



2015 Impact Report  
**A LIFETIME OF...  
GIRL SCOUTING**





**Girl Scouts is the only organization with the reach and resources to help girls everywhere get anywhere they want to go!**

**Through Girl Scouting, girls gain practical life skills and form positive values, such as a strong sense of self. In troops and in their communities, they cultivate healthy relationships and confidently resolve conflicts.**

**Each leadership experience is a building block toward the next level of discovering, connecting and taking action. Such progression is an integral component of Girl Scouting. Mentored by dedicated volunteers, girls develop the skills that allow them to advance towards increasingly complex activities.**

**A Daisy learns the Girl Scout Promise and Law in kindergarten or first grade, pledging to help people and take responsibility. Later, as a Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador in high school, she internalizes those promises by identifying and addressing a local or global need.**

**We are developing a community of smart, capable and well-rounded women who will run businesses, lead government and advocate for change. More than 59 million American women were Girl Scouts during their childhoods. Today, Girl Scouting continues to inspire, challenge and empower girls.**

# A LIFETIME OF ... ACTION

**Carly Stachwick** learned there were very few camp options for kids with autism like her brother Shane, so she took action. Carly and other members of Troop 8250 earned their Silver Award – the highest honor for Cadettes – in 2012 by producing a weekend camp for children with autism and their fathers. Incorporating the inclusive nature of Girl Scout programs, the girls collaborated with the National Foundation for Autism Research to custom-design activities. The troop recently hosted its fifth camp. Their legacy will endure with help from younger Girl Scouts who will run future sessions.

Carly first honed her outdoor leadership skills as a camp aide and on canoe and backpacking trips. Inspired by Shane, Carly continues to champion for children as the Community Campership Council's first youth board member.



Girls who engage in Take Action projects  
(especially through their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards)  
report they feel more prepared to play active roles in  
their communities.







## A LIFETIME OF ... LEADERSHIP

**Shreya Huilgol** took part in a Girl Scout World Thinking Day that opened her mind to the global impact of Girl Scouting and her potential for making a difference. That event in elementary school introduced Shreya to other cultures and deepened her appreciation for her Indian heritage. It also laid the groundwork for a trip to India, where she helped save lives.

Inspired by her own life-threatening experience with high blood pressure, Shreya created "Step Up 2 Check Up," a medical program to address hypertension in children. Working in partnership with Rotary Club members, health professionals and teachers, she mounted a successful campaign to incorporate blood pressure tests into routine screenings at schools and health camps in India. Shreya's contributions earned her a Gold Award, Girl Scouting's highest honor – and influenced her decision to pursue a career in anesthesiology.



Girls learn specific STEM and leadership skills – like perseverance, problem solving and the ability to build and design things – through Girl Scout programming.



# A LIFETIME OF ... ADVENTURE

**Mariana Frangos** took her first Girl Scout hike at Torrey Pines State Reserve with her Daisy troop. As Juniors, they started camping in tents. Today, Mariana explores California on our backpacking trips, honing her outdoor abilities with her sister Girl Scouts. Their latest excursion, a 30-mile, weeklong trek through the jagged Minarets peaks, included opportunities to navigate with maps and compasses.

Mariana shares her love and extensive knowledge of the outdoors with girls and adults by training novice backpackers. Before finishing high school, she hopes to summit Mt. Whitney. Mariana also cherishes time at camps Winacka and Whispering Oaks, tackling challenges at the archery range and high ropes course, and guiding younger girls.

She'll take on the 12-day Counselor-in-Training session next summer, continuing to put her outstanding leadership skills to good use.

Through teamwork, fitness and fun, campers discover their power to achieve physical, mental and emotional goals.

- **98% of campers develop more self-confidence.**
- **96% of campers are more willing to try new things.**
- **95% of campers feel more confident taking on leadership roles.**





**Elements central to Girl Scouting –  
the all-girl environment and  
the great outdoors – challenge  
girls to develop leadership skills,  
practice teamwork, and explore  
opportunities to grow.**



# A LIFETIME OF ... EXPLORATION

**Roni Nelson's** ticket to world travel is Girl Scouting. Through our Destinations program, this 15-year-old built on the love for the outdoors she discovered at our camps and wilderness trainings. Her adventures include surfing in Costa Rica and high-level backpacking trips to an Andes mountain and along the Incan trail to Machu Picchu and Japan's Mt. Fuji. Roni's eye is now on Mt. Whitney, the tallest peak in the continental United States.

