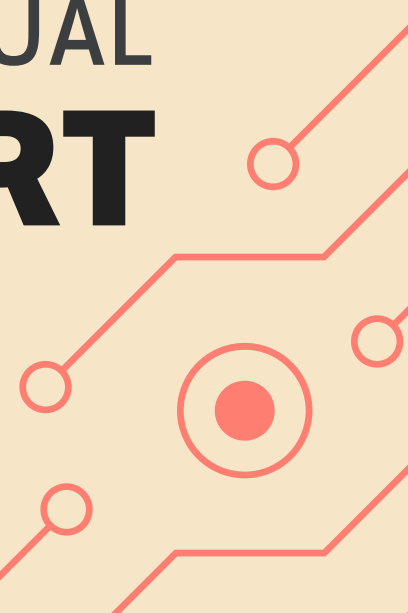# Girls Dream Code
Aspire To Be Great and Innovate!



# 2023
# ANNUAL
# REPORT

PREPARED BY
**VICTORIA KYEREME**

# Message from the Executive Director

Dear friends and supporters of Girls Dream Code,

As the Executive Director I am proud to present you with our 2023 Annual Report.

This report offers an overview of our work over the past year and our fundraising outcomes. Our mission is to empower young girls of color to Aspire to Be Great and Innovate. We work to achieve this goal by partnering with schools and communities to provide free tech & computer science workshops and programs to inspire young girls of color in the Twin Cities to become the next generation of tech leaders.

This past year was a busy one for us. We welcomed new partners and nurtured existing ones, we facilitated dozens of workshops, and we expanded our programs to further our mission. Our work has made a difference on the lives of the girls within our GDC community, and we are looking forward to continuing our work for many years to come.

Thank you for your support, and I hope you will continue to stand with us as we strive to change the world for girls and women in tech.

*Victoria Kyereme*

Sincerely,

**Victoria Kyereme**
Executive Director

# ABOUT GIRLS DREAM CODE

## Mission

Our mission is to empower young girls of color to pursue an interest in technology by providing free tech & computer science programs and workshops.
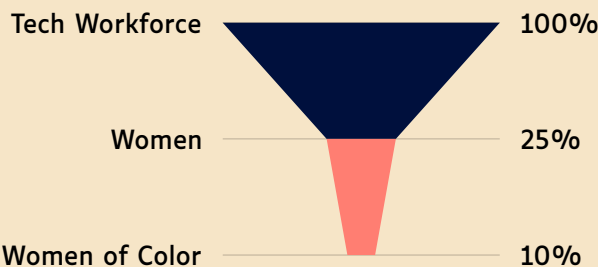
## Vision

The gender and diversity gap in tech is a work in progress which is what GDC is charged to address in order to decrease the gap and increase inclusivity. We want to create a safe space for young BIPOC girls to learn in demand tech skills and feel comfortable and excel in all that they do!

# Why Girls Dream Code?

## 10X

Students who learn computer science in high school are six times more likely to major in it, and **women are ten times more likely.**

Tech Workforce — 100%

Women — 25%

Women of Color — 10%

Of the 25% of women working in tech, **BIPOC women are less than 10% of it.** Black women only represented 3% while Hispanic women made up less at just 1%.

## 11%

Out of the 1,806 AP Computer Science exams taken in 2020 in MN, **only 11% were taken by Black, Latinx, and Native students.**

Sources:
https://www.luisazhou.com/blog/women-in-tech-statistics/
https://code.org/advocacy/state-facts/MN.pdf

# OUR PROGRAMS



## CODE YOUR PATH

Code Your Path, is a program that introduces girls of color to tech activities & skills. In this program, girls learn about coding and software development and gain hands-on technology experience as they collaboratively work on a web app project or a mobile app project. This program takes a cohort of students that work on a real world project, over the span of 6-8 weeks during the school year.

## CODETALKZ

CodeTalkz, is where girls of color get to learn new tech topics in fun and interactive one-off workshops such as Python, HTML & CSS, SQL, JavaScript, Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, Virtual Reality, Game Design, Circuit Boards, Software Engineering and more. These workshops highlight different areas within tech and introduce girls to these topics in a safe and collaborative environment where they feel empowered to learn something new and be creative and innovative.





## NEW PROGRAM: CODE-SYNC LABS

Code-Sync Labs will be our new student internship program. We will have a group of student interns (BIPOC women ages 18-24) that will work together on a software engineering team and collaborate on a real mobile app project, The mobile app is our very own Girls Dream Code app called Code-Sync, and it will be designed by our students and for our students. The Code-Sync mobile app will serve as a way to engage and stay connected with girls within our programs and alumni and girls within the broader community, provide tech resources, and serve as a tool to continue to measure our impact beyond our programs. This internship program will take a cohort of students over the span of a few weeks during the summer months.

