



**15** YEARS

R E M E M B E R I N G E V A

 **EVA GUNTHER**  
FOUNDATION

2013 - 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



**A girl of  
strength &  
compassion**

Eva Gunther  
1984-1997

Eva had a strong sense of fairness and justice, tempered by a compassionate and loving nature. Her family has established the Foundation to remember Eva by sharing with others the chance to develop their unique interests.

### **Our Mission**

To support the physical, social, moral, intellectual, creative, spiritual, psychological and emotional growth of motivated girls between the ages of 11 and 18 who have a demonstrable financial need.

The Foundation supports the expression of girls' inner selves in a variety of contexts, and with its awards hopes to fuel their motivation and passion to reach their dreams.

It has been two very full years since we last communicated with you. In it's fifteenth year of operation, the Eva Foundation fills a unique role in the Bay Area girls' service field. With a mind to both preserve and extend that role, the EGF Board has initiated a process to take steps to strengthen and revitalize the Foundation's mission. We expect our priorities to remain intact, but hope to undertake new and creative programs that will increase the Foundation's reach and effectiveness. We want to create a platform for the Foundation to continue to fulfill its Mission and be a strong and flexible entity that it's next generation of leaders can use to effect positive change in the world.



To accomplish this mission takes both a strong and engaged Board and appropriate staff resources to carry out their vision. Most importantly, I wish to thank our dedicated Directors for their service. Charlotte Burchard and Susan Andrews have served since EGF's founding in 1999 with love and expert guidance; Alissa Bernstein, Eva's best friend, joined as a college student in 2004. Nancy Rubin joined in 2003; she and Laura Mason have brought unique expertise and perspective with enormous heart connection. I am very pleased that we have recently welcomed Eva's cousin, Della Krantz Leapman to the Board. In recent years Managing Director Mark Gunther has taken steps to strengthen our administration; we are grateful for strong support from Pacific Foundation Services, notably Jessi Misslin and Rob deRosa. EGF's Collaboration Program, Alliance for Girls, begins fiscal year 2015 with two full time staff and a strong cadre of volunteers.

The past two years tell a story of significant programmatic success. The Fellowship budget has more than doubled over these years; we served fifty-nine girls with this program in 2014. The Collaboration Program, simply begun as a series of lunches designed to bring girls' agency leaders together has yielded Alliance for Girls, which now has over sixty-five member agencies and an active program of leadership development, collaboration support, professional training and advocacy. The Board applauds Alliance Director Emma Mayerson for her passionate and diligent work in operating the Alliance, and Mark for the support he has given her. I especially want to thank the

Whitman Institute and the Fanny Bess Fund, who have invested with us since the beginning, as well as the rest of our generous institutional donors acknowledged later in this report. We also thank Girl's Inc. of Alameda County and the Women's Foundation of California for their in-kind donation of office space and services. These donors envision what Alliance for Girls can be, and their support for the work has brought this effort to its early success.

Finally, the Board is taking two major steps this year toward the process of organizational revitalization. First, we are dedicating the year 2015 to reflection and planning, beginning with a retreat and extending thoughtfully through the year. Second, the Board has undertaken a Fellowship Impact Study, a formal assessment which is methodically examining past and current data to substantiate the dozens of anecdotes we have about the program's effectiveness. Conducted by EGF Director Alissa Bernstein, MPH and medical anthropology doctoral candidate, the Study will be completed by January 2015. I look forward to reporting the outcomes to you in next year's Letter.

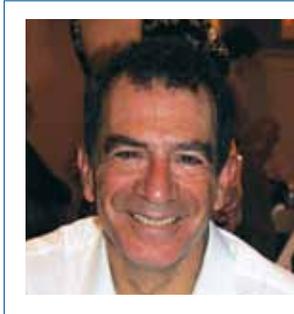
We started the Eva Foundation at a time of profound loss and grief, and had not even a vague idea of what it could achieve. I did not imagine that fifteen years later we would have created a small but effective organization whose contribution to the community provides a more than fitting legacy for Eva and the woman she might have become. I'm grateful to all of you for your continued support and partnership in this endeavor.



**EG** *Ever since I was a little girl, pursuing a career in the sciences has intrigued me and led me to take an interest in science class at school...Because of the Eva Leah Gunther Fellowship Grant, I am able to embark on an adventure that will supplement my learning at school and lead me to experience global adventures...I will grow as a compassionate, confident, creative, capable, and intellectually curious...I will always remember and be forever grateful to the Eva Leah Gunther Foundation for...allowing me to take a momentous stride in my journey into becoming a scientist."*

—Danielle, age 14. nominator: Bishop O'Dowd High School.

When we began the Eva Foundation in November of 1999 I could not have predicted the place we would find it fifteen years later. These past two years have been quite gratifying. The economic recovery, as patchwork as it has been for many, has enabled the Eva Foundation to expand its budget. The creation of Alliance for Girls has made undeniably real the bonds among girl's service agencies and confirmed our belief in the power of their collaborative action. Alliance for Girls also has enabled us to reach out to the funding community with evidence of the strength of this communal will and a cogent answer to the question, "Why Girls?" The oldest of our past Fellows are approaching age thirty; their cooperation and that of their nominators in the data gathering for the Fellowship Impact Study is both remarkable and humbling.



