

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Donor Newsletter



Welcome to the February 2021 edition of the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Donor Newsletter! This is a great way to stay up to date with what's going on at Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, hear stories from local girls, and see the impact you've made on our communities. The newsletter will hit your inbox every quarter, so keep an eye out!

Gold Award Spotlight



The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. Once achieved, it shows colleges, employees, and communities that Girl Scouts are out there changing the world! Gold Award Girl Scouts plan and execute incredible projects with sustainable impacts on their communities.

Madelyn's passion for helping others led her to come up with a way to help local foster families. Her Girl Scout Gold Award addressed the lack of resources available to help foster families. She helped the community by providing information and awareness about the foster system and what people can do to help. She addressed the lack of resources by having donation drives and blanket-making get-togethers. Madelyn describes her most rewarding moments happening while she was at the Washtenaw County Foster Closet and seeing the families benefit from her hard work. Congratulations, Madelyn!

.....Monthly Giving.....

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan is excited to be rolling out a NEW monthly giving program! A monthly gift allows our supporters to spread the financial impact of their giving across the entire year, and makes the commitment more manageable for your budget. These monthly gifts are specified amounts that are automatically paid each month.

For as low as \$19.12 per month, you can celebrate the founder of Girl Scouts, Juliette Gordon Low, who started the Girl Scout movement in 1912. Each monthly gift helps girls experience a lifetime of leadership, success, and adventure in a safe environment. Looking to make a bigger impact? Become a GSHOM Society Member! GSHOM Monthly Giving Society Members are those giving \$1,000 or more spread out over 12 months. These individuals get to enjoy exclusive perks like tickets to annual events, Girl Scout swag, special acknowledgements, and more!

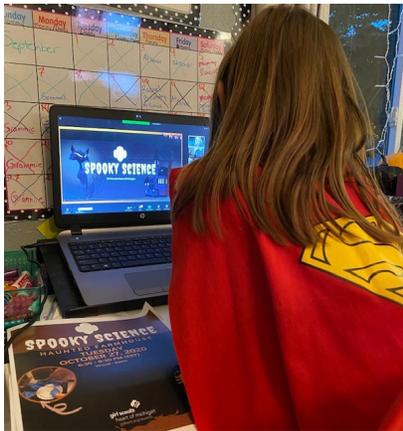
Will you support Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan all year long? To participate in monthly giving, please select "other amount" and enter your monthly gift. Then select "recurring donation" to have your donation automatically processed each month.

Other Ways to Give

Did you know there are ways to support Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan at absolutely no extra cost to you? Here are a few simple ways to support Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan while doing your day-to-day shopping!

- **AmazonSmile** is a simple way for you to support Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan every time you shop. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com 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 - Grand Ledge, MI. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from customers' eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organizations they select.
- **iGive** is essentially a store rebate program where iGive members have the opportunity to donate their rebate to their chosen cause. You can shop directly from [iGive.com](https://www.igive.com) by searching participating stores or by downloading the iGive button.
- **Kroger Community Rewards** is another simple way to give back to Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan! Simply create a digital account at [kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com) and search Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan - Grand Ledge, MI. Once you choose your cause, link your shopper's card to your account so all transactions apply towards Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan.

What do troops look like during the COVID-19 Pandemic?



As adults, it's understandable for us to get wrapped up in our own challenges and hardships and forget about those struggling around us. Throughout this rollercoaster of a year, we've recognized that girls need us now more than ever. Almost a year ago, they had no idea it was going to be their last time in school or their last time seeing their friends and extended family for months. Girls were feeling the effects of isolation, and what better way to battle the blues than with Girl Scouts!

Along with virtual camp and programs, many troops hosted virtual troop meetings. It was a great way for girls to have an outlet and interact with their friends. Troops completed badge work along with planning fun virtual activities like scavenger hunts and art projects. One troop even had a girl plan a virtual field trip to share with her troop!



Once things settled down a bit this summer and fall, many troops began to have outdoor, socially-distanced meetings so that they could see each other in person and safely interact. Troops began to get creative, using hula hoops and cones to make sure the girls stayed socially distanced. One troop used buckets, filled with all the materials for the meeting, and spaced them out where the girls would sit. When the weather started getting colder, the troops switched back to their virtual meetings. We're looking forward to everyone being able to get together again!





Join the guest list!

WINE & GIRL SCOUT COOKIE PAIRING



Due to the unknowns around COVID-19, Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan will not be hosting our annual Bake-Off and Backyard BBQ Events in 2021. However, we are thrilled to be rolling out two new virtual events this year! In place of in-person events, we will be partnering with St. Julian Winery for a virtual wine & Girl Scout cookie pairing event on Thursday, April 22 and 6:00 PM! Enjoy this fun-filled night from the comfort of your home with a St. Julian Winery Wine Consultant as they present a curated wine and Girl Scout Cookie pairing. Like sweet wine? Like dry wine? We have kits for everyone! Find the perfect match of wine to appreciate Thin Mints and Samoas a little more than we already do. Can't decide? Get multiple kits from St. Julian Winery delivered right to your doorstep! Don't miss out, purchase directly from St. Julian at:

www.stjulian.com/girl-scout-cookie-pairing

Along with the wine pairing, we will be hosting a virtual auction that you won't want to miss! Bidding opens on Monday, April 19 at 7:00 AM and closes Sunday, April 25 at 11:45 PM. The auction will feature amazing packages like an African Safari with Kalamazoo Safari Company, Northern Michigan cabin stays, wine tours, golf, local dining packages and more! All auction proceeds go towards moving the Girl Scout mission forward, one girl at a time!



Coming this fall, we will host our second virtual event: a craft beer and nuts & candy tasting! Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to the event.