



United Way
of Monroe County

AGENCY APPLICATION
2010-2011 Grant Process

SECTION 1

Applying Partner Agency Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania

Address (Main Office) 350 Hale Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17104
(Regional Office) 426 Airport Road, 12 Beltway Commons, Hazel Township, PA 18202

Phone 717-233-1656 (main) or 570.501.2604 Fax 717-234-5097 (main) 570.501.2325
Executive Director (Chief Professional Officer) Jane Ransom, President and CEO

E-Mail Address jransom@gshpa.org Website www.gshpa.org

Agency Board President Kate Crowley Term of Service Year 1 of 2 year term, maximum of 2 terms

Address 350 Hale Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17104

Phone 717-233-1656 Fax 717-234-5097

E-Mail Address board@gshpa.org

Give a summary (25 word) description of the agency's mission (use SECA description if applicable)

Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

Complete Agency Financial Form (see attached template)

Submit all other documents requested (see attached list)

SIGNATURES (Required with Application)

I (signed below) certify that the information presented, both narratives and financials, are presented truthfully and to the best of the agency's abilities.

Executive Director or CEO
Jane Ransom

Board President
Kate Crowley

Board Treasurer
Paul J. Lewis

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE: 4:30 p.m. FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2010

REQUIRED AGENCY DOCUMENTS

2010-2011 Grant Process

The following materials are
ONLY FOR AGENCIES THAT DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN SECA

- 1) Provide a current listing of the Board of Directors with names, addresses, and phone numbers.
- 2) Provide a copy of your IRS Tax Determination Letter.
- 3) Provide a copy of your **current** certificate of registration from the Department of State, Bureau of Charitable Organizations.
- 4) Please provide a copy of your IRS 990 and a justification of administrative and fundraising expenses over 25% (if applicable). Your IRS 990 **must** cover the same fiscal period as your audit/financial statements.
- 5) Provide agency's **most recent** annual report.
- 6) Provide one agency or program promotional piece such as brochure, newsletter, flyer, etc.
- 7) Provide a copy of your **most recent** financial audit.

THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS ARE REQUIRED BY ALL
APPLYING AGENCIES

- A. Give examples of how the organization identifies itself as a United Way partner agency. Please provide samples if applicable such as letterhead or brochure, etc.
- B. Provide some organizational structure showing various programs and lead volunteer/staff.
- C. Provide a schedule of Board meetings for the past year. Also, please have the past year's Board minutes available at the upcoming site visit.

PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATION & FINANCIAL MATERIALS
ELECTRONICALLY TO monica@unitedwaymonroe.org

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE: 4:30 p.m. FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2010

PROGRAM APPLICATION
2010-2011 Grant Process

SECTION 2

(If you are seeking funding for more than one program, complete a separate program application for each)

Program Name Girl Scout Leadership Experience in Monroe County

Address (Program Location) 426 Airport Road, 12 Beltway Commons, Hazel Township, PA 18202
Phone 570.501.2604 Fax 570.501.2325

Primary Contact for Program Rachel Miletto, Regional Director, Northeast Region

E-Mail Address rmiletto@gshpa.org Website www.gshpa.org

Name the targeted community concern addressed through this program (i.e. youth delinquency)
Engaged Youth – Development of additional programs, facilities and activities for young people

Provide a brief written summary of the program seeking funding in 2010-11

Recognizing that there are a number of opportunities competing for the attention of today's girls, Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania (GSHPA) offers a variety of means, known as pathways, by which girls can participate in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience in Monroe County (GSLE). Each of the pathways incorporates one or more of the following themes: Health and Wellness; Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering (STEM); Leadership; Community Outreach and Education; Environmental Awareness; The Arts; Travel; and Financial Literacy. The six GSLE pathways are as follows:

Troops – This continues to be the traditional and most popular model of program delivery for all age levels (K-12). Facilitated by a Council-trained adult volunteer with one or more assistants, troops meet on a weekly or monthly basis and democratically plan and carry out (with age-appropriate adult guidance and supervision) the program components and community service activities in which they will participate. Together, they Discover, Connect and Take Action within their troop, their community and beyond. During this past year, there were 145 active troops throughout Monroe County involving 1,272 girls and 504 adult volunteers. We anticipate that our number of participants will increase to an estimated 1,825 Girl Scouts and 619 adult volunteers in the upcoming program year.

Community service is an integral part of the Girl Scout promise, "to help people at all times," and as such is an important component of Girl Scout programs and badge elements. During the 2008-2009 Girl Scout year, girls worked both together and individually to make contributions to their community, this individual effort can be best seen in the merit awards earned by older girls in each level. Two Senior/Ambassador Girl Scouts (grades 9-12) completed significant community service projects to earn the highest award available to a Girl Scout, the Gold Award. Younger Girl Scouts

in Monroe County followed their lead in earning the highest awards available to their level; 13 Cadette (6-8 grades) Girl Scouts earned the Silver Award and a total of 31 Junior Girl Scouts (4-5 grades) earned Bronze Awards.

Camp – Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania provides learning and leadership development opportunities at its Girl Scout camps. Throughout the summer, the day camps and sleep-away camps held across the region provide an opportunity for girls to develop outdoor skills, to learn about others and to build confidence in their own abilities. Today’s camp programs also provide girls with opportunities to engage in science, adventure and creative programs while building interpersonal leadership skills. During the school year, troops use the facilities for camping and wildlife and environmental programs. GSHPA also hosts Council-wide programming at various camp facilities throughout the year. This past summer 74 girls from Monroe County attended GSHPA resident camp programs, ranging from the Susquehanna Canoe Adventure at Camp Archbald in Kingsley, PA to the Stretch Your Limits leadership and outdoor skills development program at Camp Lycogis in Hillsgrove, PA. During summer 2009, GSHPA provided \$2,712 in financial assistance to make attending summer camp possible for Monroe County economically disadvantaged girls who would not otherwise have been able to attend these summer camp programs.