The fearless explorer discovered her ambitious side while selling cookies. Though shy about approaching customers as a Brownie, Roni now reigns as Girl Scouts San Diego's top cookie seller ... for four years running! This savvy teen also mentors a younger Girl Scout, sharing the business and leadership skills she learned through the cookie program. Roni invests cookie proceeds in travel and community service, including a Silver Award project to support World War II veterans.



Girl Scouts  
love to travel!  
Brownies  
take field trips ...  
teens explore the  
globe.





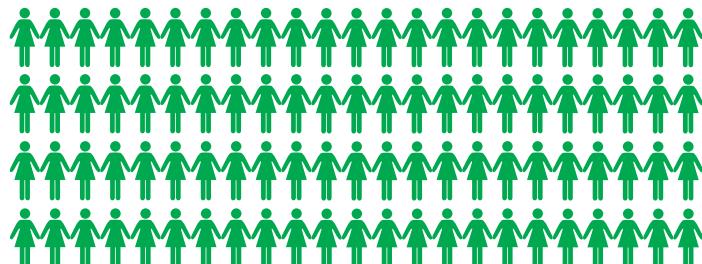
# A LIFETIME OF ... GIVING BACK

**Marycruz Resendiz** is the unofficial assistant leader of her mother's troop of younger girls. Her mom started Marycruz's own troop after discovering Girl Scouts through our Outreach program. As a Junior, Marycruz chose and earned badges with her new friends, cleaned up beaches and volunteered to paint faces at events.

Now the sophomore finds many ways to deliver Girl Scout experiences to others, such as lending a hand at council-wide celebrations, service unit cookie kickoffs, and badge workshops. Ever grateful for the chance to see Australia and Spain on Girl Scout Destinations, she gives presentations encouraging girls to travel. Marycruz puts her Girl Scout ethic to work in her community as well, volunteering each summer for the past seven years at a school for children with disabilities. All told, she's logged more than 1,000 hours of volunteer work.

Since 1980, our Girl Scout Outreach Program has provided educational opportunities to

**100,000 girls**



from underserved areas.

In 2015, Girl Scouts dedicated over  
**24,000 hours**  
to volunteer work.



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A photograph of a young girl with dark hair, wearing a black t-shirt. She is holding a small green plant with several leaves. The background is dark.

# A LIFETIME OF ... SELF-EXPRESSION

**Amaya Shivers'** favorite thing about her early days in Girl Scouts was making new friends and learning to help her community by tending her school's garden, picking up trash and participating in World Thinking Day.

More recently, she found an opportunity for creative collaboration, working with her fellow thespians in Empowerment Theatre to produce a showcase on human rights issues affecting women and girls. Amaya discovered she could use art to send a message about global matters and – even as a 12-year-old – confidently express her opinions before high school girls and adults.

She also finds sisterhood in troop camping trips, when her friends support one another to overcome their fears. Amaya is excited to work with the other girls on their troop Silver Award project; right now, she's enjoying hearing all their different ideas for taking action.

*Amaya (second from right)*

In our  
Empowerment  
Theatre program, a collaboration  
with La Jolla Playhouse,  
girls combine theater practices,  
art and discussion to find  
themselves and cultivate  
courage, confidence  
and character.

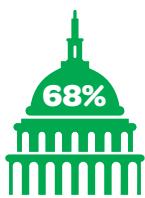
A young woman with long brown hair, smiling, wearing a tan Girl Scout vest over a white collared shirt. The vest is covered in various Girl Scout patches, badges, and sashes. She is standing next to a large American flag. The background is a soft-focus blue.

**Girl Scout alumnae  
of all generations,  
class and race display  
more positive life  
outcomes – sense of  
self, service, civic  
engagement, education,  
income – than women  
who were not Girl Scouts.**

# A LIFETIME OF ... EDUCATION

**Elena Crespo** believes there's no classroom like the world. The 17-year-old promotes social justice through Girl Scouts' Global Arms of Advocacy, a group that's currently exploring privilege through the lens of women's rights and education. Last year, GAA's focus on human trafficking gave Elena the foundation she needed to speak at our Conversation of Consequence about gender inequality and economic empowerment.

