



Dear Girl Scout Members,

Over the past few weeks, Girl Scouts have stepped up in amazing ways to stay connected, help one another, and make a difference in their communities. And our communities have in turn rallied around Girl Scouts. Following the suspension of door-to-door and cookie booth sales due to COVID-19, GSUSA launched the [Cookie Care program](#) where customers can continue to buy their favorite cookies for themselves as well as donate to those on the frontlines of relief efforts. Since the launch of the Cookie Care initiative, Girl Scouts nationwide have sold more than 1,000,000 boxes, including over 5,000 in our council.

Over 2,000 of those purchased packages here have been pledged to front line workers. The council staff has been busy making safe deliveries to our local heroes. Cookies have brightened the lives of staff at Hillcrest Hospital, St. Johns' Owasso, Broken Arrow and Sapulpa locations, St. Francis Hospital, the Tulsa Health Department and the Red Cross. The council has also pledged that this year's cookie sale program will not be a financial burden on troops or families.

Leaders and Girl Scouts in the council have been busy too; they are finding new ways to be Girl Scouts. Many troops have been meeting virtually. One troop held a virtual camp out where girls met on Zoom as they tent camped in their own back yards. Girls are connecting with their troop leaders and sister Girl Scouts and are continuing to work on badges. Girls in our Girl Scouts Beyond Bars troop are sending postcards to their moms as a way to connect because facility visits are curtailed. Girl Scouting will continue, as it has for over 108 year, no matter the circumstances.

The cancelation of Day Camp and Resident Camp was a painful decision for the Girl Scout family. Nothing means more to a Girl Scout than her time at camp. However, the safety of girls and staff has to be the top priority. Without a clear vision of what community transmission of the COVID-19 virus might look like this summer and the ability to provide appropriate safety protocols to protect everyone, there was only one right decision. However, because summer won't be the same without camp, the staff is working on virtual camp experiences that will mimic some of the experiences girls would have enjoyed at Day Camp. The Program staff can't wait to connect with the girls. If gathering restrictions

are lifted later this summer, the Program Department is also preparing to bring girls some exciting one-day outdoor experiences. Stay tuned for more information.

The council has launched [Girl Scouts At Home](#), a treasure trove of on-line activities where girls and families can do activities at home focused around the four pillars of programming. Daisies can earn their Considerate and Caring Badge. Brownies can go on a Trail Adventure. Juniors learn about Digital Game Design. Senior and Ambassadors become Space Science Masters. Only in Girl Scouts can a girl be safe in her home yet conquer her world. Plus, on Thursday nights, the council helps girls stay connected by holding a virtual camp fire where girls meet up and sing songs!

Not every Girl Scout has access to a high speed internet connection at home making it difficult for her to explore the exciting activities on the [Girl Scouts At Home](#) page. The council is developing activity booklets to mail these girls and their families so they too can stay connected when their troops aren't meeting or they can't connect virtually. The council continues to stay true to its commitment that every girl should have the opportunity to be a Girl Scout.

Quarantine shouldn't stop Girl Scout traditions. The Girl Scout Store can provide leaders and parents with bridging supplies for virtual ceremonies including badges, uniform components or a complete bridging kit. Shipping is free whether your order is by email, phone or on-line. Also available through the council store is GSEOK's [Girl Scout Strong 2020](#) t-shirt to commemorate this year's journey and help fund operations.

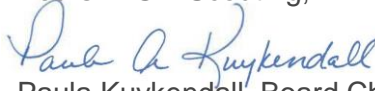
Sometime soon gathering restrictions will be over! The board is closely monitoring federal, state and local guidelines. The phased plan recently released by the President begins to give guidance on what will trigger the relaxation of current bans. Most restrictions will not be able to be removed at once. For example, small troop gatherings may be approved long before large council events or troop trips will be approved. This is uncharted territory. The health and safety of girls, volunteers and staff will always be the highest benchmark to make any decision

Once gathering restrictions are lifted, Girl Scouts will be unleashed, possibly stronger than before. Through the last few months cooperation and interaction between Girl Scouts of the USA and councils has been exemplary. GSEOK's Board of Directors has supported the council every step of the way. To-date, council staff has made more than 800 phone calls to council volunteers. Volunteers are reaching out to girls and families, to check in and connect during a time of isolation. Each of these

interactions makes the Girl Scout movement stronger, more connected to one another. Each of these interactions makes our world a better place.

All of the council staff, as well as the board, are always available if there is something that can be done to make your Girl Scout life a bit easier. If you don't know how to reach the person you're looking for, just call (1-800-707-9914) or send an email (customercare@gseok.org). Until then, stay healthy.

Yours in Girl Scouting,


Paula Kuykendall, Board Chair


Roberta D. Preston, President & CEO