



Welcome!



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

Gold Award Spotlight: Samantha M.

A graphic with a yellow background and a green border at the bottom. On the left is a circular gold award seal with a photo of Samantha M. and the text "GOLD AWARD" at the top and "GIRL SCOUT" at the bottom. To the right of the seal is a large gold trefoil symbol with radiating lines. Further right is a quote in gold text: "After each theater show, the costume pile grows, and the costumes crew runs out of space in the closet. For my Gold Award, I created a new organizational system for the closet allowing all future costume crew personal to easily find and locate an item." Below the quote is the name "- Samantha.M" in gold.

GOLD AWARD
GIRL SCOUT

“After each theater show, the costume pile grows, and the costumes crew runs out of space in the closet. For my Gold Award, I created a new organizational system for the closet allowing all future costume crew personal to easily find and locate an item.”

- Samantha.M

Did you earn your Gold Award? If so, please let us know! The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. Once achieved, it shows colleges, employers, and your community that girls are out there changing the world! Gold Award Girl Scouts

plan and execute incredible projects that have sustainable impacts on their communities.

Samantha's Gold Award

After each theater show, the costume pile grows, and the costumes crew runs out of space in the storage area. They pack costumes wherever they can find space. Samantha loves costumes and knew that she wanted to help reorganize the costumes crew storage area, something it desperately needed. For her Gold Award, she created a new organizational system for the closet. To implement her plan, she and her crew went through every costume piece, fabric, and accessory, sorting them into a keep, donate, and recycle categories. Then, every remaining piece was categorized and stored allowing all future costume crew personnel to easily find and locate an item.

Mackinac Island Governor's Island Honor Guard



Mackinac Island Scouts Service Camp has been active since 1934 when the soldiers left the fort and Scouts took over fort service. The program runs all summer long, and since 1974, the weeks have been split between Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts providing service to the State of Michigan.

GSHOM has two troops: Troop 609 which serves early August for seven days, and Troop 7901 which serves late August for 10 days. Service on the island includes being a docent in the fort, learning and sharing Michigan/Mackinac history and trivia with visitors, raising and lowering 47 flag posts on the island each day, and doing several community service projects while on the island for the Mackinac State Historic Parks. The program is 100% girl-led. While participating, the girls learn history, flag etiquette, responsibility, leadership, community service, and commitment all while having a great time on a

beautiful historic island.
Written by: Jackie Jeffery, Troop 7901 Director

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 at your death. State laws will not include any charity as a beneficiary.

Consider naming Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan as a beneficiary in your will or living 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 to get more details, reach out to Lyah Vansickle, Chief Development Officer at lvansickle@gshom.org or 517-742-4707.

Girl Scout Cookies



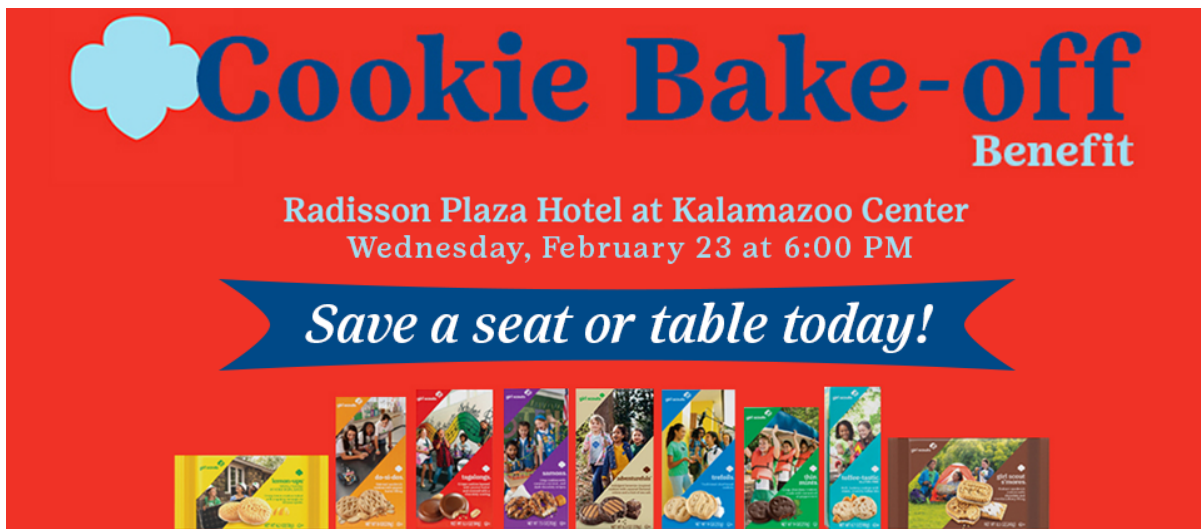
It's cookie time! Don't miss out on getting cookies from local girls. Girls will be out in your local communities selling cookies at outdoor booths and online. Find cookie booths online by visiting our [website](#).