Elena also serves on our Girl Advisory Board. When GAB's ongoing discussion of girl-to-girl kindness and stress reduction led to a #RealTalk teen forum, she designed marketing materials and supported staff on the big day. A Girl Scout Destination trip to Central America in 2011 inspired her Gold Award project: Elena built a computer lab for the Panama school her group visited and, in the process, became founder and CEO of the nonprofit Let Children Learn.



68%

**68% of women in Congress ...**



80%

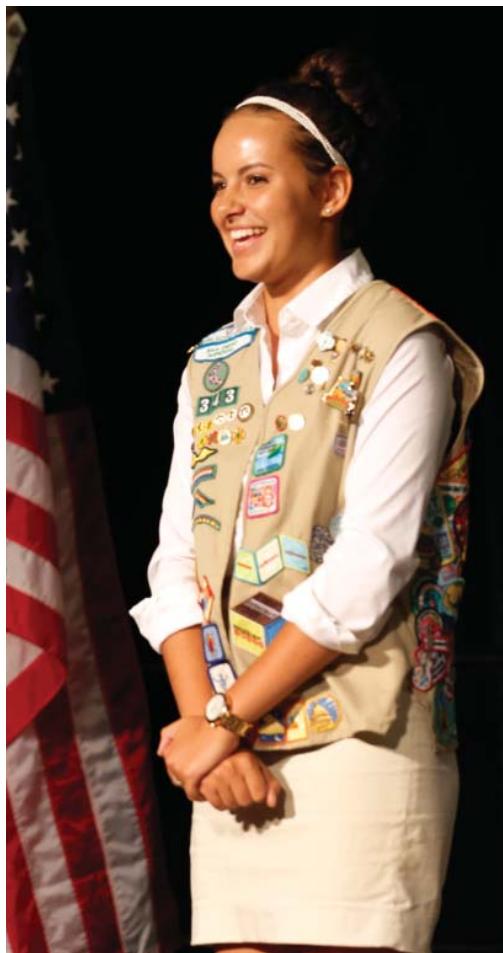
**80% of all female business owners ...**



**64% of Who's Who of American Women ...**

**Nearly all the female U.S. astronauts  
who flew in space**

**... were Girl Scouts!**





# A LIFETIME OF ... SERVICE

**Jo Dee C. Jacob** sums up her professional career as "From Navy Blue to Girl Scout Green!"

Jo Dee served her country and community for 42 years. During a distinguished career in the U.S. Navy, she attained the rank of captain, and became one of the first women in the all-volunteer force. When she came on board as CEO of Girl Scouts San Diego, she used her military savvy to originate the Operation Thin Mint® program that has sent over 2.5 million boxes of cookies and 20,000 handwritten notes of support to deployed military troops. Her far-reaching achievements also include spearheading two capital campaigns to improve and enhance our properties.

After nearly 15 years at the helm, Jo Dee announced her retirement, effective March 30, 2016. We thank Jo Dee for her positive impact on generations of Girl Scouts and volunteers.

Jo Dee looks forward to her next life adventures ... and will never forget: "Once a Girl Scout, always a Girl Scout!"





