

Girl Scouts Powering Our Promise

Girl Scouts' mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Right now, our mission is critical to the future of girls' leadership. Girls are facing unprecedented challenges such as school closures, the challenges of online education, and the isolation that comes with social distancing. They are coping with illness or fear of illness, and cancelled life milestones like prom or graduation. Some girls are feeling their families' financial stress as jobs are interrupted or terminated—currently more than 18 million people are receiving unemployment benefits. Moreover, girls are grappling with racial injustice and coming to understand their part in the future of social justice. It is truly an unparalleled moment in history. And the girls who are living through it now, are the leaders of tomorrow. It is imperative that we continue to be there for girls when they need us most and we address these challenges, so girls are better equipped for life. Girl Scouts offers a shelter in the storm—a place where girls can find community, solidarity, leadership opportunities, and fun, despite the challenging moment we are all collectively living through. Through Girl Scouts we help girls overcome setbacks and enable them to move forward with grit and resilience

With 111 councils that can reach girls in every residential zip code in the United States, 1.7million girl members, and 750,000 volunteers, Girl Scouts is the only American institution with the infrastructure, scale, and know-how to meet girls' needs right now. At Girl Scouts, we focus on community and sisterhood, on appreciating everyone's unique value, celebrating our differences, and on supporting one another through obstacles and conflict. We teach girls about how best to develop and maintain healthy relationships and trusting friendships. Our studies show that this whole child approach in Girl Scouts works. Alums report higher academic attainment and income, greater community service and civic engagement, and a stronger sense of self. In fact, 50% of female business leaders were Girl Scouts, 69% of female U.S. senators were Girl Scouts, and 100% of female U.S. secretaries of state were Girl Scouts!

As a resilient and nimble organization that has adjusted to meet the needs of girls for over a century, we responded swiftly and effectively to the impacts of COVID-19 by pausing all in-person Girl Scout programs. We transformed our delivery system to ensure girls can access our unique programs and experiences virtually, and we are using the strength and credibility of our organization to bridge gaps for families during this crisis. We are emphasizing three areas that are critical to girls' success right now: supporting girls' mental health, mitigating learning loss, and helping girls reflect the values of justice and fairness. We don't know what the next 100 years will look like, but we do know that right now we're giving girls the skills to be visionary doers, innovators, creators, and thinkers. That is why, even in the face of a global pandemic, we cannot stop. We cannot let girls down. We are choosing to look at the challenges we face right now as opportunities. To do this, we need the support of visionary leaders and philanthropists to help us provide and develop the programs that are most important to girls today. Girl Scouts can help girls discover their untapped potential and build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.girlscouts.org/>

To help, please visit: <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/adults/donate/donate.html>