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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Girl Scouts Look to Team Up with Local Businesses, Community Orgs During 2021 Cookie Season

Local troops need places to safely host drive-thru cookie booths and handle program logistics due to the pandemic

Cicero, N.Y. (December 7, 2020) — The [Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways](#) (GSNYPENN) Council serves girls in grades K-12 across 26 counties: Allegany, Broome, Cayuga, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Ontario, Oswego, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Schuylar, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne and Yates in New York and Bradford and Tioga in Pennsylvania. As the initial order-taking portion of the 2021 GSNYPENN Girl Scout Cookie Program approaches on December 19, the council is looking for assistance from regional businesses and community organizations to help local girls have a positive and successful cookie season despite the continuing pandemic.

The GSNYPENN council is looking to connect with area businesses or community organizations in high-traffic areas with large parking lots to allow girls and their troop leaders to safely host drive-thru cookie booths beginning in February to maintain social distancing, abide by Covid-19 protocols and continue to serve the community. Troops also need inside, secure locations to set up and provide cookie delivery, storage and pickup. Places like empty storefronts, unoccupied businesses, etc.

The annual cookie program runs through the end of March and helps power Girl Scouts' activities for the year through experiences like community service projects, badge work, camp, travel and more all while girls gain important entrepreneurial, business and life skills. This major fundraiser is the lifeblood of the council—100 percent of proceeds (after paying the baker) are used to maintain the properties and programs used by local troops throughout the year.

“We’re looking to help our GSNYPENN Girl Scouts have a positive and successful 2021 cookie program by connecting with our local communities to help host drive-thru booths and provide safe, secure locations for girls’ cookie season logistics. We’re getting creative to overcome the challenges our troops will once again face due to the pandemic,” says Ray Mulno, Director of Retail Operations & Product Programs at GSNYPENN.

The council requires use of locations beginning in early February through the end of March. It will provide insurance information for business owners and organizations. Those who can assist will receive publicity through the official Girl Scout Cookie Finder app, GSNYPENN Community Partners Facebook page and any cookie season advertising the council places—which will, in turn, help drive additional customers to these businesses and community organizations.

If your business or organization can help local Girl Scouts, please contact Ray Mulno at rmulno@gsnypenn.org or 315.698.9400 x2022.

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Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc.

Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. We believe in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)™ to change the world. Our extraordinary journey began more than 100 years ago with the original G.I.R.L., Juliette Gordon “Daisy” Low. Today we continue the Girl Scout mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. GSNYPENN is chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA to administer the Girl Scout program in 24 counties of New York and two in Pennsylvania. We offer every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure, and success. Girl Scouts serves girls in grades K-12. Annual membership is \$25. Financial assistance is available. To register a girl online, visit gsnypenn.org/join. To become an adult volunteer, learn more at gsnypenn.org/volunteer.