Over the two year period covered by this report EGF gave 101 Fellowships totaling \$99,777, including the special leadership training grants to the class of Eureka students at Girl's. Inc. We appreciate the greater awareness of the program among our constituency, particularly the program staff who work directly with girls who are good candidates. After a hiatus due to multiple changes of management, EGF Board members are resuming their practice of personal contact with the nominating agencies to support nominators in assuring that Fellows understand both the direct and indirect benefits of their Fellowship. As the growth of this program is now exceeding the budget EGF can give to it, I hope the formal assessment will enable us to attract additional funds to the program.

Alliance for Girls is at an important juncture in its growth. After the kaleidoscope of its two initial years, this third year is a time for consolidation and a deepening of Alliance programming. On the management side, EGF is working internally and with Alliance members to shape Alliance governance. Should it be fully independent or a sponsored program of EGF or another agency? How should opportunities for statewide or even national expansion be addressed? On the operations side, the imperatives are to expand membership, improve the professional development programs, increase opportunities for substantive collaboration and resource sharing between

agencies, and to develop a dynamic and profitable conference. The Eva Foundation is honored to serve as the sponsor for the Alliance, and looks forward to supporting the membership in its choices as they move their Alliance forward.

Eva Foundation management is on a steady course. The relationship with Pacific Foundation Services brings us great benefits. The hiring of a full time assistant at Alliance for Girls frees Director Emma Mayerson to undertake more executive responsibility. With the inclusion of VP Alissa Bernstein, EGF's executive committee is taking a larger role in management. I look forward to the continued development of Board governance as we work toward the next fifteen years. We so much appreciate all of your support in helping create a living legacy for Eva.



### Fellowships Given

Year	Total Given	Total Fellows	Average Grant	Sponsoring Agencies
2001-2009	175,338	142	1,235	31
2010	17,258	12	1,438	4
2011	28,811	38	758	5
2012	26,557	17	1,562	8
2013	45,086	42	1,073	9
2014	54,691	59	927	11
	<u>347,741</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>1,122</u>	

*... I had a summer that made me a better person, musician, performer, student, and colleague... I walked away from Chautauqua with the assuredness and confidence it takes to achieve my goals of becoming a professional opera singer and inspiring future generations to find solace in music. I am so grateful to the Eva Leah Gunther Foundation for believing in my dreams and abilities.*

—Olivia age 17. nominator: SF School of the Arts.

### Profit and Loss Statement

	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>Income</b>		
Contributed support	117,022	208,998
Earned revenues (1)	3,974	20,223
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>120,996</u>	<u>229,221</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
General and Administrative	16,199	19,219
Fellowship Program	45,093	55,832
Collaboration Program	50,528	81,949
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>111,820</u>	<u>157,000</u>
<b>Net Earnings (2)</b>	<u>9,176</u>	<u>72,221</u>

Notes:

- (1) "Earned revenues" are Alliance for Girls memberships and conference sponsorships  
 (2) the bulk of "net earnings" in 2014 are Alliance for Girls restricted grants funding 2015 operations declared as income in 2014 per IRS rules

### Balance Sheet at 6/30/2014

<b>Assets</b>	
Cash	159,919
Past Grants returnable	4,200
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>164,119</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	173
Accrued Expenses	3,146
Payroll Related Liabilities	6,937
Grants payable	7,020
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>17,276</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>	
Collaboration fund	59,850
Fellowship fund	9,240
Unrestricted Fund	77,753
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<u>146,843</u>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	164,119

## COLLABORATION



Alliance for Girls (AFG) is an association of resourced and empowered leaders of agencies working to give girls the opportunity to follow their dreams without limitation, becoming tomorrow's leaders and agents of change. AFG member organizations are woman-led as well as girl-serving, and committed to gender-responsive services for girls. The Alliance promotes a vision of a world where a girl's worth is determined by her mind and spirit, her body is safe and a source of joy, and the sky is her limit.



Alliance for Girls has become a community of leaders who share knowledge, who collaborate, and who speak with a collective voice that can demand justice. As AFG approaches its third year in operation it will focus on deepening its leadership development programming and amplifying its member's collective voice for change. It will provide intensive, cohort-based learning opportunities; half-day trainings that address key issues in the field such as women's leadership; a full-day conference with over 200 girls' champions from the nonprofit, private and public sector; and an advocacy agenda that leverages its collective voice to eliminate barriers to girls' empowerment. Alliance for Girls has built a powerful platform for change. Moving forward Alliance for Girls can use this platform to help its members.