# GDC'S 2023 IMPACT

## 50+
GIRLS OF COLOR AGES 12-18 PARTICIPATED IN CODE YOUR PATH AND CODETALKZ WORKSHOPS
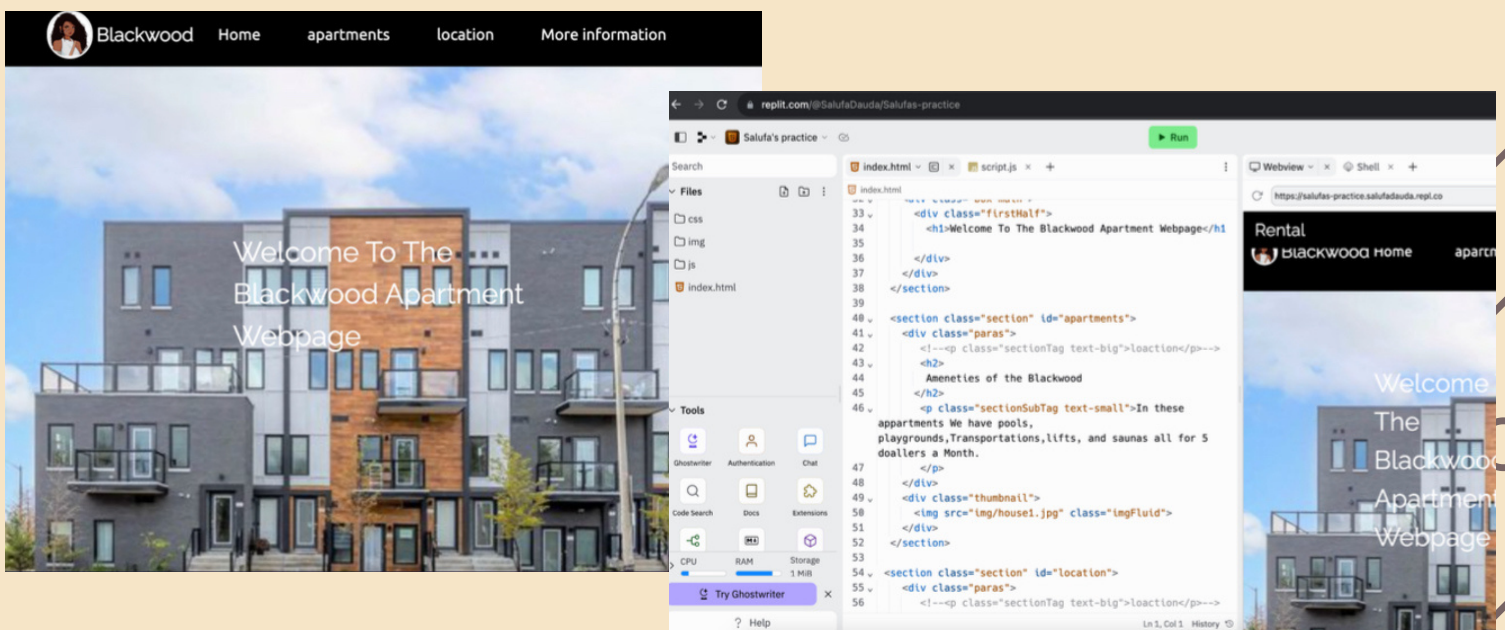
## 5
PROGRAM COHORTS ACROSS 4 UNIQUE SITE PARTNERS INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

## 80%
OF OUR STUDENTS EXPRESS AN INCREASED INTEREST IN TECHNOLOGY CAREERS AFTER GDC PROGRAM COMPLETION

## A Student's Code Your Path Project



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
WWW.GIRLSDREAMCODE.ORG/ABOUT

# OUR YEAR AT A GLANCE



### NEW SPACE

We secured a new office space in St. Paul, specifically designed to cultivate a vibrant community for BIPOC girls, empowering them to explore opportunities in the tech industry and expand our services to reach more individuals. This space will also allow us to broaden our reach to serve girls in communities and schools that GDC programs have yet to partner with by hosting on-site workshops and events.
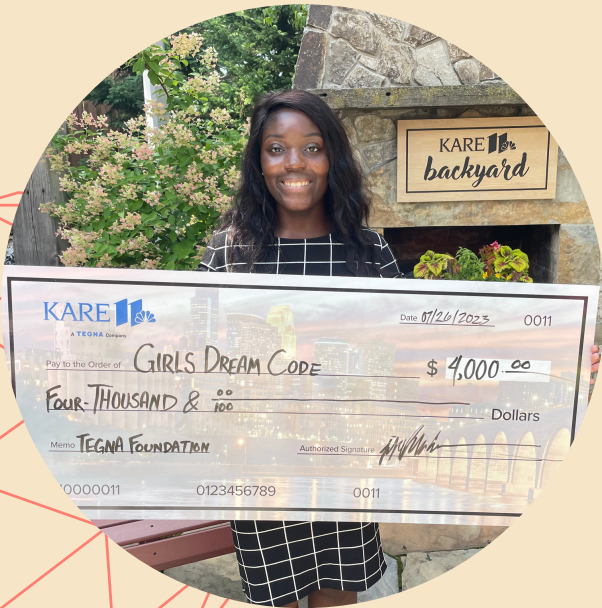
### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Over the past year, GDC has actively participated in a multitude of community events and activities with a shared goal of promoting STEM education. Through our dedicated involvement, we have been able to inspire and engage girls of all ages by showcasing the wonders of computer science through such events as Día de Ciencias presented by SHPE, STEM Day at the MN State Fair, Tech Fest at The Works Museum, and Amazon Urban Youth Hack-a-Thon hosted by MN STEM Partnership. We also partnered with tech companies to host fun tech workshops such as with Kipsu & West Monroe.



