

COVID-19 Message 3.26.20

Dear Members of Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA:

As all of us are adjusting to this unique environment, I want to take a moment to thank each and every girl, volunteer, parent and guardian, troop leader and supporter of GSHPA. We have heard so many stories about how Girl Scouts across our 30 counties are not only surviving this challenging period, but thriving and continuing to learn, grow, explore and accomplish! We'll be sharing those stories across our social media platforms over the next several weeks. Keep those great stories coming by submitting them to [Mission Moments](#).

In this update, I'd like to share important new information, additional resources and links to many more details. Be assured that we continue to update the availability of programs, activities and events in response to Governor Wolf's directives and CDC guidelines.

Regarding General Updates and New Information

There's new information about extended timelines regarding GSHPA programs and events at our [website landing page](#). Since we update the page daily; I encourage you to check it often.

Regarding Programs

With additional weeks off from school ahead, girls may be seeking more to do. All of the GSHPA staff have been working on developing [At Home Activities](#) and several are featured on our website. We're adding items weekly, so again, please check this page often.

Although the Gold Award Girl Scout event originally scheduled for May 16, 2020 has been cancelled, we are working on other ways to celebrate our amazing Gold Award Girl Scouts. And, a GSHPA Scholarship is available again for eligible Gold Award Girl Scouts! Please visit the [Higher Awards page](#) for more details about applying for the scholarship.

Regarding the Cookie Program

The GSHPA 2020 Cookie Program will be extended through May 31st. We are acutely aware that our Girl Scouts are some of the best innovators and goal getters in the world, despite these challenging times. To help Girl Scouts and Troops be the BEST GIRL Entrepreneurs, very soon the Product Program Team will introduce to troop leaders and cookie liaisons, two new ways to participate in the Cookie Program.

Virtual Booths – utilizing online platforms to reach an audience and sell cookies

Unstaffed Booths – partnering with local businesses to reach your goals

Also coming soon to troop leaders and cookie liaisons is a new Cookie Program Toolkit featuring even more opportunities.

Regarding Membership

GSHPA's Early Bird Membership start date has been moved to **May 1st** (instead of April

1st.) We will share some exciting benefits related to renewing your membership for 2021 in the upcoming weeks...Stay tuned!

Regarding Fund Development

Speaking of new ways to support girls, anyone can help girls continue to have access to quality Girl Scout programs by selecting GSHPA as their charity of choice on [Amazon Smile](#). Particularly now, many people are purchasing essential items through Amazon, so we hope selecting GSHPA as a charity of choice will be an easy one!

This week has been one of creativity and collaboration, resulting in so many wonderful stories of how girls are demonstrating courage, confidence and character during this unprecedented time. I am so very grateful that all of you continue to support our girls and continue to give your time and talent for their benefit.

Please reach out to MemberServices@gshpa.org or use the Live Chat function on our [website](#) to talk to Member Services staff about any questions or needs you have. And, please be safe and healthy in the days ahead.

Yours in Girl Scouts,

Janet Donovan
RADM, JAGC, USN(Ret.)
President and Chief Executive Officer
Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania