

For additional information or facts, consult our most recent annual report or contact sshipe@girlscoutsofsw.org.

About Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington

Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington serves **14,337 girl** and **7,981 adult members** throughout Oregon, and Clark, Klickitat and Skamania Counties in Washington. Forty service units provide volunteer-led support to girls and adults in designated geographic areas.

Our council's 8.6 million dollar budget is funded through grants, donations, bequests, program fees, product sales, investment income and endowments. Detailed information is available in our most recent annual report at girlscoutsofsw.org.

Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

Girl Scout Program

Girl Scouts unleashes the [G.I.R.L. \(Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader\)™](#) in every girl, preparing her for a lifetime of leadership—from taking a night-time hike under the stars to accepting a mission on the International Space Station; from lobbying the city council with her troop to holding a seat in Congress; from running her own cookie business today to tackling cybersecurity tomorrow.

The [Girl Scout Leadership Experience](#) is a one-of-a-kind leadership development program for girls, with proven results. It is based on time-tested methods and research-backed programming that help girls take the lead—in their own lives and in the world.

Research shows that girls learn best in an all-girl, girl-led, and girl-friendly environment. Girl Scouts is a place where she'll practice different skills, explore her potential, take on leadership positions—and even feel allowed to fail, dust herself off, get up, and try again.

Girl Scouts is proven to help girls thrive in five key ways as they:

- develop a strong sense of self;
- seek challenges and learn from setbacks;
- display positive values;
- form and maintain healthy relationship;
- identify and solve problems in the community.

The inclusive, all-female environment of a Girl Scout troop creates a safe space where girls can try new things, develop a range of skills, take on leadership roles, and just be themselves. Girls are placed in Girl Scout grade levels according to the grade they're in at school:

- Girl Scout Daisy: Grades K–1
- Girl Scout Brownie: Grades 2–3
- Girl Scout Junior: Grades 4–5
- Girl Scout Cadette: Grades 6–8
- Girl Scout Senior: Grades 9–10
- Girl Scout Ambassador: Grades 11–12

STEM

Girl Scouts introduces girls of every age to STEM experiences relevant to everyday life. Whether it's discovering how a car's engine runs, learning how to manage finances, or exploring our natural world, with Girl Scouts girls are fast-forwarding into their STEM futures. [Learn more about Girl Scout STEM programs.](#)

Outdoor

Girl Scout outdoor adventures like day camp, overnight camp and troop camping experiences help girls develop a lifelong appreciation for nature and the out-of-doors. Last year, **2,658 girls participated in 17 volunteer-led [Girl Scout day camp programs](#)** and **1,393 girls attended [Girl Scouts overnight camp programs](#)** throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington maintains nine indoor and outdoor program properties, including three overnight summer camps: [Camp Arrowhead](#), [Camp Cleawox](#) and [Camp Whispering Winds](#).

Gold Award Girl Scouts

21 young women earned the Gold Award in 2019, the highest achievement for a Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador. To earn the award, girls must complete a [seven-step, sustainable community project](#) addressing an issue they care about. Gold Award Girl Scouts earn college scholarships, enter the military at a higher rank, and—most importantly—are committed to creating a better future for their entire community.

Community Troops

Last year, 511 Girl Scouts were served through bilingual Spanish language after school and troop programming. After school programming is offered in public schools and housing developments such as Hacienda CDC and Farmworker Housing Development Corporation (FHDC), in collaboration with community partners like SUN Programa Hispano and Pacific University. Bilingual Girl Scout troops meet in many communities, including Eugene, Forest Grove, Gresham, Medford and Woodburn.

Puentes Summer Programs

Puentes provides Girl Scout program and staff-support in Migrant Education school-based (Hillsboro SD, Lane SD, SUN Gresham) and community-based (Centro Cultural) summer program aimed at providing Girl Scout curriculum to complement the summer program, encouraging girls to learn healthy living and life skills, to STEM. In 2019, 23 program sites served 890 girls.

Girl Scouts Beyond Bars

GSBB participants meet twice a month with their mothers who reside at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville. The program provides Girl Scout activities in a safe and supportive environment and focuses on re-establishing relationships, Girl Scout values and healthy decision-making skills. In 2019, 48 girls and adults participated in this program.

Girl Scout Cookie Program

The [Girl Scout Cookie Program](#) is the world's largest leadership and entrepreneurial program for girls, teaching five essential life skills—goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics. The program runs locally from January through mid-March.

There are eight delicious varieties to choose from: Thin Mints®, Samoas®, Tagalongs®, Do-si-dos®, Trefoils®, Savannah Smiles®, Toffee-tastic® and Girl Scout S'mores®.

Membership

Girl Scouts is open to all girls in grades K–12. Annual membership dues are \$25 per year and financial assistance is available for those in need. [Our organization values diversity and inclusiveness](#) and does not discriminate on any basis.

Volunteering

Girl Scouts is a volunteer-driven organization. You can make a difference in the lives of girls! Girl Scouts will match your skills, interests and availability to volunteer opportunities. Learn more at girlscoutsosw.org/volunteer.

Media Contact Information and Resources

Sarah Shipe, Director of Communications

During regular office hours: 503-977-6861 or 800-338-5248 x6861; after hours: 1-800-626-6543

Email: sshipe@girlscoutsosw.org

Online: girlscoutsosw.org | facebook.com/girlsscoutsosw | twitter.com/girlscoutsosw