Through the Girl Scout Cookie Program, girls learn five skills – goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. These skills help girls

during their whole life. Support a girl running a business that will teach her lifelong lessons. Many women we visit in corner offices say the Girl Scout Cookie Program was the first business they ran.

Find cookies near you!

Girl Scout Cookie Bake-Off Benefit



Right around the corner is our Girl Scout Cookie Bake-Off Benefit in Kalamazoo! Bake-Off takes place at 6:00 PM on February 23, 2022, at the Radisson Hotel at 100 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI, 49007.

You are the main ingredient in our recipe to giving girls in our communities the opportunity to be Girl Scouts. Local area chefs will put their culinary talents to the test—as they use Girl Scout Cookies to create never-before-seen (or eaten) creations—for you to sample. Your small bites will make a big impact.

By sponsoring and attending, you will ensure our Community Outreach Program helps all our girls become Girl Scouts. The Community Outreach Program provides a safe place, and various resources, to girls in underserved communities. Together, we can bring the benefits of Girl Scouting to all girls!

We will be doing things a little differently this year! Along with implementing COVID-19 precautions to ensure all our guests feel safe and comfortable, we will also be offering our silent auction online as well as in person. The auction will be open from 12:00 PM to 7:30 PM on the day of the event. All bidding will be done on the online platform, so if

you aren't able to make it to the event, you can still bid! Check out some of the awesome packages we have up for grabs this year, and remember, things are being added daily!

Get your ticket or table today!

Other Ways to Support GSHOM

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

AmazonSmile: AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support GSHOM every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. Simply log into smile.amazon.com and select Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan! Amazon will in return donate 0.5% of the purchase price from customers' eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organizations they select. In 2021, we raised \$958.64 with the AmazonSmile program! Help us raise that number to \$2,000 for 2022.

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 GSHOM. In 2021, we raised \$623.45 with Kroger Community Rewards! Let's get that number to \$1,000 for 2022.

NEW! Direct Your Dollars Program: Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan is partnering with SpartanNash to participate in the Direct Your Dollars Program! Save your D&W Fresh, Family Fare, VG's, and Martin's Super Market receipts! Every dollar raised helps us move our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place, forward. Direct Your Dollars is a receipt-based program, meaning that we can raise money simply by doing something we all do each week – going to the grocery store.

Every time you shop at your local D&W Fresh, Family Fare, VG's, and Martin's Super Market store, save your receipts – and encourage your friends and family to do the same. Once we've collected \$150,000 in receipts from these stores, we can turn those slips of paper into a \$1,000 check for GSHOM!

To reach our goal of \$150,000 in receipts, we'll be collecting eligible receipts in each of our Regional Centers. Please make sure you drop off the original receipt – that's how we earn our \$1,000 check. If you aren't able to drop your receipts off in person, you can also mail them to 601 W. Maple St. Kalamazoo, MI 49008.



Have a question? Don't be shy!
Contact us for more information.