Lighting a Path for Gender Equity

We know the world is dark, scary, and very uncertain right now. We are witnessing unprecedented atrocities happening across the world, and it is easy to lose hope. We at AFG are confronting this darkness by uplifting glimmers of light as we enter 2024 – and we want you to join us.

We know celebrating these successes and achievements does not soften the despair we and many of our community members are experiencing and witnessing. While we are not shying away from injustices, violence, and sadness happening in the world, there are many lives we have positively impacted in our community. Today, we want to share a few of these wins for girls and gender-expansive youth in California that honor AFG and our members' work in 2023. May they serve as beautiful reminders of our accomplishments and moments of hope for the future, like the stars that peek through dark clouds in the night sky.

As we collectively combat this cloud of injustice head-on, we invite our community to unite in our collective humanity and continue to uplift the bright stars that can pave the way for gender equity for future generations of girls and gender-expansive youth of color.



Our Guiding Lights

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Championing state and local policies centering the needs of girl and gender-expansive youth that they have defined

AFG, our member organizations, and collaborating partners celebrated some exciting <u>legislative</u> wins in 2023. In each piece of legislation we supported, our girl-centered research was uplifted to highlight the need for policy change, and our local advocacy inspired state policy on public safety.



Centering the voices of girls and gender-expansive youth of color in South and Southeast Los Angeles

The Los Angeles County Women and Girls Initiative (WGI) and several local girl-serving organizations reached out, asking AFG to bring its collaborative model to the region. In 2023, the culmination of our listening and learning over the last several years is in our summary brief, Hear Their Voices. The data from this research will be used to develop key data-driven and girl and gender-expansive youth-centered policy recommendations that begin to address the challenges our youth face.



Disrupting dominant culture norms by welcoming two women of color as AFG's Co-Executive Directors

As AFG looks to the next ten years, we are leaning deeply into our belief that "diverse leadership is more effective leadership" and we <u>formally adopted a new co-Executive Director</u> model <u>under the leadership</u> of Chantal Hildebrand and Linda Lu, and bringing together the AFG and Evaluation Studio teams. In early 2024, we'll share more about the results from our strategic planning process that builds on the strong foundation laid by our former Executive Director, Emma, and the AFG team and charts a new course for our future.



We can't and don't do this work alone.

We want to express our tremendous gratitude to our 120+ members, donors, funders, government champions, and supporters who help us create bright stars every day. We hope that learning about the work we do alongside our members and supporters is a bright spot as you continue to walk your path.

Donate today so AFG can continue to light a path of hope for the girls and gender-expansive youth we support. Let's uplift the stars amongst the clouds together.

Let's continue to light this path together in 2024.

Chantal Hildebrand & Linda Lu, Co-Executive Directors Alliance for Girls

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