**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**30 YEARS AND COUNTING!**

 **GIRLS INC. OF DELAWARE CELEBRATES BY HONORING WOMEN OF DELAWARE**



On Friday, March 15, 2019 Girls Inc. of Delaware (GIDE) will host their 30th Annual Strong, Smart, and Bold Awards Luncheon. The luncheon honors three outstanding women from throughout the state of Delaware who embody the Girls Inc. mission: Inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold.

This year we have the privilege to honor three of Delaware’s most amazing women who have distinguished themselves through exemplary achievements in the community, their professions, and as role models for girls.

**30TH Annual Strong, Smart, and Bold Honorees**

Chandra Pitts, is a dedicated humanitarian, philanthropist and social entrepreneur, she's committed to growing youth into their true greatness through education, entrepreneurship and the arts.  A first-generation Mexican American and a Black woman, her passion, integrity and authentic voice of advocacy for marginalized youth is driven by her own personal experience. She has dedicated her life to mobilizing “the village” and inspiring intergenerational leadership among women and girls. Chandra used her success as a business woman to launch non-profit social justice agency, One Village Alliance as founding President & CEO.

Sarah McBride is the National Press Secretary for the Human Rights Campaign and the author of "Tomorrow Will Be Different: Love, Loss, and the Fight for Trans Equality." In 2012, Sarah made national headlines when she came out as transgender while serving as student body president at American University. A native of Wilmington, Delaware, Sarah serves on the Board of Directors of Equality Delaware and helped lead the successful effort to add gender identity and expression to her state’s nondiscrimination laws. Sarah became the first openly transgender person to address a major party political convention when she spoke at the 2016 Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

Krista Griffith is State Representative for the 12th District of Delaware, which includes neighborhoods in Hockessin, Greenville and North Wilmington.  She is a parent, attorney and advocate who has dedicated her career to protecting Delaware residents and improving the lives of people of all ages. Her work has helped ensure that Delawareans, including the most vulnerable, have access to economic and educational opportunity as well as equitable treatment by the justice system.

About Girls Inc. of Delaware (GIDE) www.girlsincde.org
The non-profit organization Girls Inc. of Delaware’s mission is to ***Inspire all girls to be Strong, Smart, and Bold***. As an affiliate of the national nonprofit organization Girls Inc., whose research-based programs and expertise on girls’ issues date back to 1864. GIDE offers a variety of educational, enrichment and empowerment programs for girls ages 6 to 18 who are mostly from high-risk, underserved areas. GIDE programs, grounded in research and tested in the field, address education, societal, and economic barriers girls continue to face. These programs encourage girls to master challenges, build self-esteem, and achieve confident and responsible adulthood. For more information, please connect with us by visiting our website at www.girlsincde.org, finding us on Facebook at Girlsincde or following us on Twitter and Instagram @Girlsincde.