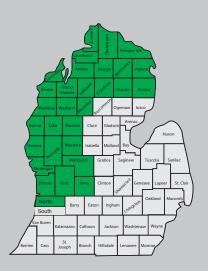
Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore 2020 Annual Report





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Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore Council Contact Information

Grand Rapids Service Center

3275 Walker Avenue NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544 p. 616.784.3341

Muskegon Service Center

1217 East River Road Muskegon, MI 49445 p. 231.744.4774

Traverse City Service Center

1820 Oak Hollow Drive Traverse City, MI 49686 p. 231.947.7354

Website: www.gsmists.org Toll-Free: 844.476.4787 Email: customercare@gsmists.org In March of 2020, the world changed, and we all had to change with it. In this year of transition, we have all learned to be agile. We have all worked to perfect the pivot; to not just survive, but to thrive. As the Girl Scouts we are, we were up to the challenge. Every challenge brings opportunity, an opportunity to learn, to grow, and to lead. Undaunted, our girls, our volunteers, and our staff showed every day that "Girl Scouting is Not Cancelled."

After starting the year in typical fashion, normal operations were upended and Girl Scouts across the council adapted how they approach the annual Product Program, badge earning, and highest awards. Troops exercised newfound business skills and found innovative ways to continue selling during the 2020 Cookie Product Program, exceeding council goals and expectations. Over 40,000 people across the country participated in our Facebook Live events and 21 virtual, guided badge earning opportunities were offered exclusively to GSMISTS Girl Scouts. Three girls earned the highest award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award, finding ways to work with outside organizations and coordinate volunteers despite meeting restrictions.

What began as a time of uncertainty became a time for Girl Scouts to shine. Our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place has never been more relevant. Our Girl Scouts found ways to continue to make impactful, positive changes to their community while developing skills they will use during trying times for the rest of their lives. We could not be more proud.

Yours in Girl Scouting,





Board of Directors

Officers

Deborah Hughes, Board Chair Karen Feahr, 1st Vice Chair Theresa Van Veelen, 2nd Vice Chair Gail Montgomery, Board Treasurer Judy Dennis, Board Secretary

Any Charles Interim CEO

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Sharron Pitts Omar Hall Shannon Wilson Judy Greer Holly Little Jessie Jones India Adams Manns Brenda Lindberg Amanda Miscisin Amy Pierce-Danders Guillermo Cisneros Theresa Petko La'Leatha Spiller Shelley Irwin On Friday, March 6, 2020, we knew the world was changing. The World Health Organization had reported over 100,000 cases of coronavirus and Michigan had just declared a state of emergency. On March 9, GSMISTS staff closed the offices and inperson Girl Scout events were put on hold.

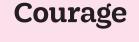
Now what? How can we continue our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character? How can we empower Troop Leaders and Girl Scouts to continue their STEM, Entrepreneurship, Life Skills, and Outdoors programming and earning badges?

Girl Scouting is Not Cancelled!

Through a blend of outdoor and online opportunities, Girl Scout of Michigan Shore to Shore girls stayed socially distanced and continued to earn badges, complete highest awards, and serve their community.

As one of the four pillars of Girl Scouting, outdoor experiences had their time to shine! Through the council initiatives of "Girl Scouts Love the Outdoors Challenge' and 'Girl Scouts Love State Parks' hundreds of girls left their screens, gathered their courage, and tried something new outdoors! Troops also leveraged outdoor spaces by having their troop meetings outside. Several troops also gained confidence by completing service projects outdoors such as a troop in Newaygo who researched farming methods and began growing food to donate to local pantries, and a Belding troop who placed first-aid boxes along the Silk City trail for their Bronze Award.

Online, troops participated in the Facebook live events and virtual badge earning sessions hosted by council, and met with each other via Zoom. These meeting opportunities were used to discuss ways to continue to serve their community while remaining socially distanced, and showed their character by going on to complete National Service Projects, highest awards, and food drives.





Troops across council reimagined how to keep Girl Scouting and moved their troop meetings online



Girl Scouts of all ages got outside and explored Michigan State Parks

Confidence



Belding Junior Troop took the initiative to place first-aid boxes alongside the Silk City trail as part of their Bronze Award



Two Media Mavens promoted the Cookie Product Program on WGVSU radio

Character



A GSMISTS Girl Scout sews masks to donate as part of the GSUSA National Service Project

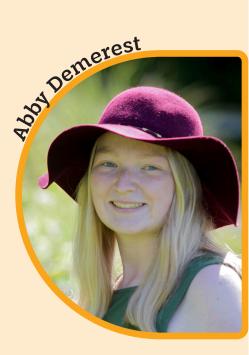


Ambassador hosted food drive for families at risk of hunger during COVID

Gold Award Girl Scouts do not just change the world for the better, they change it for good. The Gold Award is earned by girls in grades 9–12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership in developing meaningful, sustainable solutions to local, national, and global challenges. Since 1916, Girl Scouts have answered the call to drive lasting, impactful change. The Gold Award is the mark of the truly remarkable.

Healing and Wellness Garden

Working in conjunction with the Children's Advocacy Center of Kent County, Abby Demerest of Rockford, MI constructed 3 raised garden beds and designed a booklet that outlined the plants in the beds, their uses, and art projects that can be done with the plants for children at the center. She also created a flyer outlining how to report suspected child sexual abuse which the Advocacy Center is currently using.





