

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION RESULTS



ABF Mission: The Ann Bancroft Foundation inspires and encourages girls to imagine something bigger. We strive to build confidence and offer tools that will allow a girl to go after her dreams and feel supported along the way. Through grants, mentorship, and ongoing development opportunities, the Ann Bancroft Foundation is giving Minnesota girls strength to achieve their full potential.

As a result of ABF grantmaking, we want girls to have increased confidence, self-esteem, and pride as well as strengthened self-advocacy skills and a new (or strengthened) trusting relationship with a non-family adult.

Evaluation results confirm the importance of mentorship relationships in the lives of girls because those relationships:

- Provide **opportunities** for building trust, feeling cared about, and receiving external encouragement
- Help girls learn that **support** is available to them through the grant process and beyond
- Lead girls to **improved relationships** within themselves through increased pride and ability to advocate for themselves.

Our grants are achieving the desired impact for girls in every measurable way.

In 2016, the Ann Bancroft Foundation partnered with The Improve Group to evaluate our program results in order to more fully understand the impact of our grant programs and to ensure that our programs were achieving our desired outcomes.

We are pleased to share with you, as a supporter of our work, this summary of our evaluation results which confirm through direct data and anecdotal feedback that our grants are achieving the desired impact for girls in every measurable way: girls report higher levels of confidence, self-esteem, pride and self-advocacy following their grant-funded activity.

ALUMNAE GRANT EXPERIENCE

97% of girls surveyed agreed that applying for their grant helped them think about, describe, and work toward their dreams

95% of girls surveyed indicated that their mentor's support through the grant process was helpful

88% of evaluated grant recipients report that without their ABF grant, they were not sure that they would have been able to participate in their funded activity

98% of girls surveyed agreed that their funded activity helped them learn more about themselves, was a good experience, and changed their lives for the better

CONFIDENCE

"I am confident in myself."



"I am able to do things as well as most other people my age."



SELF-ESTEEM

"I am happy with who I am."



"I respect myself."



PRIDE

"I am proud when I try something new or hard, even if I fail."



"I have a lot to be proud of."



SELF-ADVOCACY

"I am aware of what I need and want."



"I can speak up for myself."



"There is an adult (who is not in my family) who I trust."



“I tried dance first — I was in 3rd grade and I was kind of scared of trying new things, but dance made me feel like I could do new things. So it made it easier to try the next new thing. Now I like to try new things.” (2014 grantee, age 9)

“This experience has changed me forever, I realized that people actually do like me, and it has changed the way I approach people now.” (2015 grantee, age 16)

“My activity was visiting Historical Black Colleges and Universities; I was able to see who I can become and the love that was given to the black students on those campus versus what I am seeing and experiencing in MN as a young black lady. I was very proud and honored to have received this grant.” (2015 grantee, age 16)

“What I learned while riding helped me with my ADHD and I can tell people about what I need, like a routine, to help me be more successful. I even spoke to a college class about having ADHD and how teachers can help students who have it.” (2014 grantee, age 14)

Grantees were also asked to make suggestions about ABF's future work, and they suggested:

- Inform girls of other grants, scholarships, and other opportunities in which they would likely be interested;
- Allow former grantees to apply for another ABF grant;
- Offer an on-line application; and
- Provide more structure and consistency for ABF Mentors: have a checklist for what mentors should offer, including teaching girls how to seek out more support in the future.

