



Welcome!



Welcome to the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan (GSHOM) Donor Newsletter! We know it is important for you to stay up to date on what is going on at GSHOM. By reading our quarterly newsletter, you will hear stories from local girls, and see how your support impacts local girls in our communities.

Because of generous donors like you, 679 girls created lasting friendships at overnight camp this summer. Because of your continued support, 629 girls, volunteers, and caregivers made new memories together at troop and family camp. Because of your commitment to the next generation of leaders, 247 girls learned new skills at day camp. You are the key to bringing life-changing opportunities for girls to spend time in the great outdoors, where they can try new things, take risks, fail, and try again until they get it just right. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your continued support of our mission to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

Women of Distinction Recognition Banquet

Women of Distinction

Wednesday, October 11, 2023



Mark your calendars for October 11, 2023! The Women of Distinction recognition banquet is back!

The Women of Distinction Event is a recognition and fundraising dinner that celebrates and honors outstanding women for their professional accomplishments, service to others, and impact on their community. Honorees are chosen based on professional/community leadership, professional/community service, being a strong role model for girls, and community visibility. These women have distinguished themselves through their leadership, extraordinary contributions to their community, and, most importantly, by exemplifying the Girl Scout mission.

This fun-filled celebration brings together family, friends, and acquaintances to recognize a group of purpose-driven leaders in business, government, education, and philanthropy who, like our girls, are dedicated to service and leadership. The banquet will take place Wednesday, October 11, beginning at 6:00 PM. It will be held at the American 1 Event Center in Jackson, MI.

Tickets are available for purchase at our [website](#). The cost is \$40 for an individual ticket or \$350 for a table of 8.

Please make it a priority to join us to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of women in our community.

2024 Cookie Bake-off Benefit

Cookie Bake-off Benefit



You are the main ingredient in our recipe to ensure that all girls can participate in Girl Scouts. Local area chefs will put their culinary talents to the test—as they use Girl Scout Cookies to design never-before-seen (or eaten) creations—for you to sample. You do not want to miss tasting these delicious treats!

Save the date for Wednesday, March 6. Be on the lookout for more information on our [website!](#)

Staff Spotlight: Lyah VanSickle - Chief Development Officer



“Girl Scouts isn’t about crafts at all. Girl Scouts is about girls discovering themselves, connecting with others, and taking action in their communities. I work at Girl Scouts to ensure all girls get the opportunities to try new things and build courage, confidence, and character!”

- Lyah.

Lyah was not a Girl Scout as a kid because she thought it was all about crafts, and she wasn’t good at crafts. She wishes she knew then what she knows now about Girl Scouts. Lyah worked as an accountant as an adult, and someone asked her to attend a Girl Scout meeting. Her first thought was, “Oh no, I am not good at crafts.” The person then explained that Girl Scouts is not about crafts at all, and they needed her to go to a Girl Scout meeting to teach Daisy Girl Scouts about budgets for cookies. She instantly learned Girl Scouts isn’t about crafts at all but about girls discovering themselves, connecting with others, and taking action in their communities. Lyah now works at Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan to ensure all girls get the opportunity to try new things and

build courage, confidence, and character! She has built her own courage, confidence, and character by working with GSHOM. Before starting with us, Lyah was not a fan of travel. After 12 years, she travels all over by herself, visiting multiple places she would never have explored.

Amazon to Discontinue AmazonSmile

Earlier this year, we were notified that Amazon is discontinuing their AmazonSmile program. This program allowed Amazon shoppers to choose a non-profit close to their hearts that would receive a portion of the profits made from their purchase. With the loss of this charitable program, Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan is losing out on precious resources that allow us to provide life-changing programming for girls. If you're interested in supporting Girl Scouts on a regular basis as we make up for the loss of AmazonSmile contributions, check out our monthly giving option! At the link below, select "recurring gift" and then "monthly" frequency.

[Monthly Giving Options »](#)

Planned Giving

Is it time to consider having a will or trust set up? You bet! Remember, if you do not have something set up, state laws will determine who will inherit your assets upon your death. State laws will not include any charity as a beneficiary.

Consider naming Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan as a beneficiary in your trust? The gift could be a set dollar amount, a percentage, the remainder after other gifts are made, or a gift of the estate if designated heirs are deceased.

To participate in planned giving, or for more information, reach out to Lyah Vansickle, Chief Development Officer, via email at lvansickle@gshom.org or by phone at 517-742-4707.

Another Way to Support GSHOM

Did you know there are ways to support GSHOM at absolutely no extra cost to you? Here is a simple way to support GSHOM by just doing your day to day shopping!

Kroger Community Rewards: Kroger Community Rewards is another simple

way to give back to GSHOM! Simply create a digital account at Kroger.com and search GSHOM. Once you choose your cause to give back to, link your Shopper's Card to your account so all transactions apply towards Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan. In 2021 we raised \$623.45 with Kroger Community Rewards! Lets get that number to \$1000 for 2022.



Have a question? Don't be shy!
[Contact us](#) for more information.