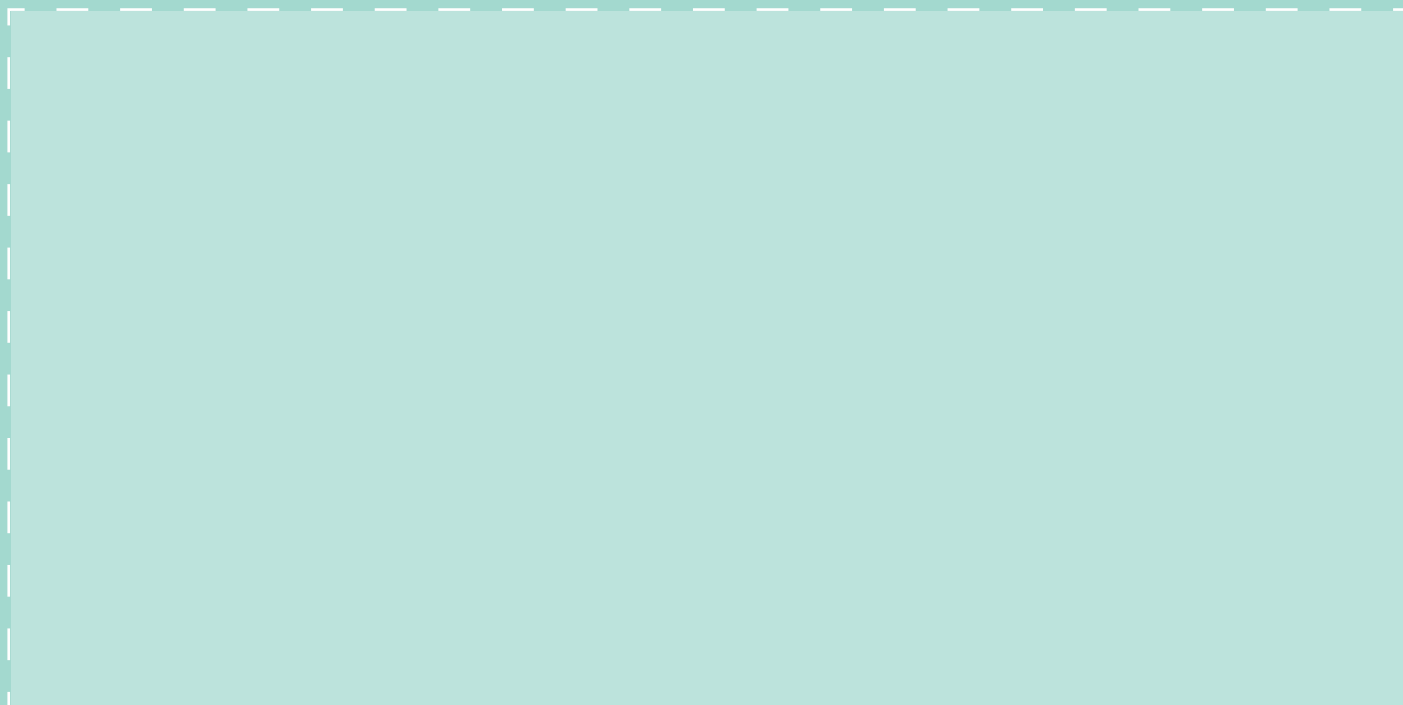
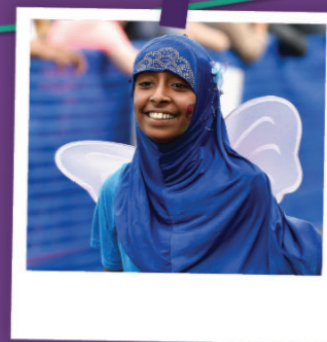
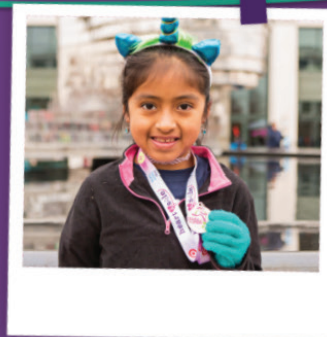
“ Girls on the Run is so important during this time because our emotions are getting mixed up, and you don’t really know what to think. It’s good to go back to what you know about generosity and gratitude. Those lessons help in a time like this. ”

-Casey, GOTR girl

# Giving ALL girls a place to belong

Girls on the Run is the only physical activity-based youth development program for girls with **proven curriculum, trained coaches and a commitment to serve all girls** regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, religion, gender identity or ability.

WE BELIEVE  
EVERY GIRL  
HAS VALUE!



[www.girlsontherunmichiana.org](http://www.girlsontherunmichiana.org)

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