

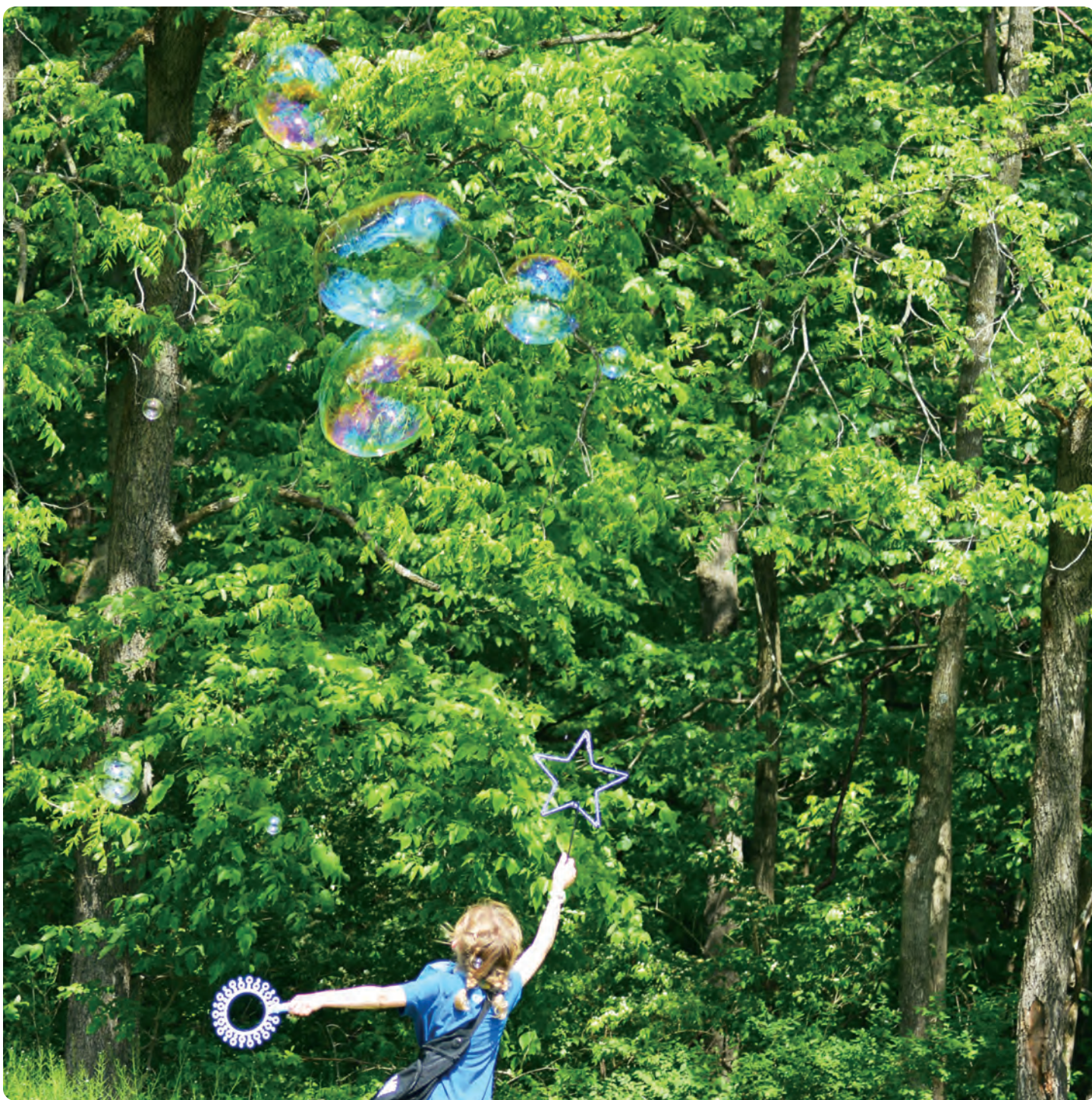


2020–2021  
Girl Scouts of  
Northern Illinois  
Annual Report





# The Future is Here. The Future is Us.





Our fiscal year from October 2020 through September 2021 was defined, as were the previous six months, by the COVID pandemic, and marked the biggest annual decline in membership in a single year we have ever experienced at just over 20%. This was due to several factors, including the closure of schools for recruitment and troop meetings, family exhaustion because of remote working and home schooling, and a lack of desire by Girl Scouts for remote programming after a day of remote learning.