Travel – Local, domestic and international trips are facilitated by troop leaders, regional units and Girl Scouts of the USA. Girls can travel within the Council region or to Girl Scout sites around the country and the world as part of the Girl Scouts of the USA’s Destinations program. Popular Troop travel destinations include the State Capital in Harrisburg with an overnight at the GSHPA Urban Center.

Events – These are focused educational programs that bring together girls from throughout our 30-county council. A recent example of an event that took place in Monroe County was the Brownie Badgifest at the Pocono Environmental Education Center for up to 200 girls. This program was a day of environment themed learning activities centered on Brownie level badge components.

Series (formerly known as Special Interest) – These are typically 6-8 week group activities that bring girls together around a common interest such as outdoor skills or financial literacy. In Monroe County, GSHPA partnered with the Dunklebergers Sports in Stroudsburg to provide an Archery Series to Junior – Ambassador level Girl Scouts (grades 3-12) for 16 girls per session.

Virtual – As the use of the internet continues to expand, Girl Scouting has moved online. Along with offering information and educational resources on the gshpa.org website, Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania is expanding its online presence to include other web-based activities such as Council-facilitated online networking, badge programs and activities.

The earning of badges and awards and participation in Leadership Journeys are also core elements of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and are strategically incorporated into each of the pathways. Badges have been a core learning element of the Girl Scout program through the years, providing a valuable way for girls to master new skill sets and visually track their increased skills and abilities.

GSHPA strives to make Girl Scouts available to all girls by providing a range of opportunities and means of participation. While troops continue to be the most popular mode, girls in Monroe County are not limited to participation in just one pathway. As we work to build the leaders of tomorrow, GSHPA will continue to reach out to girls by offering multiple pathways for participation in Girl Scouting and by making financial assistance available to economically disadvantaged girls.

What is the target population(s)? Give supporting demographic need information and source.

Girl Scouts is open to all 16,442 school-age girls in Kindergarten through 12th grade throughout Monroe County, regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity and/or religion. A core value of Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania (GSHPA) is our inclusiveness.

At a time when budgets are stretched just to provide the basics, GSHPA continues to offer a range of opportunities by which girls can join Girl Scouts while also making financial assistance available for girls with economic need. GSHPA's financial assistance covers program costs ranging from national membership dues and activity fees to books, badges, travel and summer camp. During the 2008-2009 program year GSHPA provided over \$3,500 in direct financial assistance to 116 economically disadvantaged girls for Girl Scout program items, National and Troop Dues and Girl Scout Resident Camp program.

Describe how the program improves the lives of the targeted population

Girl Scouts has been providing girls with the tools they need to become successful adults and future leaders for 98 years. Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania (GSHPA) improves the academic achievement of girls in Monroe County through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE). This research-based leadership development program provides essential out-of-classroom development of skills, self-confidence and character that positively impact school performance and prepares students for success in future grades. The effectiveness of this type of program is noted by Professor of Education John MacBeath in his report on the impact of extra-curricular programs on academic achievement, "We know that those who are going to do well in life are marked out by their self-esteem, their motivation and their ability to take responsibility for their own learning. We know too that good learning habits begin to develop at an early age." (Extending Opportunity: A National Need for Study Support. DfES, 1999). Through participation in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, Monroe County girls have the opportunity to develop these essential skills and interact with strong female role models and mentors throughout their years in Girl Scouts.

As girls progress through the program, they develop the skills and intrinsic resources that make them better equipped to meet the challenges they face in school and overcome barriers to their advancement. By building this capacity, the GSLE contributes to the ability of girls in Monroe County to be prepared to make healthy choices, become resourceful problem solvers and maintain positive relationships with peers, teachers and mentors.

Now in our third program year of utilizing the more inclusive and empowering approach of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, we are better able to target our resources to measuring program outcomes to show the impact of this program on the girls we serve. The evolution girls make in this program is gauged using 15 research-based outcomes to measure progress. Although all 15 are equally important programmatically, GSHPA has chosen to focus its measurement efforts on three outcomes across the Council, one from each of the leadership key areas; Discover, Connect and Take Action:

Discover Outcome: *Girls gain practical life skills.*

Outcome Defined: Girls gain skills that prepare them for a positive, healthy and independent future.

Connect Outcome: *Girls develop healthy relationships.*

Outcome Defined: Girls learn to form and maintain meaningful and caring relationships, communicate effectively, protect their rights in relationships and know when to seek help from others.

Take Action Outcome: *Girls are resourceful problem solvers.*

Outcome Defined: Girls can use their knowledge and skills to set up and implement creative and effective “actions plans,” locate tools and resources they need, and know when, where and how to enlist help from others.

GSHPA has undertaken the development of a significant survey tool to capture the impact of this program. As a pilot council for the evaluation of GSLE outcomes, we are working with Girl Scouts of the USA to refine our data collection and evaluation. Feedback from both girls and parents, collected with the surveys, will also be utilized to measure results and calibrate program delivery. Both the immediate and longer range survey data will be used to further gauge the success of our leadership development efforts and their impact on girls’ academic achievement in Monroe County. The semi-annual girl survey, conducted in the spring and fall of each year, and the annual parent survey, will provide valuable data for both regional and council-wide comparative analysis of programs and their impact on girls in Monroe County.

Complete Program Outcome Worksheet (attach using UWMC template)

Complete Program Financial Form (attach using UWMC template)