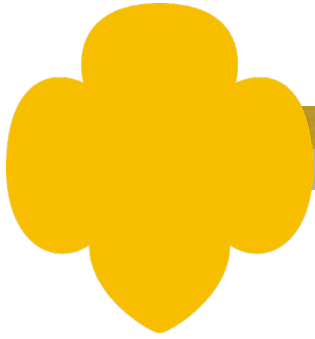


2022-23 Gold Award Girl Scouts

Gold Award Girl Scouts are change-makers. They have changed the world, changed their lives, and earned the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting.

When the project is complete, the Gold Award Girl Scout and their team have made a sustainable impact on the world that continues to last beyond their involvement. It's a huge accomplishment that also impacts the Gold Award Girl Scout as a person. How they see the world—and how the world sees them—is forever changed.

It's also a credential that will be with them for the rest of their life; having the Girl Scout Gold Award on a high school transcript or resumé can make a Girl Scout stand out when it comes to college admissions, scholarship applications, internships, and job interviews.



Abigail Sampson
After School Music Enrichment Program
Troop 325

Abigail was concerned by many school systems no longer recognizing music as a core educational course. As a result, many students are deprived of any music education. Through her studies she found that students have more academic success with their language, math skills, and even self-esteem when music is included in their education. Abigail became driven to show the importance of music education by bringing a music enrichment program to the elementary and middle school age students that attended her school.



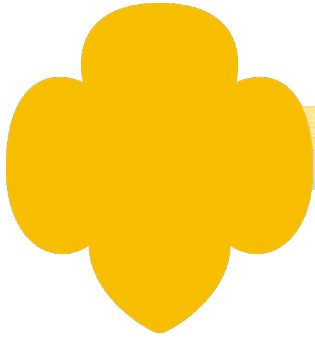
Abigail Marks
Free Menstrual Products in School Restrooms
Troop 3252

Abigail became an advocate for action on a topic many find very uncomfortable to discuss: menstruation. She was appalled her school did not have feminine hygiene products accessible to girls, causing them to miss school or go to the nurse to retrieve proper supplies. Abigail successfully lobbied her school to include feminine hygiene products in the school restrooms despite receiving backlash from some faculty members. She created a club that will restock the products weekly. Abigail's efforts have sparked similar efforts at other schools and many thanks from students and faculty at her school.



Alayah Solomon
Book Center for Kids
Troop 1835

Alayah's life experiences have shown her that skin tone creates many inconsistencies and inequalities, especially within her school system. Through research she learned different schools in the community have better access to educational assets such as educators, instructional aids, and books, resulting in 'book deserts'. Alayah partnered with multiple organizations, schools, and churches in her community to assist in the preservation of her handmade outdoor bookshelves she created and strategically placed in the 'book deserts'.



Briana Vinson
Achievement in Motion (AIM)
Mentoring Program

Troop 740

Briana observed that many middle school students were having a difficult time transitioning to life at her high school. With the social and academic shift to high school a crucial one, Briana saw a need for freshmen at her school to have peer confidants to guide them in the right direction. Achievement in Motion targets both the students looking to have assistance as freshmen as well as students looking to strengthen their leadership skills in preparation of going into the workforce or a collegiate environment.



Brooke Lampe
Cursive Writing Club

Troop 746

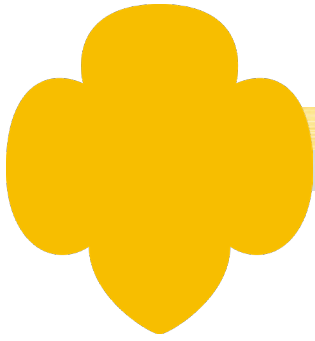
Brooke's appreciation for preserving cursive reading and writing inspired her project. She felt that cursive is a skill and art form that is important for students to learn because a lack of knowledge could lead to challenges later in life. Brooke created a curriculum for her cursive writing club at a local elementary school to teach younger students this skill. The curriculum involved learning the basic fundamental skills of cursive writing and slowly progressed into more challenging obstacles. Brooke's curriculum will even be utilized by a Title 1 school in Georgia that requires their students to learn cursive.