I am grateful to all of our supporters, foundations and individuals, who have seen the potential and supported AFG through its early years of growth, and to the Eva Foundation Board who had the vision and patience to allow the Alliance to grow at its own pace. I am grateful to the Alliance members who work every day to get ever closer to their dream: an equitable future for all.

*Emma Mayerson*



**AFG's annual conference** brought together agency leaders for a thoughtful day of presentations and discussion. Left, keynote speaker Lori Nishiura Mackenzie the Stanford University's Clayman Center for Gender studies spoke on biases inherent in the language of leadership. Below, a table discussion.



*President of AAUW San Francisco Chapter Cathy Corcoran, Director of the Gender Equity & LGBT Rights program at Legal Aid-Society Employment Law Center Elizabeth Kristen, Staff Attorney at Equal Rights Advocates Kiki Williams and Director of Programs and Strategic Development for the California Consortium for Urban Indian Health Esther Lucero (from left to right) speak on a panel about advocating for girls' health and safety. At right: conference attendees.*





*Director of the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women Dr. Emily Murase and Alliance for Girls' Director Emma Mayerson at a rally for Prop C. a San Francisco ballot measure setting aside \$125 million for youth services. AFG got gender specific services included as a spending priority.*



*AFG members participating in a workshop on developing shared standards for girls' services.*



*The goal of an Eva Gunther Fellowship is to enable motivated girls to have eye opening, life changing, or simply fun experiences outside the range of their everyday life. To nominate a Fellow visit [www.evafoundation.org](http://www.evafoundation.org).*



Dear Eva Gunther Foundation:

"...My gratitude for the Eva Gunther Foundation will never discontinue, because this adventure was the guide to my future.

This opportunity began with a three-week trip to Estelí, Nicaragua as part of a leadership building and community action based project. During this trip, my delegation would visit the locals, businesses, and museums to later converse about the things we saw and the knowledge learned. We also participated in a community based action project, where we provided labor for a local organization in order to help and improve their community...From this experience, I learned of many concepts, but the one that stood out the most was the idea of inequality...

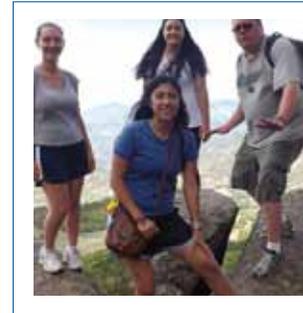
Learning this, I began my pondering...I was dispirited to hear that buying specific merchandise was aiding companies that provide labor intensive jobs with no benefits and low pay. For this reason, and because of other inspirational people I met, I promised myself to research companies and investigate where their products came from...This trip changed the approach to my choices, and I grew from my own beliefs.

...I was able to make an impact on people's lives just like they have made an impact on mine... my delegation built a vegetable/fruit garden for two organizations called Mujeres Ambientalistas (Environmental Women) and Mujeres Usando Los Pantalones (Women wearing the pants)...because many of the women did not have jobs, their income for food was very low. Building the garden would not only generate food, but would also generate profit by selling the products to the locals. It will also essentially provide healthier eating habits to the locals since vegetables

are not the most common food ate in Nicaragua. Learning of all sorts of techniques, I am able to bring...the knowledge I learned from Nicaragua back home. I want to give thanks to the Eva Gunther Foundation for making this experience possible. My adventure has ended, but my journey will continue.

Sincerely,

Genesis Higueros, age 16.  
nominator: 10,000 Degrees.



**Nominators of Eva Foundation Fellows are often mentors to the girls they nominate. They believe a Fellowship provides a strong benefit to its recipient.**



I think for these kids it's...wow someone who I don't even know wants to help me. That's valuable. The confidence level, the hope it gives them knowing there are people out there who may be unknown or invisible to them but who are reaching out and helping them."

Similarly, "I think it's definitely made a difference in her self-confidence. If you are a little more confident going into something you can see yourself doing more of it, so I think it made a difference in her confidence, that she could accomplish more than she thought she could or do things she did not feel comfortable doing. It improved her ability to take risks"

—Mentors of two Eva Gunther Fellows.



*I am very grateful for the many opportunities I have had over this past summer...I was really fortunate to go on these two trips ... It was great to see so many college coaches watching us. Right now I'm being recruited by quite a few schools that have been able to see me play over the summer thanks to the Eva Foundation. I've been getting letters from all over the country!"*

—Destiny, age 17  
nominator: Second Chance Project.



*Girls from Holy Names High School in Oakland meet Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi. Holy Names is a nominator of Eva Foundation Fellows.*

**Founding Donor** — Richard and Lois Gunther Family Foundation

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### Thank you to sixty-five Alliance for Girls Members

See list at [www.alliance4girls.org](http://www.alliance4girls.org)

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*We mark the passing of our supporters, dear Gunther Family friends Mark Levy, Hal Berlfein and Jean Reiss Berlfein, mentor Rudy Hurwich, and Middie Giesberg and Audrey Greenberg. May their memories be a blessing.*

# Eva Leah Gunther Foundation

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A project of the

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## Remembering Eva

**1984-1997**

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