

Annual Report

# Life Ready

October 2023 - September 2024





## A Message From the CEO

You know her. She's that quiet girl in the back of the classroom. Put her in a Girl Scout troop, and something magical happens. Over time, she's learning to use her voice, to work with others, and to respect and accommodate others' needs while she speaks up for her own.

This transformation isn't magic—it's the Girl Scout difference.

When a girl joins a troop and finds herself surrounded by friends who cheer her on, she tries things she never thought she could do, like programming a robot or camping under the stars. When she succeeds, her confidence soars. When she fails, she learns that setbacks are just stepping stones to success.

Through cookie season, she discovers she can talk to anyone about anything. That skill? It's going to help her nail job interviews and lead business meetings. When she earns badges in science and technology, she stops thinking of these fields as "not for girls" and starts seeing them as exciting career possibilities.

But the real beauty of Girl Scouts? It's about more than just learning new skills. It's about becoming the kind of person who sees a problem and thinks, "I can fix that." The kind of person who brings others along on the journey. The kind of person who makes the world a better place.

Because Girl Scouts isn't just about who she is today—it's about who she'll become tomorrow. And Girl Scouts are life ready.

Thank you to every caregiver, volunteer, community partner, and donor who commits their time, talent, and treasure to support Girl Scouts of Central Texas.

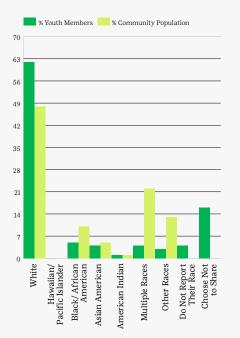
Sincerely,

Paula Bookidis Chief Executive Officer Girl Scouts of Central Texas

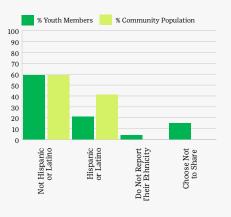
# Members' Race and Ethnicity

Girl Scouts of Central Texas (GSCTX) is committed to building an environment where diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging are shared values among all Girl Scouts. Girl Scouts is a community where everyone can make the world a better place while embracing their own leadership experience.

#### **Racial Representation**



#### **Ethnic Representation**



# **Our Mission**

Building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.



# **Our Members**

12,865

Total Girl Scouts Served

10,510

Total Adult Members

2,190 Troop and Service Unit Leader Volunteers

# 2,395

Girl Scouts Served Through School and Partner Programs



of Central Texas Girl Scouts Have Confidence in Themselves and Their Abilities\*

"Girl Scouts makes me feel that I can do a lot more things in the world."

–Junior Girl Scout\*

"Growing up in Girl Scouts gave me opportunities to discover my interests, shape my worldview, and lead others in sisterhood, vitally shaping how I tackle challenges on a large scale, and in my everyday life."

> – Alexandra G., Recent Girl Scout Alum and Gold Award Girl Scout

\* Girl Scouts Voices Count 2024, an annual survey of Girl Scout youth members, caregivers, and volunteers.

## **Our Programming**



of caregivers say Girl Scouts gives their child experiences they would not have had otherwise.\*

"I love that she is exposed to so many new experiences, explores various skills, and learns new things."

- Girl Scout Caregiver\*

"My daughter loves the outdoors, protecting the environment, and connecting with her friends. I love the leadership, life skill building, and independence."

- Girl Scout Caregiver\*

72%

of caregivers say Girl Scouts was a great learning experience for their child.\*

STEM	Outdoors	Life Skills	Entrepreneurship
<b>Benefit:</b> Girl Scouts increase their confidence in STEM	<b>Benefit:</b> Girl Scouts develop connections with the natural world	<b>Benefit:</b> Girl Scouts form positive identities	<b>Benefit:</b> Girl Scouts learn goal-setting skills
<b>6,335</b> council-led experiences	<b>2,490</b> council-led experiences	<b>3,924</b> council-led experiences	<b>7,937</b> members gained business skills through the Girl Scout Cookie Program
<b>7,906</b> badges, journeys, and patches earned	<b>9,166</b> badges, journeys, and patches earned	<b>16,732</b> badges, journeys, and patches earned	<b>6,225</b> badges, journeys, and patches earned

Girl Scouts across Central Texas earned 40,029 badges, journeys, and patches during our 2024 membership year, gaining experience and hands-on practice with team building, problem solving, coding, camping, cultural awareness, fostering positive relationships, helping their communities, and more.

#### When She Explores, Her World Gets Bigger

#### What Central Texas Girl Scouts Do\*

**92%** Earn patches or badges

**72%** Try lots of different activities

> **68%** Go on field trips

**71%** Participate in community service or volunteering

64% Enjoy the outdoors and camping

> **50%** Go on overnight trips

<sup>\*</sup> Girl Scouts Voices Count 2024, an annual survey of Girl Scout youth members, caregivers, and volunteers.

# Volunteers Make It Happen

They're more than volunteers. They're dream-builders, confidence-boosters, and future-shapers. Our volunteers create safe spaces where girls discover their potential.

*"I am especially grateful for my troop leaders who always believed in me and continually pushed me forward,"* says Mia S., whose journey to confident leader exemplifies the transformative power of great mentorship.

#### The Challenge We Face

Volunteer rates across the United States have declined steadily for a decade. Yet the need for strong role models has never been greater. That's why in 2024, Girl Scouts of Central Texas took action to strengthen our volunteer support system.

