

# Community Partners

girl scouts

of north east ohio

# Welcome

We are excited to provide you with an incredible opportunity to partner with Girl Scouts of North East Ohio (GSNEO). Community partners, volunteers, and supporters are an integral part of how Girl Scouts connect with the world around them. We believe that partnerships are essential to achieving our mission, and we want to work with individuals and organizations that share our values and goals. Whether you want to volunteer, collaborate on a project, or support our Girl Scouts in other ways, we are eager to explore opportunities for partnering

with you.

#### When you choose to partner with us, benefits include:

Visibility to more than 25,000 girl and adult members (and thousands more caregivers) across 18 counties in Northeast Ohio through one or more of the following: website, social media, program publications, and e-newsletters. Opportunity to partner with the largest organization for girls in the world with access to resources on leadership development, team building, outdoor skills, technology, and more!

Girl Scouts is dedicated to developing leadership in girls. In Girl Scouts, adult volunteers work alongside girls to design fun and challenging activities that empower them to discover, connect, and take action around issues that interest them and impact their community.

In this packet you will find:

- · Information on Girl Scouts and GSNEO
- Program Partnership, Volunteering, and Funding Opportunities
- Next Steps

For questions, or for more information, please contact Customer Care: 800-852-4474 customercare@gsneo.org
Live Chat via gsneo.org



# We are Girl Scouts.

Girl Scouts bring their dreams to life and work together to build a better world. Through programs from coast to coast, Girl Scouts of all backgrounds and abilities can be unapologetically themselves as they discover their strengths and rise to meet new challenges—whether they want to climb to the top of a tree or the top of their class, lace up their boots for a hike or advocate for climate justice, or make their first best friends. Backed by trusted adult volunteers, mentors, and millions of alums, Girl Scouts lead the way as they find their voices and make changes that affect the issues most important to them.





Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.



On my honor, I will try:

To serve God\* and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

\*Members may substitute for the word "God" in accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.



I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,
and to

respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and
be a sister to every Girl Scout.

# **About Us**

Juliette Gordon Low—also known widely by her nickname, "Daisy"—started Girl Scouts in 1912 in her hometown of Savannah, Georgia. The first troop was made up of 18 girls who all shared a sense of curiosity and a belief that they could do anything.

At a time when women in the United States couldn't yet vote and were expected to stick to strict social norms, encouraging girls to embrace their unique strengths and create their own opportunities was gamechanging. That small gathering of girls over 110 years ago ignited a movement across America where every girl could unlock her full potential, find lifelong friends, and make the world a better place.

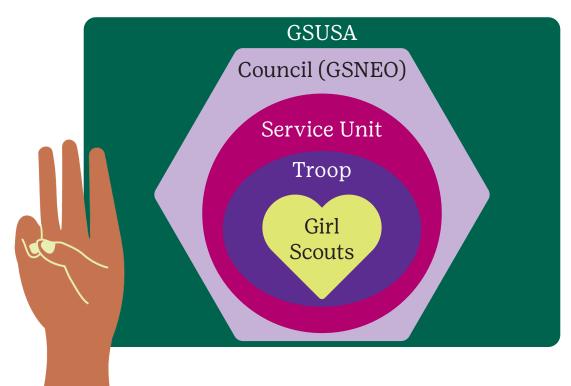
Today, Girl Scouts is supported by dedicated volunteers and professional staff. The organization is formatted with the Girl Scouts at the heart of what we do. Girls are placed into troops, which are groups of Girl Scouts who meet up to have new experiences and create lifelong bonds. Troops are led and supported by adult volunteers – troop volunteers.



Juliette Gordon Low, Founder of Girl Scouts

Within a council's geographic area, service units are made up of volunteers who support the work of troop leaders within their area.

Each Girl Scout council is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA). It oversees all service units and troops within a specific geographic area. GSUSA is a national organization headquartered in New York City. It supports the work of more than 100 local councils across the U.S. and internationally.