Eloise Herdegen
Building Sustainability Through Community Composting

Troop 177

Eloise's passion for growing up living in a healthier environment pushed her to change her community's involvement in creating sustainability amongst their area. She partnered with the YMCA Camp Cherokee to assist in reducing their environmental impact by creating a composting system. This composting system will work to keep waste out of landfills while producing high-nutrient soil that will be used in community outdoor spaces. Eloise also led several trainings educating individuals about composting and supplying them with the necessary knowledge and tools to teach others.



Gabriella Mullis
The Tommy Project

Troop 268

Gabriella was motivated to create The Tommy Project when she lost her father Tommy, who in April of 2020 passed away after years of alcohol abuse. She created this project to raise awareness about the dangers of alcohol abuse and its effects on the lives of the families involved. Gabriella was able to successfully sustain her project by having it posted on the Student Services Substance Abuse Prevention Resources section of the Cabarrus County Schools’ website. This not only gives students but also teachers and parents a tool to help fight alcohol and substance abuse.



Grace Smith
Healthy Cookbooks for Food Pantries

Troop 759

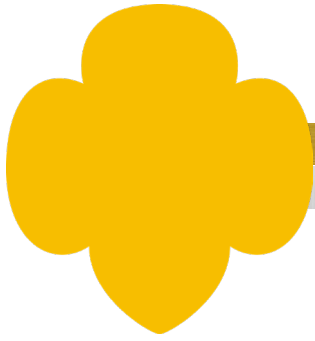
Grace’s curiosity in connection with obesity and individual’s socioeconomic status got the better of her, hence the creation of Healthy Cookbooks for Food Pantries was developed. By creating this cookbook Grace hoped to address this issue by providing a resource for systematic behavioral changes towards healthy cooking that could be practical and accessible. She partnered with Cooperative Christian Ministries, a local food pantry, 500 cookbooks in Spanish and English as well as creating a digital version distributed to clients of the food pantry.



Hannah Shepherd
Literacy and Learning Program

Troop 1068

Hannah developed a Literacy and Learning Program. Through research she uncovered that only sixty-five percent of elementary school students can read on grade level. Through her partnership with C.O.S.Kids, a local nonprofit that focuses on childcare, education, family stability, she developed a tutoring curriculum for children struggling to read on their grade level. Hannah further worked to create reading nooks, an encouraging and inviting atmosphere within each classroom.



Jocelyn Mendoza
Improving Dental Hygiene
Troop 1913

Jocelyn grew up as a young child having challenges when visiting the dentist due to her mother not being able to afford insurance. She then set out to become a dental care volunteer and travel to Costa Rica, this intrigued her to research dental hygiene issues amongst children within her community. She realized many children suffer from poor dental hygiene resulting in cavities at an early age leading to gum disease, tooth loss, bad breath, and many more issues in adulthood. Jocelyn created tools such as a video and website that people can use to help teach them about proper hygiene.



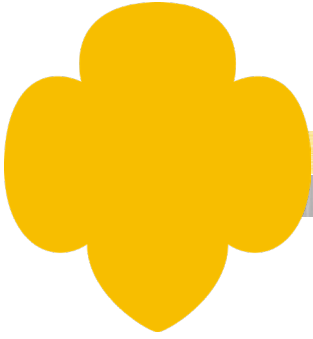
Kamryn Burton
Girls Lead 2
Troop 851

Kamryn's firsthand experience as a female has continually shown her that gender unfortunately defines you throughout life. Many times women are not given the chance to encounter the same opportunities that are presented to males. Unsettled by these discrepancies, Kamryn created Girls Lead 2 as a way to combat the gender inequality in her community. Girls Lead 2 hosted workshops, created by Kamryn, with girls ranging from age 10-14 that focused on leadership, public speaking, teamwork, and empowerment.