To manage expenses due to a deep decline in revenue, our staff numbers were reduced by a net of six positions. All staff worked an 80% work week for 80% of their salaries for six months. We received two Paycheck Protection Program loans from the federal government which were subsequently converted to grants. For this support, GSNI is extremely grateful.

The second half of the fiscal year (April–September 2021) saw staff working full time, but remotely once more, as well as an opening of our communities in line with the roll out of COVID vaccinations and the ability of groups to meet outdoors in good weather. We provided a limited camp season in the summer of 2021 which was well attended!

For the second year in a row, we offered early renewing members the Gift of Girl Scout Membership for the fiscal year October 2021 through September 2022, as a thank you to our members for continuing to be part of our GSNI family, despite all the difficulties COVID presented.

During the spring and summer months of 2021, we offered our stakeholders—Board, staff, volunteers, older Girl Scouts, donors, and community representatives—the opportunity to be a part of our strategic planning process: Appreciative Inquiry. Through this process, we recalled our best experiences in Girl Scouts, imagined a future where great experiences would be the way everyone knows GSNI, and collectively established five Action Teams to focus on positive solutions for recruitment growth through innovation and inclusion.

These teams continue to meet monthly to make decisions and implement actions around Recruitment Processes, Community Engagement, Communications and Brand Awareness, Older Girl Scout Engagement, and Hiring for Diversity. These teams are the basis for our current and future growth.



We are immensely appreciative of all our members and supporters who understand that fostering well-being and leadership in a safe, inclusive environment, where everyone feels a sense of belonging is, the way to sustain future growth and success!

Sincerely,



**Dana Vierck**  
Board Chair, Girl Scouts  
of Northern Illinois



**Fiona Cummings**  
CEO, Girl Scouts  
of Northern Illinois

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## Summer Camp

After an innovative summer of virtual camp in 2020, GSNI's Outdoor Program team was eager and excited for the summer of 2021! Despite there being many unknown variables in play, summer camp launched February 1 with in-person family camping weekends and virtual day camps.

GSNI combined our traditional summer camps with 2020's family camp rentals and welcomed families of all Girl Scouts to Camp Dean and Camp McCormick for council-led camp programs. These camps were hosted Thursdays–Sundays from June 17–August 8, 2021. As spring rapidly approached and restrictions were lifted, we offered Girl Scout troops the opportunity to attend our camp programming using the same schedule as family camps. By May 2021, restrictions were lifted to

allow in-person resident camp to be hosted at our camps. We shifted our camp schedules for families and troops to attend Camp Dean, while resident campers attended Camp McCormick on alternating weekends throughout the summer. With the growing demand for in-person programming, we cancelled our virtual camp sessions.

In total, 206 campers attended GSNI's summer camp programming in 2021! There were 57 resident campers at Camp McCormick which had a limited capacity of 24 campers per week. There were 105 Girl Scouts who came with their troops to Camp Dean. We also had a total of 34 families register to camp at Camp Dean. In 2021, 10 high-school-aged campers graduated from the Counselor-in-Training programs at both Camp Dean and Camp McCormick. This was all made possible by a strong team of seven dedicated and loyal staff for whom we are deeply grateful!

## GSNI Highlights





## Virtual Program

GSNI's Virtual Program team hit its stride in 2021! The team coordinated with outside experts to learn what Girl Scouts need to be safe online and researched the best way to provide programming virtually. Girl Scout members were on the forefront, as efforts were made to be mindful of virtual burnout while still providing a safe space for peer-to-peer connection.

GSNI provided new virtual entrepreneurship sessions for members and families to elevate what Girl Scouts learn in the cookie program. Female entrepreneurs across the council shared their experiences virtually and helped participants discover the entrepreneur within themselves during these engaging sessions.

The team also streamlined how families new to Girl Scouts could learn about the organization and broadened short virtual events to include community partners sharing expertise and how their experiences can connect to Girl Scouts.

## Property

Several new additions were added to GSNI's camp properties this year, including a gnome scavenger hunt, orienteering courses, a slingshot range, and tomahawk throwing area. We also established an Air Rifle Team.

This team continues to practice and compete—making GSNI one of only a few councils to offer this activity as a team and as an activity at our properties.

Sadly, we did say goodbye to Camp Far Horizons but are keeping its memory alive in our hearts as we press forward to continue to offer other outdoor opportunities for our members to enjoy.

