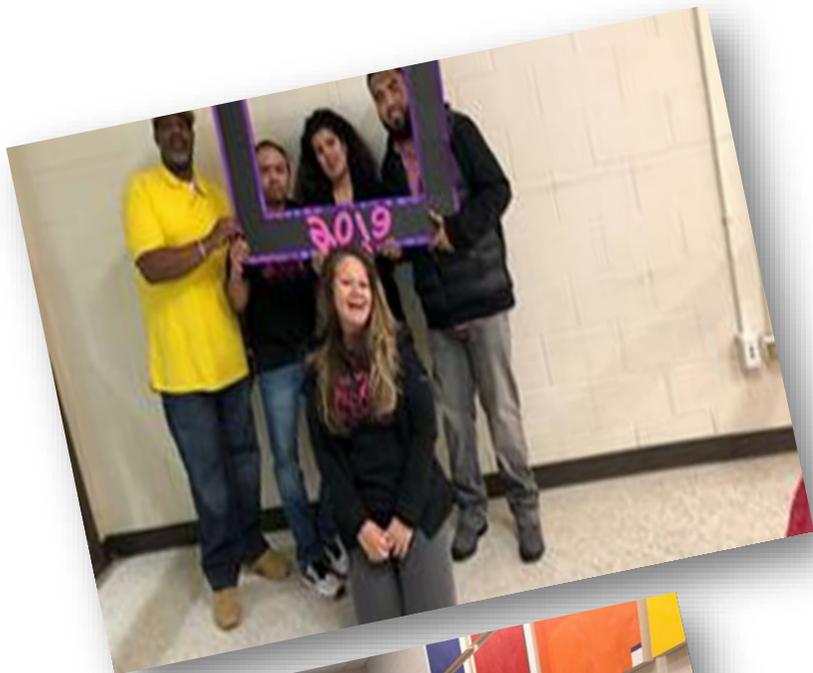




16th ANNUAL GIRL-WISE CONFERENCE



The 16th Annual Girl-Wise Conference was held on Saturday, April 13th, 2019 at the College of Lake County, Grayslake Campus. The theme of this year's conference was relationships – *with yourself, with others, with food, etc.* A total of 66 girls and about 30 chaperones attended this all-day event. Additionally, about 50 volunteers helped coordinate and assisted on the day of the conference. Volunteers included Girl-Wise committee members, employees from Juvenile Probation and Detention Services, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office, the Lake County Health Department, College of Lake County, Girls on the Run, OMNI Youth Services, The Zacharias Center, NICASA and many individual volunteers.



16th ANNUAL GIRL-WISE CONFERENCE

This year's conference kicked off with breakfast generously donated by NICASA, an interactive resource fair with various agencies, and Junior's Challenge Course programming. There was also a clothing drive with new/gently used donations and an area for attendees to select new/gently used prom dresses. Opening remarks were given by the Honorable Judge Valerie Boettle-Ceckowski of the 19th Judicial Circuit Court - Juvenile Division; Lake County State's Attorney, Mike Nerheim; and the Director of Juvenile Probation and Detention Services, James Edwards. The keynote speaker this year was Randi Moxi. She is an entrepreneur, motivational speaker and the Illinois International Pageants Director. She has dedicated her life to empowering women of all ages to be the change they wish to see in the world. She spoke to both attendees and chaperones on having a positive relationship with yourself.



16th ANNUAL GIRL-WISE CONFERENCE

Lunch was generously donated by the Regional Office of Education. The remaining portion of the day included three breakout workshops for high school ages and three breakout workshops for middle school ages. These workshops were presented by Girls on the Run, OMNI Youth Services, The Zacharias Center, Nicole Zwiercan, Sedrik Newbern and Aimee Welu. There was also a workshop for chaperones presented by Sandra Gomez and Alisha Gilani of the Lake County Health Department. The day ended with a raffle in which both attendees and chaperones received prizes. It is our pleasure to announce that attendees completed an evaluation and 100% reported that they would recommend the conference!

Please visit <http://19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us/1230/Girl-Wise-Conference> in early September to begin registering for the next conference.

