

COVID-19 Message 3.16.20

Dear Volunteers, Members, Friends, and Supporters of Girls Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania:

Thank you for your ongoing flexibility as protective measures continue to be put in place to prevent the spread of COVID 19. Be assured that GSHPA is strongly abiding by the guidelines mandated by the CDC and Pennsylvania's emergency planning leadership.

GSHPA will be closing all offices, per Governor Wolf's recent announcement, beginning Tuesday, March 17 through March 27. While access to offices will be curtailed at this time, staff will be working remotely and *GSHPA remains open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. to support our volunteers and members, primarily through email.*

All members, volunteers, program partners and other GSHPA constituents can **email GSHPA** at -

MemberServices@gshpa.org

Secondly, all GSHPA Council-sponsored events, beginning Tuesday, March 17 through April 30 are cancelled. Registrants for any GSHPA-sponsored event will receive information from the DoubleKnot event registration system about your specific event.

Lastly, Girl Scout Cookie Booths and troop meetings or other troop-related activities are cancelled ONLY through March 27, in alignment with the school closing schedule. Be aware that this timeline may be extended, as we progress through the next two weeks.

GSHPA is dedicated to supporting the troops and ensuring they have the best cookie experience possible, so with this in mind:

We will be extending the program until April 30th.

This will allow troops more time to sell the extra packages from their Initial Order and/or any additional orders from cupboards. Please note that some Cookie Cupboards may close prior to April 30th, and the staff at GSHPA will keep everyone notified as we move forward.

There are still lots of other ways to be involved with the GSHPA Cookie Program and we hope that you'll take advantage of these opportunities to continue to build the important skills that girls learn during this time.

- **Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin:** Learn more about GSUSA's new [cookie pins here!](#)
- **Digital Cookie:** Girls can continue to run their business online until April 30th.
- **Gift of Caring:** Cookies donated online ship to Soldier's Angels for free. The troop does not have to manage packages & all donations are sent to military men, women and their families.
- **Cookie Rookie:** First time Cookie Seller? Learn from experienced sellers through the Cookie Rookie Program.
- **Cookie Captain:** If you've got a few Cookie Programs under your belt, share your skills with first time sellers through the Cookie Captain Program.

- The in-person girl delivery option is available in Digital Cookie so that customers may purchase Girl Scout Cookies online from a local Girl Scout with no shipping fee. We ask that these orders be delivered after the March 27th date.

Questions can be directed to your Volunteer Support Coordinator or by contacting Member Services at [1-800-692-7816](tel:1-800-692-7816).

Again, thank you for understanding that this situation is quickly evolving and GSHPA is trying to remain responsive so we can continue to serve our members and supporters.