GSNI's Property team is looking forward to installing many new activities at each GSNI camp! This includes a goat scavenger hunt at Camp Dean, a bird scavenger hunt at Mary Ann Beebe Center, slingshot ranges at both Camp Dean and Mary Ann Beebe Center, and a high ropes course at Camp McCormick. We have also launched Active Net, our new registration system to further our data capacity and offer one-stop shopping

while booking one of our camp sites or activities.

Jason Jones, GSNI's Directory of Property, says, "A big thank you goes out to all our campers this past year—the new and the seasoned. We could not have done this without you! If you enjoy camping or want to stay connected to our camp properties, please follow us on social media and join each camp's page to stay up to date on what is happening at your GSNI properties. We hope to see you at camp!"

## Girl Scout Leadership

GSNI's own Camp McCormick was the location for almost 200 people to gather on Sunday, July 18, 2021, to celebrate amazing Girl Scouts and adult volunteers at GSNI's Recognition Event! We had the privilege to honor GSNI Scholarship Recipients, Gold Award Girl Scouts, and watch 15 graduating Girl Scouts bridge to adult members. We also recognized President's Volunteer Service Award Recipients and adult volunteers selected to receive national and council Girl Scout awards.

While COVID brought many challenges to our society, our Girl Scouts did not let that stop their mission to make the world a better place! Through many project pivots and unexpected obstacles, GSNI was proud to honor 10 Gold, 62 Silver, and 222 Bronze Award Girl Scouts! All combined, GSNI's Girl Scouts





contributed over 8,000 hours of Take Action in their communities in one year!

GSNI Gold Award Girl Scout Lauren Kolasinski from Tower Lakes, Illinois, was awarded a \$2,060 national scholarship from Girl Scouts of the USA—thanks to sponsorship from Arconic Foundation and Kappa Delta Foundation.



Lauren's Gold Award project was Signs Make a Difference. Teaming up with Walk On Farm, the home of eight specially-trained horses that provide equine assisted activities, Lauren learned about the power of a sign and their therapists' needs for them. Lauren and her team designed and created 22 signs in cardinal directions and shapes. She also created a flyer for Walk On Farm to increase awareness of all this facility has to offer.

## Member & Volunteer Experience

GSNI chose to offer our Girl Scout Gift of Membership from April 1–June 30, 2021, for a second year in a row. This was done to support our members and families as COVID continued to affect the world.

In addition, GSUSA announced a grand surprise of a new program and special event for any Girl Scout member who renewed their membership or new members who registered between April 1–May 4, 2021, to participate in a program with former First Lady Michelle Obama and her book *Becoming Me*. GSNI Girl Scout members who renewed or registered for the new year participated in an uplifting virtual event with Ms. Obama in May 2021. This event introduced the new *Becoming Me* program to our Girl Scout membership.

By the end of our early renewal membership campaign, we had 67% of our membership renewed for the new year, thanks to the Girl Scout Gift of Membership.



*"Girl Scouts has truly shaped me into the person I am today. In all of the activities and organizations that I participate in, I have never experienced life lessons or created bonds with others the way that I have done through Girl Scouts."* BRIANA R.



GSNI service units continued to renew members from July 1–September 30, 2021, for membership year 2021. Service units received financial incentives based on achieving their early and on-time membership renewal goals. For every goal achieved, service units earned \$50—all the way up to \$250 if they achieved all four renewal goals. We're pleased to announce 34 service units achieved one or more renewal goals! The success of GSNI's renewal campaigns set us above our normal renewal numbers at the beginning of the new membership year!

2021 was the first full year GSNI had access to gsLearn. This new online learning system provided virtual trainings to all volunteers and Girl Scout members who may have not had them, due to COVID guidelines not allowing in-person trainings most of the year. Working together, staff and volunteers discovered ways to use gsLearn virtually, even beyond trainings and courses for volunteers.

In November 2020, GSUSA updated GSNI's membership system, and gsLearn was on pause through December. At this time, we pivoted to adding alternative cookie training for volunteers until gsLearn was back up and running. Unfortunately, the platform did not

become active without issues at the end of December. For at least six months into the new year, members were not able to access gsLearn on a mobile device. Thankfully, GSUSA worked closely with vendors to fix issues as fast as possible.

