

ABOUT GIRLS RUN THE WORLD B.Y.O.U.

- ▶ **Girls Run The World** wasn't named until November 2017. However, the idea started in October of 2016 when Officer Skyy Calice was approached by Metea Valley High School **Dean Jennifer Rodriguez-Reyes** to assist with **B.Y.O.U (Be Your Own You)**, an already existing afterschool support group at Metea Valley. While attending B.Y.O.U, Officer Calice offered coping skills, conflict resolution skills, and helped elevate the leadership qualities in the young ladies of B.Y.O.U.



Officer Calice's meeting the ladies of **B.Y.O.U**
(October 2016)



Aurora Police Chief, **Kristen Ziman**, pictured
with some of **B.Y.O.U**
(March 2017)



Group Founder Dean Jennifer Rodriguez-Reyes
pictured with 2016 B.Y.O.U. President
and Officer Calice

ABOUT GIRLS RUN THE WORLD B.Y.O.U.

Seminars & Community Service

- ▶ *B.Y.O.U addressed topics such as teen dating violence, giving back to the community by helping charities, volunteering at supportive living communities, building and maintaining healthy relationships, and learning personal strengths.*



Playing Bingo with the residents of The Vistas, a supportive living community. (Jan 2017)



B.Y.O.U and APD attend The Vistas' Valentine's Day Dance 2017 (February 2017)



Nyla Whitehead, a Prevention Educator with Family Shelter Services, conducting a workshop on Teen Dating Violence with **B.Y.O.U** (Oct 2017)

ABOUT GIRLS RUN THE WORLD SOUL SISTERS

- ▶ In November of 2016, Officer Calice was invited to join East Aurora High School counselors **Jacki Montroy** and **Nakita Stewart** in creating an in-school program for at risk African American female students. These students had been involved in numerous physical or verbal altercations but had easily identifiable leadership abilities that were not being harnessed for positivity.
- ▶ From late November 2016-May 2017, Officer Calice, Mrs. Montroy, and Mrs. Stewart met weekly with a group of 12 African-American female students who were identified with the leadership skills we were looking for. The group of young ladies attended faithfully and frequently discussed how important the group was as a safe place to discuss challenges they had at home, school, with each other, with peers, and with themselves.
- ▶ The group continued to meet and created their own lesson plans for subsequent group sessions, including bringing in several positive female African-American role models as guest speakers, renaming the group to **Soul Sisters**, and hosting an awards ceremony at the end of the 2016-2017 school year.



ABOUT GIRLS RUN THE WORLD SOUL SISTERS

▶ CURRICULUM

- **'Black Girl Blues to Black Girl Bliss'** curriculum by Carolyn Strong was the focal point of the group. The lesson topics included:
 - **Getting Off to a Good Start**
 - **Sankofa: Looking Backward to go Forward**
 - **What do others think of me/What do I think of myself**
 - **Ratchet is NOT the Goal**
 - **Respect is the Key**
 - **Handling Conflict Like a Queen**
 - **Legacy**
 - **How to Appropriately Interact with Police/Authority**
 - **From Black Girl Blues to Black Girl Bliss**
- ▶ In addition, group leaders collaborated with The Paramount Theatre in Aurora and took the girls on a field trip to Ballydoyle Restaurant for lunch (paid for by a donor) and then to the Paramount (tickets were donated by the Paramount) to see the all-black cast of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. The entire cast came out for a meet and greet with the young ladies after the musical.



ABOUT GIRLS RUN THE WORLD SISTERS UNITED



- ▶ In February of 2017, Officer Calice brought this same idea to West Aurora High School where she worked alongside Student Assistance Program Coordinator, **Kelly Jacobson**, to modify the group to meet the specific needs of the West Aurora High student body. This student group used the same curriculum as **Soul Sisters**, however this group included young ladies of many backgrounds. Thus the name "**Sisters United**" was produced.
- ▶ Although there are three separate groups, Officer Calice's goal was to unite the groups to be a support system for each other. Members from all three groups met for the first time while attending *The Jaycee Duggard: A Stolen Life* story.

GIRLS RUN THE WORLD

TRANSFORMING LIVES ONE GIRL AT A TIME

- ▶ All three groups have a common goal of becoming great leaders amongst their peers. Participants desire to become change agents within their neighborhoods in an effort to mentor the next generation of young ladies. Together, they will showcase how **GIRLS RUN THE WORLD!**

