

For Immediate Release

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Alameda, CA – December 3, 2014, The Girls Inc. of the Island City Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of current Director of Program Services, Christine Chilcott, as Interim Executive Director effective January 1, 2015. The Board’s action was prompted by the retirement of long-time Executive Director, Karen Kenney, who provided 9 years of outstanding service to Girls Inc. of the Island City and the community.

“Karen’s leadership will be missed, but her retirement is well-deserved,” remarks Board of Directors President Andrea Carlise, “Karen remains committed to the mission and vision of Girls Inc. and has promised her support through the transition process and beyond. The Board has complete confidence that Chilcott will continue to be an excellent steward of Girls Inc. of the Island City’s mission and a leader and advocate for its youth. The Board recognizes that Chilcott is a leader who, with several years’ experience at GIIC, is the right person to pursue its constituents’ agenda, both locally and nationally.”

Chilcott has served Girls Inc. of the Island City since 2011 as Director of Program Services. She is well-respected by the staff, Board of Directors, National staff, parents and key partners. Under Christine’s leadership, Girls Inc.’s Girl’s Program has expanded significantly, providing programs at nine different schools in the 2014-15 school year including five elementary schools, three middle schools and one high school. At the end of the 2013-2014 fiscal year, Girls Inc. of the Island City had exceeded its growth plan goal to increase number of girls served from 37% to 41%.

Before joining Girls Inc. of the Island City, Chilcott had over six years’ experience working with the West Contra Costa school district. She brings to the role strong managerial skills and the ability to navigate through multi-layered relationships. Chilcott’s proven successes include providing direct program services to underserved populations, designing and presenting trainings and conferences on a local and national level, and participating in national efforts to provide data driven, prescriptive recommendations that enable Girls Inc. of the Island City to effectively address the issues facing girls. Christine also worked for the Haas School of Business as the Executive Assistant to Laura D’Andrea Tyson and has experience interacting with high ranking government officials, managing events, and writing department policy.

Chilcott says of her new position, “Girls Inc. of the Island City has and will continue to play a unique and vital role in the promotion of positive and progressive programming and practices that uphold our mission to inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and boldSM through innovative programs, activities, and advocacy and to provide before and after school child care services supporting youth and their families through Alameda Island Kids. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead Girls Inc. of the Island City in engaging the community, our staff, District

leadership and critical community partners to fully realize our shared vision for our youth – a vision of empowered youth living and thriving in an equitable society.”

Carlise adds, "The board is excited to have Christine assume leadership of the organization. Her experience, enthusiasm and passion for the mission and vision are vital to the organization as we work with our supporters, parents and community partners to strengthen and preserve services to youth in Alameda.”

Chilcott received both undergraduate and graduate degrees from San Francisco State University. She and her husband, Gabe Chilcott, Principal in the West Contra Costa School District, have two daughters, Wren and Preston, and are residents of Alameda.

Girls Inc. of the Island City is an affiliate of the national organization Girls Inc. Since 1964, Girls Inc. of the Island City has provided the only program in Alameda designed specifically for girls. Our programs “fill in the gap” on issues that parents and schools do not always have the time or resources to cover. We provide more than 25,000 hours of programming each year to girls ages 6 to 18. At Girls Inc. of the Island City, girls and teens are challenged to explore science, math and computers, sports and health, friendships and conflict resolution, as well as to examine how money is earned and invested, and to ask questions about and take leadership roles in the world. We also offer a licensed childcare service called Alameda Island Kids for both girls and boys at seven elementary schools around Alameda, including Bay Farm, Earhart, Edison, Franklin, Lum, Otis, and Paden. For more information about Alameda Island Kids, call (510) 521-1743 ext. 202 or visit our website at www.girlsincislandcity.org.