GSUSA rolled out 28 courses based on newly released badges in August of 2021. These courses were designed to guide troop leaders and troop volunteers in facilitating the new badges at troop meetings. By the end of membership year 2021, over 330 GSNI members completed trainings, including older Girl Scouts who required Gold Award training in gsLearn. GSNI and GSUSA continues to add trainings and courses for our members to have access to a variety of topics!

Volunteer Toolkit is still the top troop resource for Girl Scout badges, Journeys, and reward planning. GSUSA's new badges are now included for Girl Scouts of all levels to earn. These badges are incorporated into meeting plans at each level.

Service unit participation continues to grow in how many troops incorporate Volunteer Toolkit as their main planning platform. There were 24 service units with 50% or more of their troops using Volunteer Toolkit in 2020–2021. Volunteer Toolkit webinars, along with Tips of the Month, were offered every month to continue to support and train volunteers at all levels. GSNI also offers Volunteer Toolkit Office hours once a month, so volunteers may receive assistance in real-time without signing up for a webinar. Already, 15 volunteers have taken advantage of this new option!

## Community Programs

As the pandemic impacted the way programs were delivered in 2020–21, GSNI sought creative ways to reach young people and families who might otherwise have faced barriers to participating in Girl Scouts. From meeting virtually, to safely meeting in person at community and outdoor locations, and even dropping off supplies for at-home activities, GSNI strove to keep Girl Scouts accessible for all.

Overall, 390 Girl Scouts participated through staff-led and staff-supported troops during this time, including through programs led by AmeriCorps members in Aurora, DeKalb, Elgin, Hanover Park, and Streamwood, staff-led Project Opportunity troops in Rockford, and staff-supported troops focused on Hispanic communities in Elgin and Aurora.

Throughout the year, Girl Scouts in all community programs completed a variety of skill-building badges.

They explored the outdoors with badges like Outdoor Art, Bugs, and Senses, practiced their entrepreneurial and financial literacy skills with badges like Toy Designer and Money Manager, and sharpened their peer relationships with the Making Friends badge.

GSNI staff also coordinated with local partners to offer additional opportunities like a visit from a traveling reptile exhibit to enhance the Animal Habitats badge, and even a virtual kindergarten readiness program to help families with youth entering kindergarten in the fall!

## Recruitment

GSNI's Recruitment Team took a hybrid approach in 2020–2021 with both in-person and virtual welcome events. The team partnered with service unit volunteers to continue virtual events for the first part of the year and ended with full in-person events to engage families in conversations on the benefits of Girl Scouts.

By the end of May and throughout the summer,





GSNI staff and volunteers ventured out to parks, expos, and other in-person community events—providing activities such as bubbles, games, lava lamps, friendship bracelets, potted plants, and create-a-bug—giving the community just a sample of what Girl Scouting had to offer. Service units also participated in parades, back-to-school nights, and trunk-or-treat events through the fall recruitment season.

2021 was the year of social media recruiting, as GSNI fine-tuned our Facebook, Instagram, and Eventbrite pages and other local social groups to innovate and reach families with the lifetime benefits of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Our virtual events became “Pop Ins”—which included activities to introduce new people to Girl Scouting while answering any family questions. We also continued with traditional, in-person troops. Families told us they wanted in-person events and activities. GSNI’s Recruitment Team created a coordinating strategy to reach as many potential Girl Scouts and their families as possible to have a conversation on “Why Girl Scouts? Why Now?”

GSNI Director of Recruitment, MaryBeth Markwell says, “We show families how Girl Scouts equips their child to take the lead, explore their passions, and make the world a better place—now and for the future!”

## Member Support

The challenges of 2020–2021 made it an opportune time to review our council demographics regarding regional service unit boundaries. GSNI worked diligently at the local level to make beneficial changes which will better support our volunteers and troops.

The Creek View Service Unit in Rockford was divided, and troops were added to both our Southeast Valley and Spring River Service Units. GSNI’s Aurora Service Unit and Vega Service Unit merged to become the Circle of Friends Service Unit. Our Blackhawk Service Unit and Pottawatomie Service Unit joined together to create the Fox Valley Service Unit, while Whiteside Service Unit and Carroll Service Unit combined into the Whiteside/Carroll Service Unit.



These changes streamlined the council’s 40 service units into 36 units with stronger teams and more resources for each unit!

## Resource Centers

GSNI’s Resource Center Team manages the council’s retail stores, Resource Centers, online stores, and all merchandising, along with providing Customer Care services and support. This team faced a difficult year in 2020–2021, with fewer staff and reduced store hours due to ongoing pandemic obstacles. Despite this, staff remained flexible, understanding, and willing to go the extra mile to continue bringing quality customer experience to both members and the public.

