



Board of Directors: *Officer*

Jessica Hirsch (*Deer Park*), 2nd Vice Chair Expires 2028

Board Development Committee Chair

- Girl Scout alum with the Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois
- Earned her Gold Award in 2001 and was chosen as a 2004 National Young Woman of Distinction, an honor given to ten Gold Award recipients in the nation each year
- Represented Girl Scouts of the USA as a youth panelist at the USDA Forest Service Centennial Congress and volunteered for various award ceremonies and troop events over the years
- Holds a Bachelor's degree from Illinois Wesleyan University and MBA from DePaul's Kellstadt School of Business.
- Currently Director, Discover Financial Services

Board of Directors: *Directors-at-Large*

Dr. Magdalena Rivera (*Crystal Lake*) Expires 2028

- Work: President and CEO of Illinois Migrant Council, 7.5 years
- Education: International PHD in Education, Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership and two Bachelors in Psychology
- Life: From Mexico, grew up in Pilsen, father's farm work brought her to Woodstock, a mother, wife, and grandmother
- Community: Human Rights Advocate, Latinos in Leadership and as-needed advisor on Immigration & English learner councils
- Girl Scout affinity: One year as a Girl Scout in Woodstock, and daughter Girl Scout, started as a Daisy
- Why: Be on boards where my participation can make a difference, and be a pillar for the next generation
- Referred by: Vanessa Mendoza-Reynoso, GSNI Director of Belonging
- Interviewed by: Jessica Hirsch and Kris Trusk
- Term: 3 years, starting April 2025

Vicki Weidenbacher-Hoper (*South Beloit*) Expires 2028

- Work: Associate Director, Rural Health Workforce & Center Development, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Rockford
- Education: University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health, BA Social Work from Luther College
- Life: Born in Iowa near the Dubuque area, has family and friends near Galena and in Freeport, mom of adult kids
- Community: Background in social work, and career has focused on pathway programs that empower people to know they have paths specifically in healthcare in rural areas, also served on committee to expand mental health workforce in Rockford
- Why: "It takes one caring adult to make a difference"
- Referred by: Angela Schmidt, GSNI Board Development

Committee

- Interviewed by: Jessica Hirsch and Kris Trusk
- Term: 3 years starting April 2025

Board Development Committee

Dana Vierck (*Elgin*)

Expires 2028

- Currently serving as Boad Chair and is up for another 3-year term on the Board of Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois, member of GSNi's Gold Award Committee, former board member for Girl Scouts - Sybaquay Council
- Dana is in her 61st year of Girl Scouting
- Former President of Altrusa International, Inc. of Elgin, IL and 2017-2019 Governor, Altrusa International District 6, former President of The Literacy Connection, former president of GFWC Elgin Junior Women's Club, former President of Women in Management-Northern Fox Valley Chapter
- Currently serves on Board of Directors for the Friends of Lords Park Zoo and the Board of Directors of the NW Obedience Club of IL
- Formerly employed as Director of Development for the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra
- Earned Outstanding Woman of Elgin Award, YWCA Elgin Leader Award for Community Service, Service Award from the NW Obedience Club of IL, Girl Scouts Outstanding Volunteer Award, and Girl Scouts Thanks Badge
- Lifetime Member, former staff member, and former National Council Delegate, husband served on Girl Scouts - Sybaquay Council's Camp Committee

Serene Taylor (*Aurora*)

Expires 2028

- Serene Taylor is passionate about brand reputation and using storytelling to creatively and strategically design impactful campaigns and events that deliver business results
- With first-hand experience with multi-channel marketing strategies and global content creation, she has been instrumental in improving brand awareness and thought leadership through strategic initiatives as Sr Marketing Communications Specialist at Nalco Water, An Ecolab Company, and Change Management Communications Lead at Purolite, An Ecolab Company
- A former Girl Scout, Serene earned her Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards

Angela Schmidt, PhD (*Rockford*)

Expires 2028

- Served on the GSNi Board of Directors for six years.
- Gold Award Girl Scout, former Girl Scout leader, and lifetime member
- Earned an Associate Degree from Rock Valley College, a Bachelor's in Math Education from the University of Illinois, a Master's in Counseling from Northern Illinois University, and a PhD in Counseling Psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison
- An active volunteer in the Rockford Region
- Currently providing Life Coaching through her business Potentialcity

Michael Campbell (*Fox River Grove*)

Expires 2028

- Currently serving as First Vice-Chair for the Board of Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois
- Currently serving as Acting Chair of the Board Development Committee
- Community affiliations include Fox River Grove Memorial Library (Board of Trustee Member), Fox River Grove PTO (Executive Board Member), Reaching Across Illinois Library Systems (Board Member), and

Software Information and Industry Association (Board Member)

- President, Forward Thinking EDU, Fox River Grove
- Daughter is a Girl Scout Senior

Emily Lenore (*Thomson*)

- Gold Award Girl Scout
- A Girl Scout since kindergarten
- Member of the GSNI Belonging Team
- Emily Lenore has been a member of Girl Scouts for 18 years and earned the Gold Award in 2020
- She has continued to be involved as an adult member, including volunteering with the Historians, helping to create the GSNI Friendship Circle Podcast, serving as a delegate to the 2020 National Convention, and working as a summer camp counselor at Camp McCormick
- Emily is an active member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of junior colleges
- She will graduate with High Honors from Sauk Valley Community College in May with an Associate's Degree in History. She was accepted to Augustana College and will study History and Scandinavian Studies there this fall

Board Appointed Associate Directors (*1-Year Term*)

Quinn Blevins, (*Morrison*)

- Quinn Blevins has been an active member of Girl Scouts for 11 years
- Served as GSNI delegate to National Council Session 2023
- They have completed Program Aide and Counselor-in-Training

- Earned the Summit Award (Daisy-Senior), Bronze Award, and Silver Award
- They have complete their Gold Award in August 2024 through a project that taught teens to use creative writing to improve their mental health and provided mental health first aid training to adults working with teens
- Junior at Morrison High School
- Participate in football cheerleading, basketball cheerleading - JV captain
- Scholastic bowl as JV captain and Varsity team member
- Participate in theater and band in the clarinet section.
- They are a chapter officer and delegate and state contest chair for the National Society of Children of the American Revolution and a Sauk Valley Community College Impact Program participant

Anna Bower (*Hanover Park*)

- Currently a sophomore high school student
- Member of Senior Girl Scout Troop 1132
- A Girl Scout since kindergarten
- Member of the GSNI Belonging Team
- Loves to participate in Girl Scouts activities and planning younger girl activities.
- Serves as a PA at her service unit's day camp.
- An active volunteer at her church with 3- and 4-year olds
- Plays piano
- Earned her Silver Award by creating sensory and fidget tools for children with special needs

