

Your Gift at Work: February Edition



Welcome to the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan (GSHOM) Donor Newsletter! This month, girls are working towards their goals through the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Girl Scout Cookies are so much more than a yummy treat – the Cookie Program is the largest girl-led business in the world! It is a vital component of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Girls are learning Five Essential Skills when they participate in the Cookie Program. Read more about those below! When you buy a box of Girl Scout Cookies, you know that you are not only getting a sweet treat, but you are helping girls achieve their goals and helping them set the building blocks to a more equitable future.

Find a cookie booth near you with our **Cookie Finder!**

Stay tuned for quarterly updates to see the impact of Girl Scouting!



Gold Award Spotlight: Rebecca Aiello

Troop 80443, Portage

Mental Health Awareness

Rebecca successfully raised awareness for different mental health disorders. She did this by going to different schools to give presentations and uploading a recorded version online. She worked with Portage Public Schools for this project. For her, the most rewarding thing was seeing the positive impact she made in these kids lives.

Becca graduated from Portage Northern High School in 2023. She is currently studying nursing at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo with hopes of someday becoming a pediatric nurse practitioner. She is also a part of Western's Lee Honors College and is a foundation scholarship recipient.



We are so excited to invite you to our favorite night of the year, our annual **Girl Scout Cookie Bake-Off**!

Thursday, March 6, 2025
 Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center
 100 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007
 6:00 PM

You are the main ingredient in our recipe for giving girls in our communities the opportunity to be Girl Scouts. Local 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. Come and try their creations, vote for your favorites, and have the chance to win exciting auction prizes.

By attending, you will help to ensure that all girls have the chance to become girls of courage, confidence, and character through Girl Scouts. Together, we can bring the benefits of Girl Scouting to all girls! Your small bites will make a big impact.

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Girl Scouts Are Going "Behind the Box"

Girl Scouts learn the Five Essential Skills when they sell cookies!

1)Goal Setting

Girl Scouts learn how to set goals and create a plan to reach them.

2)Decision Making

Girl Scouts learn to make decisions on their own and as a team.



3) Money Management

Girl Scouts learn how to create a budget and handle money.

4) People Skills

Girl Scouts find their voice and build confidence through customer interactions.

5) Business Ethics

Girl Scouts learn to act ethically, both in business and in life.

Behind the Box is in full swing! Girl Scouts across Michigan have already started going on air on TV and radio, sharing the excitement of Cookie Season. These young leaders are talking about the benefits of the cookie program, where you can find cookies, and how they use their proceeds to fund community service projects, leadership opportunities, and more. Be sure to tune in to your local station – you might just hear from a Girl Scout or troop near you!



Melina and MJ went Behind the Box at WILX News 10



Sydney from Troop 80409 went Behind the Box on 98.5



Troop 30457 went Behind the Box at Q106 FM

Donor Spotlight: Dr. Miriam Daly's 100th Birthday

Dr. Miriam Daly, a lifetime Girl Scout and champion of Girl Scouting in the Irish Hills area, celebrated her 100th birthday last month. Dr. Daly is a former President of the Irish Hills Girl Scout Council before the council realignment in 2008 created Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan.

Dr. Daly practiced medicine in Albion from 1955 to 1994, taking care of thousands of patients. While raising her four children in Albion, she found there were no Girl Scout troops for her daughter, Martha, to join. Dr. Daly took charge and started a troop for her daughter and was a Girl Scout Troop Leader for 15 years before becoming the President of the Irish Hills Council after her retirement.



Dr. Miriam and her family celebrated her 100th birthday with a special viewing of the Wizard of Oz and a reception, where she encouraged guests to dress up as characters from the movie. Check out her red ruby slippers in homage to Dorothy! Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan offers our warmest wishes to Dr. Daly on her 100th year of life! Thank you, Dr. Daly, for being a role model to girls and helping us to change girls' lives through Girl Scouting!

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, the 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: lvansickle@gshom.org | 517-742-4707



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