Resource staff were finally able to return to



*“Girl Scouts has been incredibly influential in my life! It has helped me build and figure out my character, taught me that I am capable of a lot more than I ever thought, and helped me develop many skills and attributes that will carry through the rest of my life.”* KATHERINE S.



GSNI's camps with traditional Trading Post activities and hosted several retail events throughout the year, bringing GSNI's traveling store to various council-wide events. Thankfully, GSNI was able to fill two open retail positions in August of 2021 which had gone unfilled for a long time and end the year on a positive note!

In August 2021 there were changes within Resource Center leadership. GSNI's Director of Resource Centers was promoted to Chief Revenue Officer, and a GSNI Member Support Specialist was promoted to the new Director of Resource Centers.

The launch of the new Girl Scout brand in 2021 brought changes to GSNI's merchandise and business processes. Staff worked consistently to administer the new guidelines and navigate approval delays to provide the latest and most useful merchandise to both GSNI in-person and online stores.

As always, GSNI's customers, in particular our young members, remained the focus throughout the year. Towards the end of 2021, Resource Centers saw an uptick in customer visits along with increased in-store and online sales!

## Product Program

GSNI created a multi-modal approach to the Cookie Program in 2020–2021 to prioritize health and safety with Girl Scouts still having access to building their entrepreneurial skills. The Digital Cookie platform provided Girl Scouts with a safe, contactless way to sell cookies to their customers. Digital Cookie 8.0

also offered the opportunity for Girl Scouts to learn more about e-commerce and running a business in today's world, as well as earn badges and the Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin.

Grubhub and Girl Scouts of the USA partnered to sell Girl Scout Cookies, and GSNI excitedly joined this entrepreneurial venture. We held booths at four Resource Center locations based on Grubhub service areas. Girl Scout Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors worked with troop volunteers to receive and prepare orders for Grubhub drivers. Girl Scouts gained hands-on experience in managing e-commerce while they tracked and fulfilled orders and managed inventory, using Grubhub's back-end technology. Through the process, they built people skills by working together as a team, learned decision-making skills by taking the lead in business operations, and developed business ethics by making sure they met customers' needs and expectations.

GSNI Director of Product Program, Anna Jarrett, says, "The proudest moments were seeing our Girl Scouts in action, providing cookie donations in creative ways to essential workers, such as hospital personnel, truck drivers, fire departments, police departments, and military organizations through our Gift of Caring initiative. Our community support was amazing with our Gift of Caring donations increasing by 20% over the previous year!"

Girl Scouts really do stick together and have a lasting impact on their communities!





# Philanthropy

Although many changes took place within the Philanthropy Department in 2020–2021, GSNI was able to meet ambitious financial goals through fundraising events, grants, sponsorships, and donations!



Over the Edge 4 Girl Scouts was held in June 2021 at SupplyCore Inc. in Rockford. This unique, adventure-based event gave fundraising participants the chance to rappel down the historic 8-story SupplyCore building in downtown Rockford. GSNI is extremely grateful to SupplyCore for the use of their facilities and sponsoring the event. Thank you to all Over the Edge rappellers who demonstrated courage by both rappelling and fundraising to ensure current and potential Girl Scouts will face less barriers to participation in Girl Scouts.

Our annual Thin Mint Sprint was held both virtually and in person! Everyone was a winner as they chose their own course and set their own pace to do their personal best. Congratulations to all the runners and walkers who participated in fun ways to make the Thin Mint Sprint a success!

GSNI could not have succeeded in meeting our funding goals without the fantastic support of our Board of Directors. This incredible team helped in countless ways, including guidance, fundraising, providing supplies, and volunteering at events.

GSNI Director of Philanthropy, Vicki Jacobson, says, “There are hundreds of people—staff, donors,



and volunteers—who assist in diverse ways throughout the year. These efforts and donations make our vision possible! Girl Scouts is first choice for developing leadership potential through meaningful opportunities and relationships.”



*“Girl Scouts has greatly impacted my life by helping me to become more confident and courageous, grow in my character, and help to make the world a better place. Without the Girl Scout experience, I would not be as ambitious and hard-working as I am today.”* KAITLYN T.



In the summer of 2021, GSNI completed an Appreciative Inquiry process and created five innovative Action Teams to drive and support our membership growth. These hands-on teams are led by GSNI staff members with volunteer and older youth member representation.