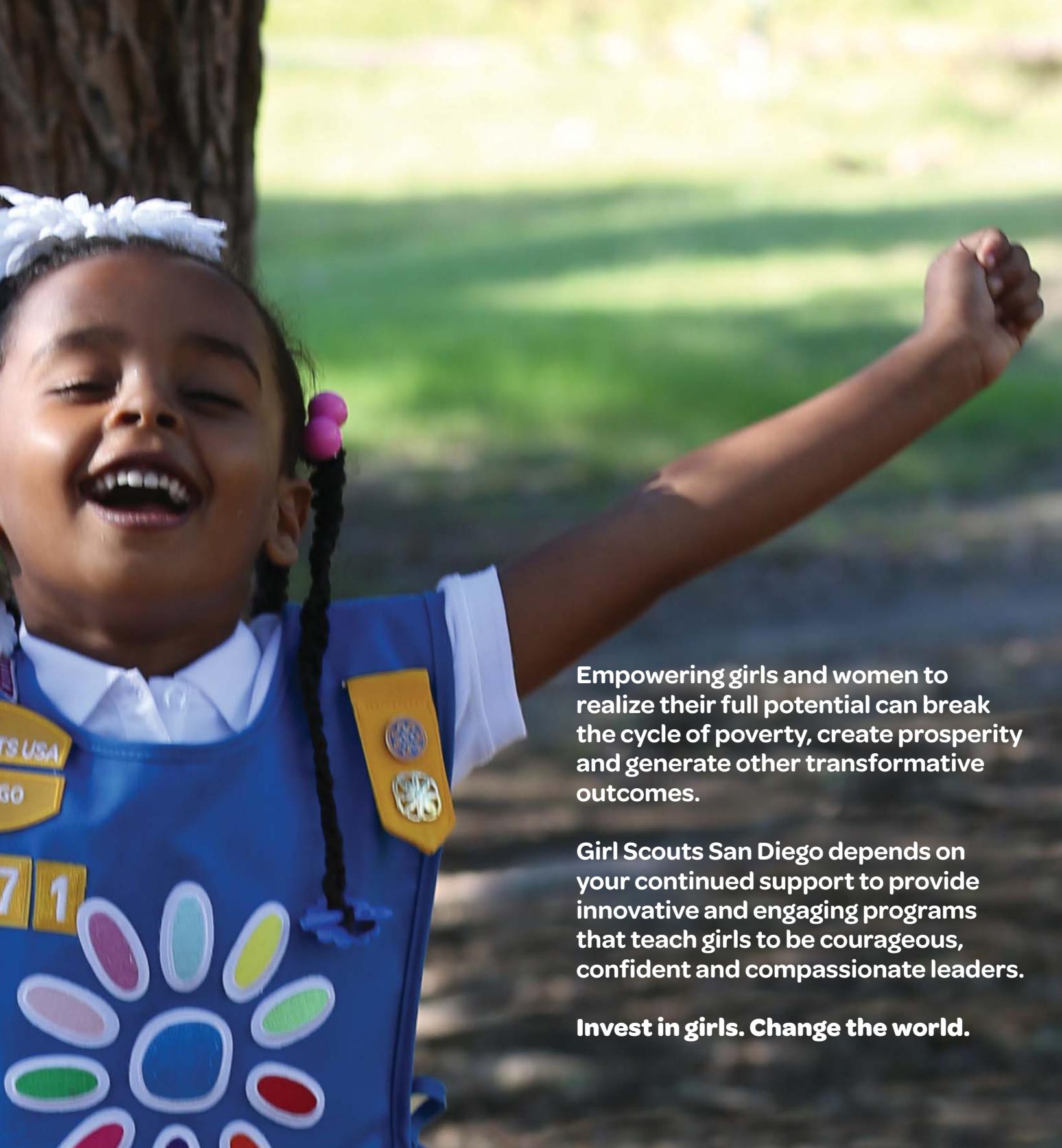
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# A LIFETIME OF ... POSSIBILITIES

**Chera Boyd** is looking forward to a world of adventures in Girl Scouting.

Her mom, Christie, says she knows great things await her daughter in Daisies and beyond. "I was a Girl Scout. I signed up Chera so she will grow into a strong, independent woman with morals and integrity who treats others well. Girl Scouting will reinforce the values we teach at home."





**Empowering girls and women to  
realize their full potential can break  
the cycle of poverty, create prosperity  
and generate other transformative  
outcomes.**

**Girl Scouts San Diego depends on  
your continued support to provide  
innovative and engaging programs  
that teach girls to be courageous,  
confident and compassionate leaders.**

**Invest in girls. Change the world.**

# Let's Build It Together!

The new cabin on level three of our Balboa Campus will serve as a base for our popular **Adventure Zone** and provide a safe environment for girls to take positive risks, learn by doing and experience cooperative leadership. Whether camping with their own troops or attending day camps with new friends, girls will be inspired to move from their comfort zones into their "stretch zones."

**Enjoying longtime camp traditions**, visitors to the cabin will learn the importance of preserving the environment, taking action to improve their communities, and mentoring one another as teammates and consensus builders.

**We invite you to contribute to the cabin building fund.** Your participation will help us continue to keep Girl Scouting exciting and relevant for today's girls. Let's build it together!

For details about the cabin, visit [www.sdgirlscouts.org/newcabin](http://www.sdgirlscouts.org/newcabin).



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1231 Upas St., San Diego CA 92103

