



GIRL SHINE PROGRAM MODEL AND RESOURCE PACKAGE

Violence Prevention and Response at the International Rescue Committee

The International Rescue Committee is delighted to present Girl Shine-- a program model and resource package that seeks to support, protect, and empower adolescent girls in humanitarian settings. Girl Shine has been designed to help contribute to the improved prevention of and response to violence against adolescent girls in humanitarian settings, by providing them with skills and knowledge to identify types of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and seek support services if they experience or are at risk of GBV. Additionally, Girl Shine aims to build the social assets of girls to ensure they have someone they can turn to if they experience or are threatened by GBV. It is based on the experience and knowledge gathered through years of IRC's Women's Protection and Empowerment efforts to reach adolescent girls in humanitarian settings. It has been adapted to reflect the latest research findings on the experiences of adolescent girls in humanitarian settings, and the nature of GBV against adolescent girls. Girl Shine represents the culmination of IRC's learning, shaped by research findings, our technical expertise in working with adolescent girls and feedback from adolescent girls we work with and their caregivers¹².

This Girl Shine program model and resource package supports practitioners in designing, implementing and monitoring a girl-driven intervention that:

- >> **Engages** with the most vulnerable and isolated adolescent girls
- >> **Assesses** for the most pertinent risks and dangers for adolescent girls in each context

¹ Creating Opportunities through Mentorship, Parental Involvement, and Safe Spaces (COMPASS) program: multi-country study protocol to protect girls from violence in humanitarian setting, 2016

<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-016-2894-3>

² Girl Empower Intervention Baseline Survey 2016:

<https://www.rescue.org/report/girl-empower-intervention-baseline-survey>

>> **Involves** adolescent girls in all aspects of program design and implementation

>> **Strengthens** protective mechanisms that include the key stakeholders impacting the lives of girls

>> **Empowers** girls to steer and guide their own wellbeing and safety once the program is complete

THE 5 GIRL SHINE MODEL COMPONENTS

1. The Girl Shine Safe Space

A “girl-only” safe space allows for consistent access to programming and provides a trusted environment where girls can express and be themselves. Girl-only spaces help to reduce risks and prevent further harm during acute emergency responses³⁴.

2. The Girl Shine Life Skill Groups

The Girl Shine life skills groups are the heart of the program. Girls participate in a collection of learning sessions that have been tailored to their needs (age range, experience and situation). The learning sessions help to build upon the existing assets⁵ that girls have and equip them with key skills to prevent, mitigate and respond to GBV.

3. The Girl Shine Mentors and Facilitators

Girl Shine encourages the recruitment of older adolescent girls or young women from the local community to facilitate the Girl Shine Groups. Young women as mentors will expand the safety network for the girls in their communities and allow for sustainability and ongoing solidarity.

4. The Girl Shine Male and Female Parent-Caregiver Engagement

Male and female parents and caregivers should be engaged with Girl Shine whenever it is safe and possible. This will help to ensure that girls are not put at greater risk for participating in the program, and that their new skills and knowledge will be supported and reinforced in their home environment.

5. The Girl Shine Community Outreach

Community support of the program is essential to ensuring that girls who participate are safe. Staff are encouraged to work with the community and service providers to enable girls to access the program and other critical services.

Girl Shine Resource Package

>>Part One

Designing Girl Driven Programming for Adolescent Girls in Humanitarian Settings. This provides a detailed overview of how to design effective adolescent girl programming in a variety of humanitarian settings.

>> Part Two

Girl Shine Life Skills Curriculum. This is the core curriculum for working with adolescent girls that focuses on 6 topic areas and up to 48 sessions for life skill group meetings.

>> Part Three

Girl Shine Caregiver Curriculum. This is a curriculum that can be used when working with male and female parents and caregivers of unmarried adolescent girls.

>> Part Four

Girl Shine Mentor and Facilitator Training Package. This is a resource that can be used with mentors and facilitators of the adolescent girl core curriculum to help strengthen the capacity of those working directly with girls.

(The four parts of the resource package have been designed to be used together but can be referenced separately as well).

³ DFID, Violence against Women and Girls in Humanitarian Emergencies, 2013,

⁴ Creating Opportunities through Mentorship, Parental Involvement, and Safe Spaces (COMPASS) program: multi-country study protocol to protect girls from violence in humanitarian setting, 2016

<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-016-2894-3>

⁵ An asset is a store of value that is related to what a person can do or be (their “human stock”). Building Assets Toolkit: Developing Positive benchmarks for Adolescent Girls. Population Council 2015