



girl scouts  
of south carolina  
mountains to midlands

THANK  
YOU!

DONOR  
NEWSLETTER

Winter 2020





a message from Chief Executive Officer, **Lora Tucker**  
and Chief Development Officer, **Lara Winburn**

Thank YOU and Happy New Year from Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands! We are both thrilled to be part of GSSC-MM and look forward to amazing opportunities for every G.I.R.L. in 2020. While we focus on 365 new pages in this new chapter, we also reflect on the chapter closing behind us. If you've been following

this council's journey with the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center, you know what a landmark year 2019 was for GSSC-MM. The leadership center is open and offering a multitude of indoor and outdoor activities in the five areas of leadership development: Arts, Business Enterprise, Healthy Living, Outdoor Education, and STEM. We are proud of the milestones we hit in 2019, and even more excited about what's ahead this new year.

We look forward to meeting you at regional events across the council. We want to hear from you, share hopes for girls, and work together to turn those dreams into realities. We are excited about girls in all 22 counties learning and growing in their troops and at the leadership center, Camp Mary Elizabeth, and Camp WaBak. In this newsletter, you'll learn about what YOU make possible for girls through your generosity, and how you and girls are changing the world. Thank YOU for making girl leadership development possible in GSSC-MM!

## Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center



Ever since we opened the doors to the public at the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center, we have focused on filling the center with girls and maximizing the potential of each program space. Since the ribbon was cut, we welcomed hundreds of girls to experience robotics programming in the STEM Lab, crafts in the Art Studio, s'mores making over the fire pit, and metal working with a mobile forge. We have programming at the leadership center most every single weekend. From gardening and rock-climbing, to engineering and a holiday sleepover, the leadership center is exactly what it was designed to be: a destination for girls to learn, explore, and lead like a Girl Scout.

### Leave Your Mark!

A destination like the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center is a game-changer for girls. If you would like your support of the leadership center to be part of your legacy, you can still purchase a commemorative brick or leaf to leave your mark for generations to come. For \$300, you can stamp a paver with your name, the name of a loved one, or a business name on the walkway of the center. Or, add a leaf to the donor tree for a \$1000 contribution. Still haven't seen this state-of-the-art space dedicated to Girl Scouts?

Schedule a tour with Lara Winburn at [lwinburn@gssc-mm.org](mailto:lwinburn@gssc-mm.org).

Purchase a brick or a leaf online [secure.qgiv.com/for/tghtcc](https://secure.qgiv.com/for/tghtcc)



### The Holiday and Van Gogh Sleepovers

Just in time for the holiday season, girls from around our council got ready for our first overnight experience at the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center. Girls learned about holiday traditions from around the globe, made crafts and swaps to take home, and even had a holiday movie night complete with a s'mores snack!

At the Van Gogh Sleepover, girls explored the impact art not only has on our hearts and minds, but on the world and our society. Girls journeyed through art history and of course, learned by doing by making art of their own in the art studio!

# 2020 WOMEN of DISTINCTION

away (but not surprised) at the caliber of female leadership in the Midlands and the incredible impact it's had on our community and girls.

Join us at the Women of Distinction Celebration in Columbia as we honor:

**Dr. Roslyn Artis**  
**Representative Beth Bernstein**  
**Meghan Hickman**  
**Nikole Mergo**  
**Dr. Aubrey Sejuitt**  
**A'ja Wilson**



2019 Emcee Dawndy Mercer Plank with Girl Scouts

Tickets are on sale now for the Midlands Women of Distinction Celebration on Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

You can purchase tickets or sponsor an honoree on our website at [gssc-mm.org/en/donate/Women.html](https://gssc-mm.org/en/donate/Women.html)

For more than a quarter of a century, the Girl Scout community has come together in the Midlands to celebrate the importance of female leadership and the world-changing power it has. When we look back at our alumni Women of Distinction Honorees, we are blown



## Donor Corner

### A message from Mary Ann Deku

"Having been a Girl Scout in 1959 and currently continue membership as an adult, I am honored and delighted to support and advocate for Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands. The mission of Girl Scouts is one of my passions, which is educating and building girls of courage, confidence, and character who help to make the world a better place. I wholeheartedly believe in Girl Scouts because it is a vital key in developing risk takers, go-getters, innovators and consequently leaders."

## G.I.R.L.s Who Give Back

True leaders not only exhibit influential leadership, but also recognize and celebrate leadership in others. They also recognize the sacrifice that makes the world a better place. Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, people around the world remember, honor, and teach about veterans by laying wreaths on the graves. It's no surprise that our Girl Scouts participated with others at more than 2,100 locations, laying thousands of wreaths.



## Giving Tuesday Recap

On Giving Tuesday, YOU GAVE and we THANK YOU! Giving Tuesday, an online-focused day of philanthropy intentionally set during the holiday season, gives you a chance to invest in nonprofits enriching your community all year. Your response was overwhelming on December 3: GSSC-MM received more than \$2,500 for girls. Thank you so much! This year, we asked donors, to send us pictures of who they gave for. These were some of their responses:



## A Resolution to Give

Does your New Year's resolution say anything about paying it forward, impact, leadership? Make your resolution easier than ever to keep. Become a monthly giver through Girl Scouts of South Carolina – Mountains to Midlands. This is an easy, sustainable way for you to start or continue giving to girls who are building leadership and changing the world.

By giving your recurring monthly gift, girls will consistently have excellent Girl Scout opportunities and programs. Your gift will have a long-term impact on the success of girls and directly contribute to building girls' courage, confidence, and character.

The best part? You choose how much and how often you want to give. Then we'll send you updates about how YOU have changed girls' lives and, through them, YOUR world.

YOU have the power to make a difference for girls. Sign up – once – at [gssc-mm.org/en/donate/Monthly.html](https://gssc-mm.org/en/donate/Monthly.html)

Then relax, check off your New Year's resolution, and know that YOU are changing the world all year long!





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To the household of:

### SHARE YOUR NEWSLETTER:

Let others in your community know about Girl Scout opportunities for girls and volunteers. When you are finished with the **Donor Newsletter**, take it to the medical office, school gym, salon, or other places you visit. Thank you!

Want to make an additional gift or have questions about your investment?

Contact [lwinburn@gssc-mm.org](mailto:lwinburn@gssc-mm.org) or check out our website at [gssc-mm.org](http://gssc-mm.org)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

February 21 - Girl Scout Cookie booth sales begin  
March 19 - Women of Distinction in Columbia  
March 21 - Up in the Mountains