



Katie L. Dixon Women & Girls Leadership Endowed Fund

Dixon Girls Forums Accomplishments and Objectives

August 2015



The Bud Bailey Apartment Community invited the Dixon Girls Leadership Forums to their after school program to work on friendship skills. All the participants were new to the United States.

- Thanks to a generous grant from The Herbert I. and Elsa B. Michael Foundation awarded to the Katie Dixon Girls Leadership Forums, we were able to expand our program once again to include 4 new schools, 2 organizations, and 1 employee training. This year we reached over 650 new and returning participants and our list of schools has reached a high of 32.

"You have made my Monday afternoons fun and something to look forward to. I learned about change, positive attitudes, women leaders, leadership, and being grateful."
– Angeth, grade 7

- We began a partnership with the Housing Authority of the County of Salt Lake, working with girls living in their complexes. The Bud Bailey Apartment Community houses newly arriving refugees and we had the opportunity to work with girls as young as 5 on developing friendship skills.

"The forums taught me how to be more confident and outgoing. These skills will help me be more successful in the future."
– Hailey, grade 8



Former participants from Murray High School gathered at Mimi's Café to catch up with each other. The girls ranged in age from 18 to 25. Each is following her dream and thankful for Katie Dixon's wisdom.

- Former participants from Murray High School organized a reunion and invited past and senior participants to a lunch held at Mimi's Café in Murray. The former participants are in different phases of their lives. Some are married with children, others are attending school, and some are working and traveling. The participants commented that they enjoyed getting together and seeing everyone and hope the event will become an annual activity. While at the lunch, the girls put together a thank you gift for Katie Dixon's family.

"Thank you, Katie, for inspiring me through my junior high and high school years! I am now a freshman at the University of Utah and the lessons, skills, and friends I gained in the Forums still resonate with me each day."
– Ashten, Freshman

- As part of the curriculum for 2014 - 2015, the participants studied women leaders around the world. They were very impressed and awed by Malala Yousafzai, who was shot while attempting to go to school. Using Malala's hashtag, #StrongerThan, the participants came up with their own statements of courage. These were displayed on the bulletin board at the College of Social Work.

"My favorite lesson was when we learned about Malala. This lesson reminded me that women are powerful too. I also loved hearing her speech that she gave when she won the Nobel Peace Prize, and reflecting on it. I learned about a lot of different women and how they affect our world. All of these lessons gave me more confidence and made me believe in myself and my actions."
– Leigh Anne, grade 7



Malala Yousafzai inspired participants to make their own statements using the hashtag #StrongerThan.

- #StrongerThan a bully. – Stephanie
- #StrongerThan violence. – Fatima
- #StrongerThan fear and pain. – Amanda
- #StrongerThan self doubt. – Jazmyn
- #StrongerThan judgement and silence. – Ashley
- #StrongerThan the media. – Jenevie
- #StrongerThan my past. – Shelby

The Dixon Girls Forums staff express their deep gratitude to everyone who has supported the forums with a financial contribution or the gift of personal time. The College continues to seek funding for this endowment in order to support and maintain the many Forums currently conducted, as well as respond to new requests for Forums from schools in our community.