## Recruitment Processes Action Team

This 12-member team formed in August of 2021 and continues to meet once a month. The team started by analyzing and making recommendations for all aspect of GSNI's recruitment processes.

Team members are making changes to the currently established recruitment phases and looking critically at each part of the recruitment cycle. Recommended changes to this timeline will ensure new families and volunteers are connected to Girl Scout opportunities quickly, conveniently, and in a way that best fits their life. The team is working to revamp processes related to visibility, prospects, leads, conversations, and membership support. They hope to achieve their goals by shaping GSNI's Girl Scout program in a way that fully engages and recruits new members, potential Girl Scouts, and adult supporters.

## Community Engagement Action Team

This team has a strong representation of GSNI staff, Board, and volunteers with the primary goal to identify key players in communities across the council. They are developing a comprehensive plan to engage and support these stakeholders with the goal of increasing GSNI's visibility while cultivating a broad network of support. In the team's first year, they focused on connecting with religious leaders and houses of worship. Team members look forward to continuing to build these relationships and expand their reach by welcoming families and communities who may not be familiar with Girl Scouts.

## Communications & Brand Awareness Action Team

This team consists of numerous career professionals with years of expertise in branding, marketing, and corporate and non-profit communications. Team members are rapidly identifying new internal and external channels to reach various audiences with GSNI's news and opportunities. The team's biggest accomplishment is the development and launch of a GSNI podcast, led by a Girl Scout Alum. Future plans include creation of a social media toolkit for volunteers and an extensive communications audit. The team is also taking steps to engage more of the public on social media platforms such as LinkedIn and Instagram. Team Lead Kris Trusk, GSNI's Vice President of

Recruitment, Virtual Program, Brand, and Data Management, says, "We're excited about Girl Scouts, and we want the whole world to know it!"

## Older Girl Scout Action Team

This team took on one of the biggest challenges identified through the Appreciative Inquiry process—how to best retain and recruit youth members of Girl Scouts past the critical 5th grade drop-off point. Team members immediately set to work creating on-trend recruitment resources targeted to both youth members and their parents. Working with data collection and emerging technology, the team produced a Girl Scout Troop Directory for Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador levels, and is piloting use of the BAND App as a way for older youth members to have easy access to information and connect with one another. The team is also partnering with GSNI service units to provide hands-on discovery events for current 5th grade Girl Scouts as they become Cadettes. A poll was also conducted for all current Girl Scouts in grades 8–12 to provide opportunities for youth members interested in sharpening skills in blogging, social media influencing, vlogging, media, and hosting events. The team plans to provide training to give interested members avenues to advocate what's important to them and help recruit and retain Girl Scouts within their reach.

## Appreciative Inquiry





## Hiring for Diversity Action Team

This team's strategy is to advance and implement a plan for recruiting and hiring a diverse staff at GSNI—one that genuinely reflects all served communities. Team members have reviewed GSNI's current hiring processes and job postings to make recommended changes in attracting more diverse candidates when recruiting for an open position. Next steps include creating a survey providing demographic information of current staff to see if these changes have resulted in a more diverse staff overall.

## Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA)

Members of GSNI were profoundly saddened by the murder of George Floyd in the summer of 2020. Like many, the tragedy prompted us to re-examine our notions of IDEA and what we should do to ensure GSNI is an organization where every person and family feels welcomed and that they belong.

GSNI's Board and staff undertook a program of education and discussion throughout the last fiscal year to increase our understanding of racial justice and other equity issues. We began with a self-led program of racial justice issues, and beginning January 2021, every staff member participated in the United Way of Illinois' Equity Challenge.

We were fortunate to receive a grant for consulting expertise from the DeKalb County Community Foundation to examine our relationship with Native American peoples and their culture. This work is ongoing and leading to deepening relationships with representatives from this community. Six task groups are currently looking at issues of belonging, education, programming and activities, missing and murdered indigenous women and human trafficking, the use of Native American names and cultural artifacts, and land acknowledgement.

Through our work on Appreciative Inquiry, we view inclusion as key to GSNI's growth. We have recently integrated task forces to examine other issues of equity and belonging in GSNI, including being a welcoming organization for Black girls and their families.

