

MEET MS. EMILY:

Ms. Emily firmly believes that the reach of the staff at Girls Inc. is immeasurable -- and also the reach of the girls.

"Everything we do for these girls and everything these girls do for us goes beyond Girls Inc.," she said.

She said that the staff are anything these girls need them to be at the time.

"We aren't just staff or teachers," she said. "We all have the ability to morph into whatever they need us to be," Ms. Emily said.

Through daily interactions between the staff and the girls, a common bond is found where she said the staff let them know they care about them by genuinely getting to know them.

From surprise parties to modifying the daily programming based on individual needs, Ms. Emily's connection with her girls are no different than that of the other staff and girls.

One of her girls worked several days on her "Purple Masterpiece," and Ms. Emily provided the opportunity for her to work on it in class and show the girls what she had created, because she knew that her student needed to release her creative energy.

"It's the little things that make our staff special," she said.

Ms. Emily said that she wants to be the light for girls that she was never given until she had her son three years ago.

"I try to be this for all of the girls I teach, especially the teens because they need it now more than ever," she said. "I can act as a role model, a friend, a teacher -- just a listening ear."



Ms. Emily graduated from high school while also receiving her associate's degree from Owensboro Community and Technical College, and she uses her example to show the girls they can be successful too, even when faced with difficult circumstances.

"I would give anything to these girls...they're so awesome to me," she said. "They've taught me so many things."