#### **Reimagining Leadership Support**

Our commitment to volunteers includes:

- A streamlined, intuitive new troop leader
  onboarding process
- Enhanced resources and training materials
- New Troop Coach mentorship guidelines
- · Peer support networks organized by service unit size

These changes aren't just about making volunteering easier—they're about empowering our leaders to change lives.

"Teaching me and my troop how to devote ourselves to every activity, even ones that didn't seem important at first, taught us perseverance and responsibility," reflects Ashlyn S., whose troop leader helped shape her character through seemingly simple weekly activities.

#### Looking Forward

As we move into 2025, we're doubling down on volunteer support. Because when troop leaders feel supported, girls thrive.





### **Because of Girl Scouts**

+68% build confidence\*

### +**49**%

seek challenges\*

## +69%

act ethically and show concern for others\*

### +53%

communicate feelings and resolve conflicts constructively\*



"Before I was in Girl Scouts, I was an extremely shy person who could not stand up for myself. After being a Girl Scout, I was able to learn more about how to be independent and confident in my abilities."

> – Ayesha H., Recent Girl Scout Alum

# **Community Problem Solvers**

## 71%

of Girl Scouts in Central Texas engage in community service and volunteering.\*



Girl Scouts are 29% more likely than their non-Girl Scout peers to engage in community problem-solving.\*

"The Girl Scout program has helped me understand the importance of being a part of the local community. Throughout Girl Scouts, I have been involved with many Take Action Projects to confidently say I have made a lasting impact on my community."

– Ashlyn S., Gold Award Girl Scout

<sup>\*</sup> Girl Scouts Voices Count 2024, an annual survey of Girl Scout youth members, caregivers, and volunteers.

# **Higher Awards**

Girl Scouts are encouraged to go above and beyond to make a difference in their community and the greater world. The skills and experiences girls gain along the way set them up for special recognition through the Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards.



**Bronze Award** 



5,220

Girl Scouts Awarded





#### Silver Award

152

7,600

Girl Scouts Awarded

Hours of Community Problem Solving



#### **Gold Award**



1,520

Girl Scouts Awarded

19

Hours of Community Problem Solving

# The Timeless Magic of Girl Scout Camp



For over a century, Girl Scout camp has been a rite of passage—a place where girls push their limits, test their resilience, and discover the transformative power of nature.

#### 75 Years at Camp Texlake

In 1949, the first Girl Scouts arrived at Camp Texlake, our now 455-acre oasis on the shores of Lake Travis. Since then, tens of thousands of girls have swum, hiked, roasted marshmallows over the fire, and learned to navigate the great outdoors with the support of our camp counselors.





#### A New Chapter at Bluebonnet Shores

This year, we celebrated the rededication of our camp on Lake Belton as Bluebonnet Shores Girl Scout Camp—a name chosen by the very girls we serve. It's a powerful symbol of our commitment to expanding access to the transformative experience of Girl Scout camp.

#### The Lasting Impact

In 2024 alone, over 6,000 girls engaged with our camp programs, leaving with memories, friendships, and life skills that will propel them forward. In fact, girls who attend camp are 49 percent more likely to remain active in Girl Scouts the following year. The confidence, resilience, and sense of community they gain are invaluable.

As we look to the future, we're doubling down on making outdoor experiences as accessible as possible. Because for generations of Girl Scouts, camp has been a place to find their true selves—and we're not about to stop that tradition.

# **Statement of Activities**



#### Statement of Financial Position

(September 30, 2024 - Audited)

#### Assets

Current Assets	\$13,200,097
Fixed Assets	\$5,715,811
Restricted Investments	\$1,578,109
Total Assets	\$20,494,017
Liabilities	
Current	\$1,306,806
Long Term	\$351,495
Total Liabilities	\$1,658,301

#### **Net Assets**

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$20,494,017
Total Net Assets	\$18,835,716
With Donor Restrictions	\$1,888,015
Without Donor Restrictions	\$16,947,701



# Expanding Opportunities for More Girls



Living just 10 minutes from a major Texas university, some girls in Austin never imagine themselves in college.

"I attend a magnet school in a different part of town. The kids at my school take college prep classes and join activities I've never even heard of. In my neighborhood, we don't get those resources," says Margareth, a local high school student and member of Girl Scouts Gamma Sigma program.



#### Girl Scouts is changing that story.

Through our Gamma Sigma program, we're not just showing girls college is possible—we're helping them get there:

- Hands-on career and college exploration that helps girls understand their options
- Leadership activities that build college resumes
- Campus visits that make college feel real

"Most of these girls will be the first in their family to go to college," says Irma, a Gamma Sigma troop leader. "Education is the key to everything."

> "Because of Girl Scouts, we can go to college and pave a future our families never knew was possible. You don't have a choice when you don't know your options. We should have a choice to go to college "

> > – Margareth

#### **Community Programs**

#### Investment

Total	\$992,495
Tech Girls	\$109,515
SISTERS	\$193,160
Girl Scouts Beyond Bars	\$98,079
Gamma Sigma	\$97,600
Discovery Girls	\$494,141

#### **Financial Aid**

\$146.005
\$37,0945
\$16,000
\$14,622
\$961
\$66,465
\$10,862

# Girl Scouts of Central Texas Board of Directors

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> Annette Booker Board Vice Chair

Leslie Midgley Secretary

Felicia Wright Roark Treasurer

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### Donors

#### \$50,000+

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#### \$25,000-\$49,999

Cooper Foundation Wells Fargo Foundation

#### \$10,000-\$24,999

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#### \$1,000-\$4,999

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