Over the past fiscal year, we have created Flourish, an extensive program around mental wellness. This program contains materials for adults and young people. Flourish educates on the many mental health challenges that are facing youth today, especially since the pandemic. We recognize that if a young person is being bullied, human trafficked, suffering from depression and anxiety, or a member of the LGBTQ+ community, it may be more difficult to access the benefits of Girl Scouts.

We are just stepping into the waters of IDEA but recognize all our members will need to fully immerse themselves by education and action before we can honestly say we are truly an inclusive organization.



**GSNI is deeply grateful to those individuals, families, and companies for all financial donations made October 1, 2020–September 30, 2021.**

## Donors

### **\$10,000+**

Joan Chihan  
Patricia Laird  
Scott and Kelly McCleary

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We strive for accuracy in recognition of our donors and apologize for any errors. If a name does not appear on the list as it should, please contact GSNI's Philanthropy Department at 1-844-GSNI-4-ME (1-844-476-4463) or [customercare@girlscoutsni.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutsni.org).





## Juliette Gordon Low Society



**The Juliette Gordon Low Society was established to thank and honor friends of Girl Scouting who choose to make Girl Scouts part of their legacies and a beneficiary of their estate plans.**

Members of the Juliette Gordon Low Society are recognized locally and nationally by Girl Scouts of the USA. If you are interested in discussing planned gift opportunities and becoming a member of the Juliette Gordon Low Society, or if you have already named Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois in a planned gift but do not see your name, please contact GSNI's Philanthropy Department at 1-844-GSNI-4-ME (1-844-476-4463) or [customercare@girlscoutsn.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutsn.org).

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# Finances

## Statement of Financial Position FY21

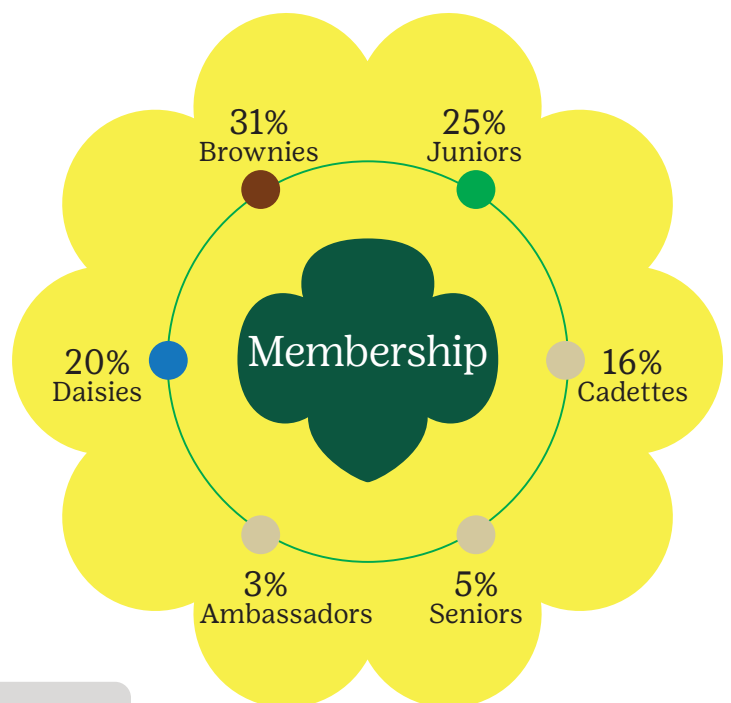
Current Assets	3,611,506
Non-Current Assets	5,864,162
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>9,475,668</b>
Current Liabilities	1,162,904
Net Assets	8,312,764
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$9,475,668</b>



