



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Girl Talk Press Release*

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**Mary Catherine Kinney named  
National Girl Talk Leader of the Year!**  
Girl Talk Celebrates Year of Significant Growth and Expansion

ATLANTA, May 9 -- Girl Talk, Inc. – Albany volunteer and local Girl Talk chapter leader Mary Catherine Kinney who relentlessly works to improve our community and the lives of middle school girls at Deerfield-Windsor School where she is a graduating senior will be honored as the National Girl Talk Leader of the Year during Honors Day on May 9, 2006. Palmyra Medical Centers' CEO Bud Wethington will present the first annual National Girl Talk Leader of the Year Award and scholarship to Mary Catherine on May 9, 2006 at 9:00am at Deerfield-Windsor School in Albany, GA.

Girl Talk's motto, "Inspire Me" truly reflects the power Girl Talk leaders have to inspire the people they help and to inspire others to serve! The Girl Talk National Leader of the Year Award is sponsored by Girl Talk's corporate sponsor, Palmyra Medical Centers, and includes a generous scholarship.

"Since her freshman year, Mary Catherine Kinney has gone above and beyond the call of duty as a mentor and Girl Talk leader," said Haley Kilpatrick, President and Founder of Girl Talk and its Executive Director. "For the past four years, Mary Catherine has performed countless acts of community service and is one of Girl Talk's most valuable assets. She has and continues to inspire other high school girls all over the country to start their own Girl Talk chapters in their communities and I'm just honored to have her support! "

"This is a very special award to me, because not only is Albany where Girl Talk started, but Palmyra Medical Centers so strongly believes in Girl Talk's mission that they were willing to commit to being one of our corporate sponsors and in addition, sponsor this award. I can't tell you how much it means to me to have such generous local support on a national level," added Kilpatrick.

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“From mentoring young girls through their middle school years, my life has been enriched,” said Mary Catherine Kinney. “I have found joy and a sense of accomplishment, and have developed essential skills that have blessed other aspects of my life. Leading Girl Talk requires dedication that is immensely rewarding because you help transform lives. Receiving the National Girl Talk Leader of the Year Award is truly an honor and I can only hope to continue to be an inspiration to other girls.”



Mary Catherine Kinney will receive national recognition on the Girl Talk Web site [www.DesiretoInspire.org](http://www.DesiretoInspire.org) for her service. The National Girl Talk Leader of the Year Award – is the most prestigious volunteer award currently associated with Girl Talk. This award desires to inspire by example, honoring the service of Girl Talk’s most committed leaders and sharing their achievements to encourage more girls to volunteer.

“We hope that this scholarship and the National Girl Talk Leader of the Year Award will motivate other high school girls to volunteer their time and talent to help their younger peers all over the country. With motivated leaders like Mary Catherine, Girl Talk will have no trouble reaching its goal of having chapters in all 50 states by 2010” concluded Kilpatrick.

Girl Talk will also celebrate its notable achievements from the past year. It received its official 501(c)(3) nonprofit status making all donations to Girl Talk tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. It launched its Web site [www.DesiretoInspire.org](http://www.DesiretoInspire.org) offering girls the tools and resources they need to start their own chapters. Most impressive, Girl Talk has nearly doubled the number of chapters across the country to include 19 states and almost 10,000 girls being helped by its programs.

#### **For More Information**

For more information about Girl Talk activities visit [www.DesiretoInspire.org](http://www.DesiretoInspire.org). To set up interviews with Girl Talk President and Founder, Haley Kilpatrick, National Girl Talk Leader of the Year, Mary Catherine Kinney, or Palmyra Medical Centers’ CEO, Bud Wethington, or to receive pictures or further quotes, contact Haley Kilpatrick at Girl Talk (229) 349-3747 or [Haley@DesiretoInspire.org](mailto:Haley@DesiretoInspire.org).

#### **How Can You Help?**

Girl Talk is funded solely by generous contributions from individual donors. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation, please make checks payable to Girl Talk and mail to: 3400 Peachtree Road, Suite 1750, Atlanta, GA 30326. We appreciate your support.

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#### **About Girl Talk**

Girl Talk, Inc. is a national nonprofit organization that provides the necessary tools for girls to create student-to-student mentoring programs in their schools and communities, and gives them ongoing support and resources to grow and become more effective. Founded in 2002 and based in Atlanta, Georgia, Girl Talk, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with Girl Talk chapters in 19 states reaching nearly 10,000 girls. Girl Talk’s unique student-to-student mentoring programs pair middle school girls with high school girls who serve as mentors. Middle school girls build self-esteem through positive weekly programs, learn the importance of community service, and most importantly – benefit from a valuable relationship with a high school Girl Talk leader. High school leaders get a sense of accomplishment, knowing they’ve helped contribute to another person’s future.