Kendall Rhea
The Odd Sock Promotional Plan
Troop 129

Kendall discovered that the least donated items to homeless shelters are socks, but they are the item that is one of the most important necessities. Since there is a lack of access to clean socks homeless people suffer with infections and many other health issues affecting their feet. After figuring out this issue, Kendall partnered with The Odd Sock as well as a marketing expert to help develop their marketing materials such as creating a video and handouts in order to help spread the word.



Kira Dannaker
Chicks with Sticks
Troop 177

Kira's drive to share her passion for field hockey gave her the idea to create a team. Through her own experiences she knew this sport helped her focus on her health, get active outdoors, improve her grades, and build healthy relationships with her peers. Kira worked hard to receive permission from the administration of her school, Cuthbertson Middle School, to create a team and find a coach for the field hockey team. As the team came together, she created an atmosphere that catered to teaching the game of field hockey as well as strengthening the skills of individuals that were already familiar with the game.



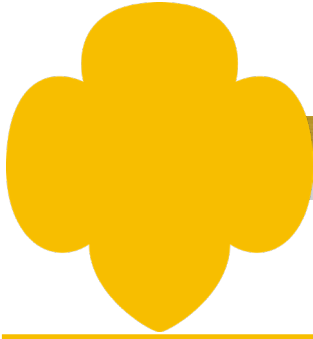
Madison Starkey
The Mental Health Agenda
Troop 537

Madison received the devastating news one of her classmates lost their life unexpectedly. Her high school only had grief counseling available to the students for one day. When Madison's grief began to deepen the following day, she was told grief counseling was no longer available. This sparked an idea that led her to create The Mental Health Agenda to give students access to resources that address mental health awareness.



Meghan Strand
Catawba Closet
Troop 1883

Meghan realized high school students tend to exclude or judge peers based on their attire or appearance. She spoke with professionals and learned the effects of such judging can lead to students suffering self-esteem challenges. To combat this problem, Meghan created Catawba Closet, a safe, private space within her school where students are given the opportunity to obtain formal clothing for special high school events. The clothing is donated by the community.



Michelle Saurer
Adopt-a-Grandparent Program
Troop 3515

Michelle's fondness for the elderly led her to become attentive to their need for companionship. She created an 'adopt a grandparent' group at her school, Ardrey Kell High School. Named the Generations Club, it will be sustained by her school. Students are matched with residents within a senior independent living facility. The visits between the students and residents provide both the opportunity to gain insight and friendship.



Taylor David
Melaninated Queens
Troop 1486

Taylor's observation of the discrimination experienced by African American women encouraged her to find a way to make a change. Taylor founded Melaninated Queens to host several week-long workshops for middle school age girls that focused on mental health, health education, college and career readiness, financial stability, and many more empowering topics. The goal of Taylor's program was to instill the girls with the confidence, strength, and the pride to be unapologetically themselves.



Thank you to our 2022-2023
Highest Awards Sponsor!



EQUITABLE



Celebrate her achievements with a Lifetime Membership

Help her become a Girl Scout member for life - she'll be a champion of girls for years to come. Celebrate her achievements as a Girl Scout by helping her join a group of like-minded supporters, while contributing to the Girl Scout mission in her honor.

Lifetime membership is available to any individual who accepts the principles and beliefs of the Girl Scout Movement, pays the one-time lifetime membership fee, and is at least 18 years old (or a high school graduate or equivalent).

A Girl Scout Lifetime Membership, regularly \$400, is available for a one-time \$200 fee for Girl Scout alums under 30 years old. Learn more at [girlscouts.org/gradltm](https://www.girlscouts.org/gradltm).



Congratulations to all 2022-23 Award Recipients!

Now that you've earned the highest awards in Girl Scouting, you've changed the community, the world, and also your life! You are a role model to your fellow Girl Scouts!



girl scouts 
hornets' nest

7007 Idlewild Road,
Charlotte, NC 28212
hngirlscouts.org
(704) 731-6500