

FABULOUS FEMALE EXPO

Overview: Female bullying is on the rise. Girls are obsessed with their body image. More girls are involved in the juvenile justice system than ever before in recorded history, and more girls are joining gangs. **Expo History:** In the spring of 2008, a dedicated group began planning an event to address these issues among girls in the Tarrant County juvenile justice system. The first Female Expo was held at the Lynn Ross Detention Center in Fort Worth, TX in August of that year. It was a wonderful day full of inspiration and was one of the first events of its kind. One of those who inspired and had all of the girls in tears was Kristen 'Dr. G' Guillory Ph.D who is a host of an internet-radio show, motivational speaker, professor and entrepreneur. In February of 2010, Dr. G met with Lydia Villamil and Deanna Madrid, who are about empowering the community and were on the initial planning committee, about expanding the expo since it was so great and filled such a need.

The next expo was held in May of 2010 at Southside Church of Christ. The expo was expanded to serve all girls between 11 and 19 years old and their parents. Also added were vendors/community resources and each girl received an Expo t-shirt in order to show unification. The next expo was in September of 2010 at the Boys and Girls Club and the next was January 29, 2011 at Tarrant County College-Trinity Campus with over 300 in attendance! The expos are **FREE** of charge for the girls and their parents. The expos include breakfast, lunch, workshops, vendors, keynote speakers, fashion shows, live performances, stories of triumph, many freebies, and much more! Topics covered have included: college readiness, self esteem, respect, overcoming hurdles, relaxation, and parent round table discussion

Past guests have included-professional models, stylists, abuse survivors, Beauty control and Avon Representatives, Hip Hop artists, Dallas Fire Chief Burns, Council Woman Hicks, professional comedians, personal trainers, university representatives, college athletes, and more!

Expo Participant Feedback:

"Don't change anything. I loved the fashion show and hearing the real stories of the women who were abused. I can't wait for the next one. My mom had fun too and I'm glad she got to go to her own workshop." -12 yrs old

"I thought it was going to be boring, but I loved it. Everyone was so nice and I liked how self esteem and being fabulous was talked about. All the speakers were real good. I will be back." -15 years old

"Thank you so much for this event. More are needed just like this. The parent session was amazing and we all had a voice. It was well organized and it was very helpful that it was free since I have more than 2 daughters and am on a very limited budget. I received some very useful parenting tools that I will use!" Parent of 4 girls

Purpose: The purpose of the event is to not only allow the girls and their parents to have a great time, but to empower and provide academic, physical, and social resources to the participants in order to become fabulous women. Our vendors play a large role.

Past/Present Expo Partners: Chesapeake Energy, Goodwill Industries, The Boys and Girls Club of Great Fort Worth, Fort Worth Teen Court, Tarrant County Juvenile Services, Fort Worth ISD, ABChristian Learning Center, Fortress YDC, Project MICAH, TCU, Tarrant County College, TCU, KSGuillory Enterprises, Collins Family Planning Clinic, Perfected Magazine, Dr. Cheri Moore, byCHANCE and more!



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