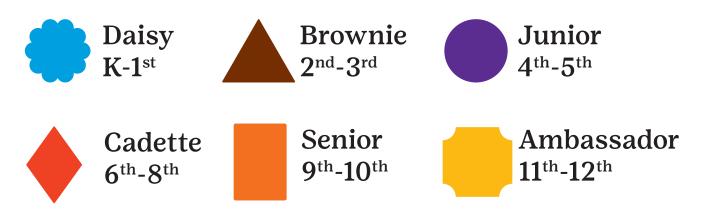
# **Girl Scouts of North East Ohio**

Here in Northeast Ohio, we serve more than 18,000 girl members with the support of over 9,000 adult volunteers across 18 counties.



### Age Levels

There are six Girl Scout Program Levels that correspond with school grade levels. As a Girl Scout progresses, each level builds upon the last and allows them to explore their interests in a way that is meaningful—and age-appropriate—to them.

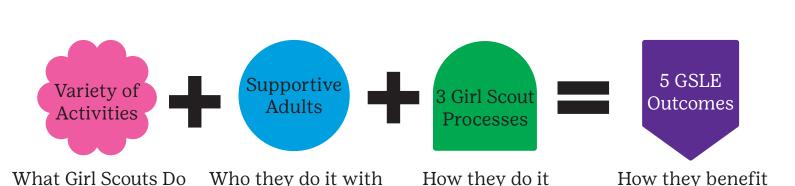


# What Girl Scouts Do

Girl Scouts aspires to build leaders of the future who look at our world and take action to change it for the better. How Girl Scouts does this is through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE). At the core of this experience are three processes:

- **Girl-Led**: When Girl Scouts play a key, active role in planning and implementing activities.
- **Learning by Doing**: When Girl Scouts participate in hands-on learning that engages them in continuous cycles of action and reflection.
- **Cooperative Learning**: When all members of a group work together toward a common goal with respect and cooperation.

# The Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE)



By participating in activities within the GSLE—a time-tested and researched collection of engaging, challenging, and fun activities like earning badges, going on awesome trips, selling cookies, exploring science, getting outdoors, and doing community service projects—Girl Scouts:

- **Discover**: They'll find out who they are, what they care about, and how to best use their unique talents
- **Connect**: They'll collaborate with others, both locally and globally, to learn and expand their horizons.
- **Take Action**: They'll do what Girl Scouts always do: Make the world a better place.

# Four Program Pillars

Girls who participate in activities from the four program pillars – STEM, Outdoors, Entrepreneurship, and Life Skills – gain opportunities to try new things by working together and learning through hands-on activities.

# **STEM**

When girls participate in STEM-focused programming, they are more interested in STEM and careers in tech—including app development, robotics, coding, and cybersecurity. In Girl Scouts, girls are introduced to STEM at an early age and research shows they: become better problem-solvers and critical thinkers, have confidence in their STEM skills and abilities, get excited about STEM subjects and want to learn more about them, and learn the importance and relevance of STEM to people and society and options for their own career paths.

# Life Skills

Girl Scout badges covering topics like civic engagement, healthy living, and communication skills help Girl Scouts grow in confidence as they develop the skills to lead their best life. Whether by exercising and staying healthy, developing strong relationships with family and peers, advocating on behalf of others, protecting our environment, or exploring careers that can truly change the world for the better, girls gain the skills and the inspiration to accept challenges and overcome obstacles, develop greater confidence and a stronger sense of self, are happier overall and display more positive values throughout life.

# **Outdoors**

Studies show that girls today are not spending nearly enough time outdoors. But as a Girl Scout, girls have plenty of opportunities to create their own outdoor adventures and develop a lifelong appreciation for nature—whether with her troop, at camp, or with friends and family. And that's great news—because when Girl Scouts get outside, they discover that they can better solve problems and overcome challenges; develop leadership skills, build social bonds, and are happier overall; and become team players and care more about protecting our environment.

# Entrepreneurship

Research shows that girls are actively interested in becoming entrepreneurs, developing financially stable futures, and using their skills to make a big impact on the world. But there are stumbling blocks on a girl's path, including fear of failure, concerns about bringing big ideas to life, and the perception that men are more likely to be entrepreneurs than women. As an important part of learning vital business skills, girls will discover how to set and achieve realistic goals in their lives and future careers, make better decisions and build stronger interpersonal skills, and develop a valuable work ethic and a sense of empathy for others.

# Community Partner Opportunities

## **Program Partners**

Program Partners have been approved by GSNEO to provide resources or events for our members. Our GSNEO team supports our partners by reviewing our program model and working together to achieve great results.