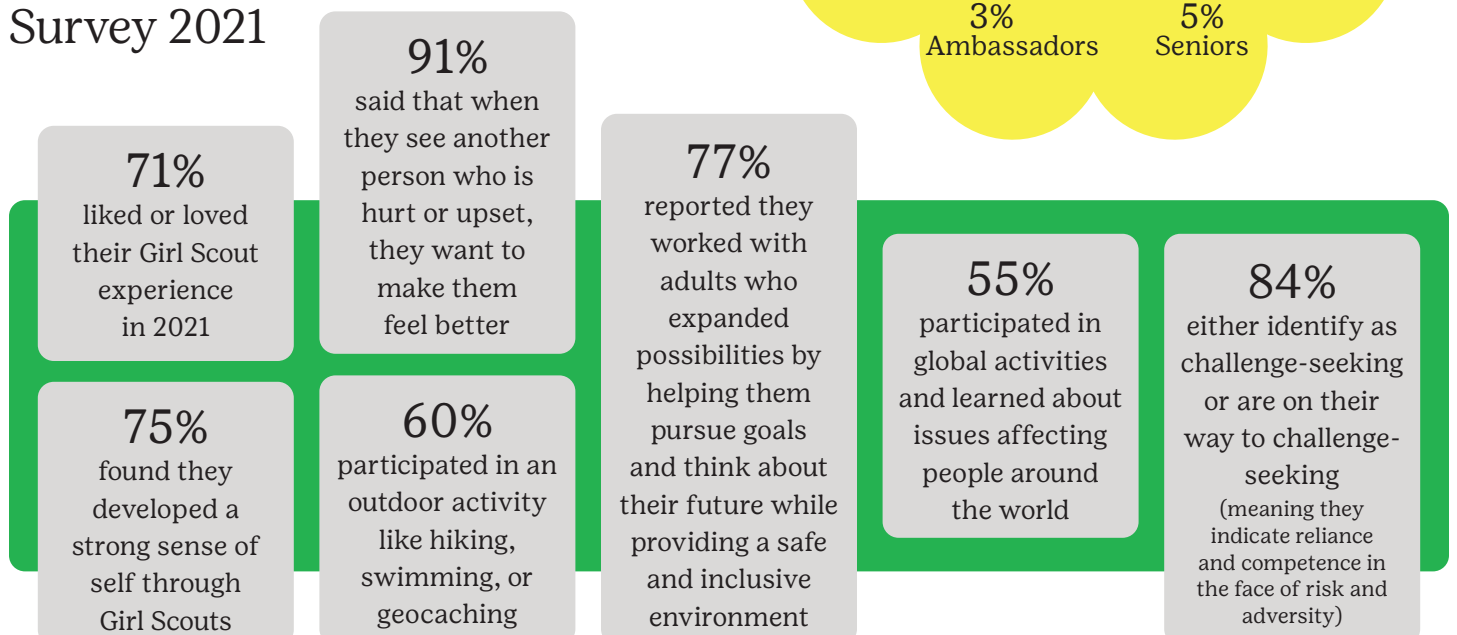
## GSNI Income and Expenses FY21

<b>Revenue</b>		
Product Programs	3,419,410	57%
Public Support	481,062	8%
Program Fees	79,271	1%
Retail	145,371	2%
Other	1,906,186	32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,031,300</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Expenses</b>		
Program and Property	4,211,105	77%
Fundraising	297,825	5%
Administration	990,192	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,499,122</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Girl Scout Voices Count Survey 2021







## GSNI Resource Centers

### **Freeport Resource Center**

1834 S. West Ave., Suite 21  
Freeport, IL 61032

### **Lake Zurich Resource Center**

499 Ela Rd.  
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

### **Oswego Resource Center**

3425 Orchard Rd.  
Oswego, IL 60543

### **Rockford Resource Center**

1886 Daimler Rd.  
Rockford, IL 61112

### **South Elgin Resource Center**

353 Randall Rd.  
South Elgin, IL 60177

## GSNI Camps

### **Camp Dean**

46W253 Camp Dean Rd.  
Big Rock, IL 60511

### **Camp McCormick**

9995 N. Girl Scout Rd.  
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

### **Mary Ann Beebe Center**

17501 Streit Rd.  
Harvard, IL 60033

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois recognizes that our camps and Resource Centers are located on the ancestral Native lands of Turtle Island, the original name for what now is called North America. Northern Illinois is the home of the Sauk, Meskwaki, Peoria, Kickapoo, Ho-chunk, and Potawatomi tribes and more. GSNI is committed to developing partnerships and programs that honor and amplify the voices of Indigenous communities and learning from their knowledge. With that, we pay our respects to Indigenous peoples both past and present.

A Land Acknowledgement is a statement recognizing the lasting relationship between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories. Recognizing the land is an expression of gratitude and way of honoring Indigenous peoples who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

Northern Illinois is home to one of the larger Native American communities in the United States living outside their lands in trust. The members of these Native American communities continue to share and celebrate their heritage, practice traditions, and care for the land.

The Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois are dedicated to the acknowledgement and preservation of Native American lands, and we seek to support indigenous communities with ongoing relationships with indigenous organizations and individuals.

**girl scouts**   
of northern illinois

1-844-GSNI-4-ME  
[www.girlscoutsni.org](http://www.girlscoutsni.org)

