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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Girl Scouts' Sweet Support Donation Benefits Food Bank of Central New York

Thanks to customer donations during the Treats, Reads & More program, 227 cases (2,724 cans) of honey roasted peanuts will be used as a delicious snack for children and families over the holidays.

Syracuse, N.Y. (November 26, 2019) — Through Girl Scouting, girls learn the value of leadership and community service. During the annual Treats, Reads & More fall product program, troops in the Girl Scouts of NYPENN
Pathways (GSNYPENN) Council give back to a designated Sweet Support community partner. The council recently donated 227 cases (2,724 cans) of honey roasted peanuts to Food Bank of Central New York. The gift was presented by Girl Scout Troop 60500 from Jamesville-Dewitt and GSNYPENN CEO Julie Dale yesterday. Troop 60500 secured the most donations during the program, 50 cans of nuts. They are a multilevel troop of Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies and Juniors.

The nuts will be sent to Food Bank of Central New York's network of 282 emergency program partners—food pantries, soup kitchens and emergency shelters. Cans will be distributed to children, families and seniors struggling with hunger in the organization's 11-county service area of Central and Northern New York. The donation will also be shared with Food Bank of the Southern Tier.

Sweet Support is a biannual council service project during both the fall product and cookie programs. For various reasons, some customers do not wish to purchase items for themselves. Through Sweet Support, they purchase items as a donation and give to others while supporting local Girl Scouts.

"We are proud to continue our partnership with the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways. We appreciate the donation of honey roasted peanuts which will allow us to provide a delicious snack item for children and their families over the holidays. This donation of peanuts will be shared with Food Bank of the Southern Tier," says Kathleen Stress, Executive Director. Food Bank of Central New York.

"Each year, through the public's generosity, we're able to gift treat items in the fall and cookies in the spring to local community organizations. We appreciate the outpouring of support and are happy to have Food Bank of Central New York as our partner. We're so glad this donation will help the communities it serves across our region," says Julie Dale, CEO, GSNYPENN.

The Treats, Reads & More program supports GSNYPENN Girl Scouts who are learning financial literacy, practicing entrepreneurship and developing essential leadership skills like goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics. Girls use earnings to power unmatched experiences for themselves and their troops—like impactful community service projects, personal enrichment opportunities (traveling or summer camp) and much more.

There's still time to support local Girl Scouts by visiting community booths to purchase treat items this Black Friday (November 29), November 30 and December 7-8. Locations and times include:

Destiny USA, 9090 Destiny USA Dr., Syracuse

Friday, November 29: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, November 30: 12-4 p.m. Saturday, December 7: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, December 8: 2-4 p.m.

Oakdale Mall, 601-635 Harry L Dr., Johnson City

Saturday, November 30: 12-4 p.m.

Sangertown Mall, 8555 Seneca Tpke., New Hartford

Friday, November 29: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, November 30: 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Girl Scouts serves girls in grade K-12. Annual membership is \$25. Financial assistance is available. To register a girl online, visit <u>gsnypenn.org/join</u>. To become an adult volunteer, learn more at <u>gsnypenn.org/volunteer</u>.



Girl Scout Troop 60500 from Jamesville-Dewitt helps Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways CEO Julie Dale present 227 cases (2,724 cans) of honey roasted peanuts to Kathleen Stress, Executive Director of the Food Bank of Central New York, on November 25.

(photo courtesy of Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways)

Food Bank of Central New York

Food Bank of Central New York is a not-for-profit organization working to eliminate hunger through nutritious food distribution, education, and advocacy in cooperation with the community. We are the primary food supplier for 282 emergency food assistance programs in eleven counties of New York State, distributing 15,623,010 pounds of food last year. Food Bank of Central New York is a member of Feeding America. Visit <u>foodbankcny.org</u> for more information on the agency and its programs.

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. Learn more by visiting gsnypenn.org.