**ALUMNI PROGRAMME**

# A BRIEF OVERVIEW FOR PROSPECTIVE DONORS

**WHAT IS GREAT GIRLS?**

[**Watch Video: A Look Into What Great Girls Is All About**](https://youtu.be/OtRAdvdqnfI)

Great Girls is a non-profit project run by a diverse group of women in Cape Town, which aims to bridge the gap between high-school education and full-time employment for disadvantaged girls.

We volunteer our time and expertise with young women in grade 11 and 12 who are looking for support. Our goal is to ensure that South African girls leave high school equipped with the skills to either find meaningful full-time employment or to pursue further studies.

Through practical workshops and mentoring, Great Girls coaches its participants on elements that range from interview technique and CV writing to budgeting, eloquence, confidence-building and assertiveness, paving the way for a well-rounded individual capable of carving out their own successful career path, regardless of their background.

Great Girls nourishes ambition, assists girls who wish to study further, and helps participants search successfully for jobs and bursaries.

# HOW GREAT GIRLS WORKS

Great Girls partners with high schools in disadvantaged communities, offering grade 11 and 12 girls the chance to enroll in a two-month ‘main’ programme. Participants attend the modules (five modules over two months), work on homework and assignments between modules, and are mentored throughout by a Great Girls ambassador known as a Pod Mentor. Topics include:

* How to create a strong CV and How to identify appropriate jobs and apply for them
* Interview techniques and Workplace communication
* Basic labour law and introduction to the working environment with Employment DOs and DON’Ts
* Personal grooming and appropriate workplace attire
* Further education, how to apply for bursaries and tertiary study options
* Basic budgeting

Following on from completion of the main programme, participants are invited to join our alumni community and alumni programme. Participants are also directly mentored by their assigned Pod Mentor for two years after the main programme.

# ALUMNI PROGRAMME OUTLINE

* Four workshops annually (quarterly) on Saturdays at the New World Foundation, Lavender Hill. Workshop content ranges from motivational talks by local female business leaders to CV clinics, goal-mapping sessions and more.
* Ongoing mentoring through face-to-face / telephonic mentor check-ins and meet ups.
* Outings throughout the year aimed at nurturing the alumni community while providing access to events and experiences otherwise outside of most alumni members’ reach.
  + - Examples of previous outings: Learning to code, swing-dance lessons, trips to the theatre etc.
    - Annual Outing to Green Point Park to network with new and old Great Girls
* Annual festive-season party to unite everyone and celebrate the end of the year, and to encourage goal-setting for the coming new year. Girls also receive goodie bags at this event.

# PURPOSE OF THE ALUMNI PROGRAMME

* Open to all participants who have completed the main Great Girls programme previously.
* To provide continued monitoring and accountability to Great Girls programme graduates beyond their main programme completion.
* To track our alumni community and understand their successes and challenges since their graduation from the main programme.
* To encourage networking and peer motivation and accountability amongst alumni through creating a consistent community space in which issues surrounding their career and further study progress and challenges are the main focus.
* Allow Pod Mentors to check in with their mentees over and above the mandatory quarterly feedback.
* To feed additional career- and study-orientated content to our alumni that there was either limited time for in the main programme, or that has only become relevant since their matriculation from high school.
* To enhance the prestige and pride associated with being a Great Girls graduate and alumni member and, in doing so, to increase participation and success across all Great Girls programmes.
* To nourish and engaged alumni community that through workshops, social media and outings remains plugged into the resources of Great Girls and continues to benefit from mentorship, guidance and access to further career and study opportunities.
* To ultimately foster new, young leaders and speakers for future Great Girls programmes from within the communities being directly impacted by current programmes.

# ALUMNI KEY PROJECTED COSTS

Please note, almost all speakers and volunteers give of their time and skills for free. It is extremely exceptional for Great Girls to remunerate volunteers for their time.

Expenses incurred are allocated to catering, learner materials, transport and general outing expenses. Speakers are given a small gift as a token of thanks and volunteer Pod Mentors may claim for face-to-face meet up expenses in line with the Claims Procedure which limits each Pod Mentor to R280 per girl per year for her four meet ups (R70 per meet up).

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| Entire 2019 Alumni Programme Costs (projection based on 2017/8 costs) | R 46,353.00 |
| Cost per head based on average attendance in previous years | R 545 per girl |

# REPORTING & ACCOUNTABILITY

* All donors are placed onto our donor mailing list (please provide all contact info for those you wish to be included in these communications). This mailing list offers:
  + - Updates (minimum of quarterly) on the progress of the year’s various programmes and events.
    - Newsletters from time to time updating donors on Great Girls events and drives.
    - Trustee report with full AFS report annually.
* Further reporting structures are available on request. We are happy to accommodate specific CSI reporting requirements – please just let us know of these requirements on offer of funding.



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**Kristina Miller**

Great Girls Founder & Trustee