

Gerry Howze Milwaukee

PEARLS for Teen Girls

Gerry Howze makes a positive difference in the lives of thousands of young women—one girl at a time—as the inspirational Executive Director of PEARLS for Teen Girls.

Gerry's journey to leading one of the most respected and effective non-profits in Milwaukee has not been easy. After the death of both her parents, she experienced an emotionally and verbally abusive home life. After graduating high school as a teen parent, she experienced the challenges of extreme poverty. When Gerry moved to Milwaukee, she began her healing process and her higher education journey. This allowed her to begin following her passion of supporting people in poverty to improve the quality of their lives with dignity and support. All of this led her to where she is today, at PEARLS.

PEARLS supports girls as they wrestle not just with the upheavals of adolescence, but also with socioeconomic, interpersonal, and educational challenges often caused by sexism, systemic racism, generational poverty, unemployment, substance abuse, crime, and broken relationships.



PEARLS for Teen Girls improves the quality of life and strengthens community one girl at a time by empowering young women with self-development tools, guidance and support to strive for better, brighter futures by living out the PEARLS values: Personal Responsibility, Empathy, Awareness, Respect, Leadership and Support.



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