### SOFT LAUNCH OF INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

This fall, GDC soft-launched an exciting new internship program, **Code-Sync Labs**, aimed at supporting college BIPOC girls in their journey to learn software development and gain valuable skills while working on a real software engineering team. The college interns have been working on developing the initial phase of our own mobile app called Code-Sync. The mobile app will be a community based app for girls that are in our programs and alumni, so that we can stay connected and engaged with those girls, provide resourceful content, and continue to track our impact beyond our programs. The program will officially launch in the summer of 2024 with a new cohort!

# MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS



## FEATURED ON KARE 11

We are thrilled to announce that Girls Dream Code was featured on KARE 11's segment, Communities that Kare. This incredible opportunity allowed us to share our mission and highlight the impactful work we do in empowering young girls to break barriers and embrace opportunities in the world of technology. By showcasing our initiatives, we aim to raise awareness, inspire others to join our cause, and ultimately create a more diverse and inclusive tech community for the next generation of talented individuals.
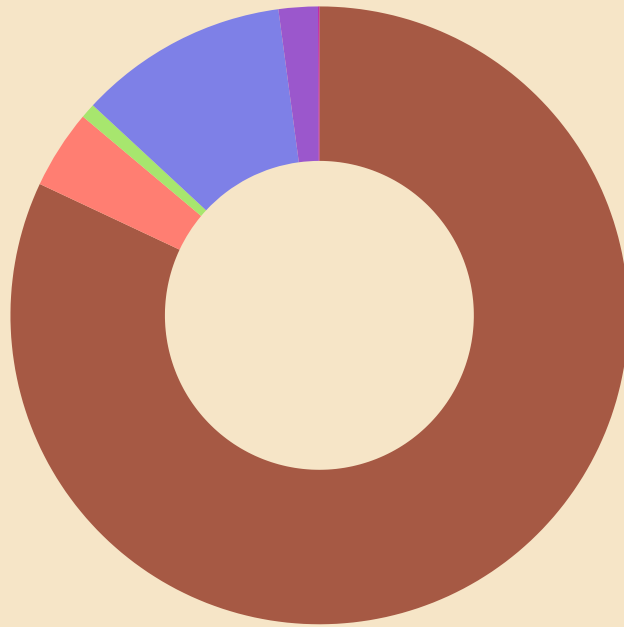
Click here to see full story.

## TEKNE AWARD NOMINATION

This year Girls Dream Code was selected as a finalist for the prestigious Tekne Award in the Tech for Good category, presented by MNTech. This esteemed award recognizes organizations that have harnessed their resources and expertise to tackle pressing societal challenges and bring about enduring positive change. Being named a finalist for this award is a testament to our unwavering commitment to creating a better future for Minnesota by inspiring and equipping young girls with the skills and opportunities they need to succeed in the tech industry. Although we did not win, we are honored to be among the exceptional finalists who have gone above and beyond in making a meaningful impact on our community.

For more information, click here.

# ANNUAL FUNDRAISING

- Grants ($124,500)
- Corporate Sponsors ($6,026)
- Individual Giving ($1,132)
- Program Services ($16,000)
- In-Kind ($3,000)
- Merch Sales ($92)

# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

Mardag Foundation

Boston Scientific Foundation

MARATHON

SAINT PAUL & MINNESOTA FOUNDATION

3M

BEST BUY Foundation™

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Hardenbergh FOUNDATION

### Funding Partners

Aldi
Campos EPC
HB Fuller
Hiway Credit Union
HOPE Foundation
Luther Replogle Foundation
Nordstrom

nVent
Optiv
Society for Science
Sportradar
TEGNA Foundation
Walmart

### Site Partners

Community Partners with Youth
The Journey School
Upward Bound at DCTC
Upward Bound at Metro State

# YOU HELP MAKE THIS POSSIBLE!

Girls Dream Code
Aspire To Be Great and Innovate!

# Girls Dream Code
Aspire To Be Great and Innovate!

# THANK YOU!



## Support Us

**Donate**    **Shop**

## Follow Us:

## @girlsdreamcode