Program Partners are organizations within the Northeast Ohio area who have been approved by GSNEO to offer events and activities that fit within the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. These partners understand the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and work to achieve the Girl Scout outcomes through their programs and events.

#### **Event Partners**

Event partners work with GSNEO staff to co-produce "wow!" program experiences such as:

- Evening/Weekend Events
- Summer Camp Experiences
- Specialized Patch Program (\*\*See sponsorship section for more information)

This coordination is ideal for larger groups and for programs that occur on specific dates. The partner organization is responsible for program delivery.

- Optimal for smaller pilot or large-scale events
- Small administrative fee covers GSNEO staff support for event marketing and registration

*Please note:* The minimum recommended time to complete a badge during a program is at least two hours. Some badges may require more time than this.

- Event details must be submitted at minimum 10 weeks in advance of the event date or prior to the program guide publication deadlines.
- Events must be exclusive to our members and not open for other participants outside of Girl Scouts.

#### **Resource Partners**

Our Resource Partners fall in one of two categories: a *Vendor Partner*, which offers membership perks (i.e. Girl Scout discount at an event) and *Badge Boss*, which is a subject matter expert that would like to provide a free educational experience for our Girl Scouts.

Vendor Partners must enhance the Girl Scout experience and support the Girl Scout Mission. The "membership perk" is an event or an ongoing opportunity that is open to the public and provides a discount or special offer to registered Girl Scout members and their families, such as sporting events, theater shows, or ongoing admission discounted tickets.

Badge Boss Partners must enhance the Girl Scout experience and support the Girl Scout Mission. They are subject matter experts offering a call to schedule or schedule on demand event for Girl Scouts. For a call to schedule / schedule on demand event, troops reach out directly to the subject matter expert to coordinate a time and date for their event. If offering a badge or patch, the event must be approved by GSNEO's Girl Experience team.

#### How it works:

- Partners are posted to our Community Resource page on our website that is utilized by troop volunteers to find program resources and events in their local area.
- Events and resources are subject to approval.
- Organizations will agree to communicate quarterly with numbers reflecting Girl Scout usage of discount.

#### Provided for you:

• Event Promotion to over 25,000 GSNEO members and their families .

To become a program partner, please submit a community partner application.

## Volunteer

It's always the right time to make a difference—as a Girl Scout volunteer. Help Girl Scouts find their voice. Whether you have a few hours, a few weeks, or a few months to give, volunteering with Girl Scouts is flexible, fun, and meaningful. You don't have to have a child of your own to get involved; all you need is a passion for mentoring the next generation of leaders. GSNEO is ready to get you started!

#### **Continuous Volunteer Opportunities**

Volunteers work directly with girls, bringing the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to life. They provide support and inspiration – giving girls the tools to solve problems and bounce back when faced with challenges. To become involved with a troop, <u>click here</u> or visit gsneo.org/volunteer.

- Troop Leader/Co-Leader
- Troop Supporter
- Product Program Manager
- Service unit Team

#### **Episodic Volunteering**

Short term opportunities for individuals, volunteer groups, or organizations.

Year round, volunteers help our organization run smoothly and give our Girl Scouts the best experience possible. Whether you're assembling gift bags, unloading cookie trucks, sharing your knowledge in a workshop, or clearing trails at camp, we're grateful for your time, hard work, and dedication!

Both individuals and organizations can join our Get Connected platform to view all current and future opportunities. Sign up for shifts as often as you would like and get weekly newsletters offering new volunteer opportunities. You may choose individual categories of interest or select all of them:

- Girl Programs Help our Girl Scouts earn badges, learn new skills, stay safe at events, and have fun!
- Special Events Help make our special events successful! Volunteers assist with check-in,

- parking, seating, activity stations, event set up, clean up, and more!
- Adult Facilitation Take one of our training courses to become a specialized volunteer!
   Teach Girl Scouts skills such as archery, low ropes, canoe, air riflely, and more—or become a camp coach!
- Administrative & Property Support Help keep things running smoothly in the office and at camp! Administrative support involves activities such as helping sort patches, assemble binders, organize materials, making phones calls, and more. Property Support helps keep our camps beautiful and ready for our members to utilize. Volunteer activities could involve, but are not limited to, spreading mulch or gravel, trail clearing, painting, clearing trails, invasive species removal, and more.