Sensory Trail for Outdoor Experiences

Mackinac Island Honor Scout Abigal Olson of Holland, MI earned her Gold Award by creating a sensory trail at Benjamin's Hope, an organization that works with adults with developmental disabilities. The stations on the sensory trail reflect a variety of sensory experiences and include a texture trail, sound chimes, and an outdoor tic-tac-toe game. The trail allows residents to enjoy and experience nature while stimulating several different senses. The sensory trail is also open to the public, so people who are not connected to Benjamin's Hope can

Healthy Agriculture, Healthy Communitites

Claudia Shuster of Alto, MI earned her Gold Award with her self-created project, Healthy Agriculture, Healthy Communities. Her goal was to spread awareness about the importance of healthy agricultural in our lives. Claudia cleaned and organized the greenhouse classroom, crafted new educational wall hangings, held a seed drive and collected agricultural books for students to check out and created her own book about different agricultural careers.



The Girl Scout Cookie Program[®] teaches girls about entrepreneurship as they have fun learning essential skills like money management, public speaking, and decision making, which sets them up for a lifetime of success. Nine in ten Girl Scouts say the cookie program has built their entrepreneurship skills and their interest in pursuing entrepreneurship as a career path—so every cookie purchase is an investment in the world-changing business leaders of tomorrow. Cookie Product Program

By the Numbers







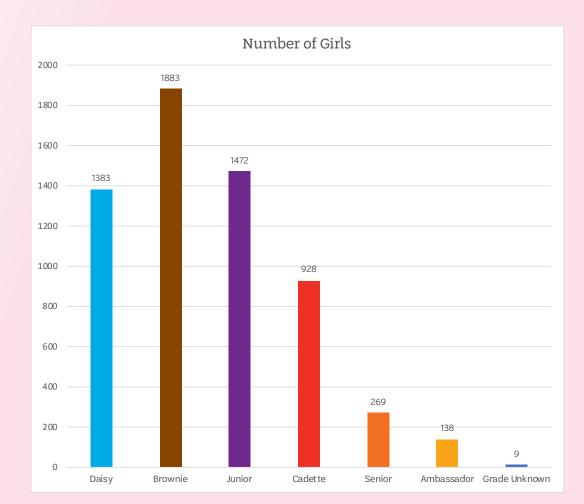
1,308,144 Boxes Sold



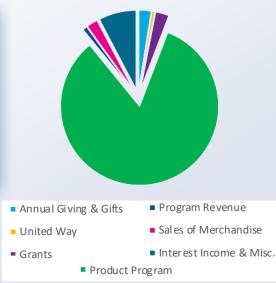
18,060 Boxes Donated

Membership

Total Girl Members 6,082 Total Adult Members 3,181 Total Members 9,263







Income

Total Income	\$3,027,872
Interest/Investment Income & Misc.	\$232,986
Sales of Merchandise	\$68,875
Program and Membership Revenue	\$27,606
Product Program	\$2,522,147
Grants	\$83,268
United Way	\$17,328
Annual Giving & Gifts	\$75,662



Expenses

Total Expenses	\$2,621,299
Fundraising	\$121,451
Management	\$358,602
Program Services	\$2,141,246

Change in Net Assets

Net Assets, beg/yr	\$5,544,862
Net Assets, end/yr	\$5,951,435

Thank you to everyone who has supported Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore during the 2020 Memberhsip Year.

Juliette Gordon Low Society

Alan R. Ryan Karen E. and James M. Feahr **Bonnie Vance** Deborah J. Hughes and Frederick J. Antczak Grace Wilcox

\$10,000 and Above

Arden Trust Company **Comcast Foundation**

\$9,999 - \$5,000

Deborah J. Hughes & Frederick Antczak Grand Haven Area Community Foundation

\$4,999 - \$1,000

Anonymous Gifts Anne Magoun Becky Glover Charlevoix County Community Foundation Cindy A. Ranshaw Community Foundation of the Holland / Zeeland Area Fidelity Charitable

\$999 - \$250

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First Federal Bank Community Foundation Fremont Area Community Foundation Gail Montgomery Gina M. Morrow Great Wolf Lodge of Traverse City Grimco. Inc.

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Grand Rapids Community Foundation GSMISTS - Alpena Service Unit 430

Muskegon County

Gary Lemke **General Motors** Hazekamp Meats - Premier Foods Heather Buckler Heidi J. Amos Holly Little Irene Bosman Jackson-Merkey Contractors, Inc. Jeffrey R. Hughes John Cooper Juanita Vorel Judy Koronka Kelly Steelman Kiwanis Club of Alpena Laura Bostick

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Mary K. Becker-Witt Neti D. Herndon Sharon Hughes Mary A. and Wilhelm W. Seeger



Our three Service Centers not only act as shops, but are also places to meet with GSMISTS staff members, hold meetings, and participate in events. Call us to speak with one of our Customer Care Specialists about any GSMISTS questions!

Grand Rapids

Muskegon

3275 Walker Avenue NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544 Telephone: 616.784.3341 Fax: 616.784.8187 1201 E. River Road Muskegon, MI 49445 Telephone: 231.744.4774 Fax: 616.784.8187 **Traverse City**

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