#### Group and corporate volunteering

We are excited to offer group volunteering opportunities to local organizations and current partners! First consideration will be granted to our funding partners with Changemaker, Champion, and Groundbreaker status. Volunteer opportunities are located at one of our offices or camp properties. Offices are located in Macedonia, Lorain, North Canton, and Youngstown. Camp properties are located in Peninsula, Wakeman, and Kinsman.

- Date and time must be approved 90 days prior to volunteer event. Camp opportunities are unavailable during the peak summer camp times from approximately June 10 – August 15.
- Final volunteer headcount required 14 days before volunteer date.
- Names and email addresses of all volunteers must register in our Get Connected platform.



Learn more about our group volunteer needs by scanning the QR code below.

Scan the QR Code with your smarphone's camera to access our Get Connected site.



# **Funding Partners**

Our Funding Partners are companies and organizations within Northeast Ohio who support the ongoing work of GSNEO through a financial commitment. Investing in Girl Scouts demonstrates your commitment to building a strong and inclusive female leadership pipeline, so all girls can make their own choices, take healthy risks, explore their curiosities, and become resilient leaders. It allows us to be flexible and meet the needs of all communities through customized program delivery to provide the best leadership development experience to girls.

#### **Specialized Patch Program**

Together with GSNEO staff, Corporate Partners have the unique opportunity to co-design and brand Girl Scout patches and curricula around topics that are of importance to them and that align with at least one of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience's four educational pillars: STEM, Life Skills, Entrepreneurship, and the Outdoors. More than 18,000 Girl Scouts from all over Northeast Ohio can complete the activities associated with each new Patch Program and proudly wear their newly earned patch on their official Girl Scout uniform.

For our specialized patch programming, we have two options available to our partners:

- One-year, \$25,000 investment
- Two-year, \$50,000 investment

The investment into the specialized Patch Program accounts for program staff time to collaborate directly with you to create custom curriculum, as well as the design and creation of the patch for the program.

#### **Year-Long Program Sponsor**

As a Year-Long Program Sponsor of GSNEO, your investment ensures that Girl Scouts across Northeast Ohio have access to enriching experiences, skill-building activities, and opportunities for personal growth. Packages range from a \$5,000-100,000 yearly investment.

Our year-long sponsorship packages include a variety of benefits that may\* include:

- Event sponsorship recognition
- Group volunteering opportunities
- Advertising in our Fall and/or Spring Program Guide
- Marketing opportunities
- GSNEO website promotion

\*The above benefits are not guaranteed for all sponsorship levels. Please refer to our Year-Long Sponsorship Information Packet for sponsorship level benefits breakdown chart.

#### Girl Scout Leadership Experience Pillar Sponsor

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) provides the foundation for all we do. It is the core of our program and encompasses everything from the Girl Scout Promise and Law to our badges, activities, and Journeys. At Girl Scouts, everything centers around the girl—it's what makes Girl Scouts truly unique. With a focus on girl-led programming and activities, girls have the opportunity to take on leadership roles and learn-by-doing in a safe, fun, and cooperative environment.

Girl Scouts who take part in activities from the four program pillars – STEM, Outdoors, Entrepreneurship, and Life Skills – gain opportunities to try new things by working together and learning through hands-on activities.

Becoming a GSLE Pillar Sponsor will directly support programing costs associated with running pillar-related activities and curriculum throughout the membership year (October 1 – September 30). The sponsorship starts at a \$10,000 investment and can be designated towards one or more of the GSLE pillars.

#### **Girl Champion Sponsor**

At Girl Scouts, we strive to say "yes" to every girl because every girl has the power to change the world. Just as there is more than one way to be a leader, there is more than one way to be a Girl Scout. By collaborating with local organizations, GSNEO offers staff-led troops that meet Girl Scouts where they are: at schools, housing developments, libraries, and clubs. Staff-led troops are provided at no cost to participants and hosted in areas of our community where the majority of Girl Scouts are from under-resourced and low-income families. Ensuring equal access to Girl Scouts and enabling Girl Scouts to explore STEM, financial

literacy, healthy living, and the outdoors is essential and cannot be done without our corporate and foundation support.

To learn more about our corporate funding partner opportunities please email Elizabeth Wagner at ewagner@gsneo.org

