



Frequently Asked Questions

Where does the Family Partnership money go?

All contributions go directly to support Girl Scout programs – both the traditional troop programs and our community programs. In addition, Family Partnership funds support Girl Scout Troop Leader recruitment, Girl Scout Troop organization, support of our seven Girl Scout Service Centers, maintenance at our camps, Girl Scout Leader training, development of new programs– wherever they can have the greatest impact.

Why should I give? I already give so much to Girl Scouts, why should I give more?

Many of us come from Scouting families that invest in the work of developing strong male and female leaders. Girl Scouts is the premiere leadership development organization for girls. We are girl centric, girl led and Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. With the support of families through our Family Partnership program we will increase the amount of funding we have available to provide amazing leadership opportunities for our girls. Girl Scouts can no longer support itself with the cookie program alone to continue to provide innovative programming to girls. Girl Scout membership dues go directly to Girl Scouts of the USA. Giving to GSNEX helps to support Girl Scouts in your own area.

How much should I give?

Please give what feels right. This past year, we have been asking families to consider investing \$10 a month. We know that everyone has organizations that they support. We are asking that Girl Scouts be in your top three. We appreciate whatever you can do for Girl Scouts. The most important factor in Family Partnership is participation. We want to engage all of our families in giving and supporting their daughters and troops in Girl Scouting. Our goal is to have **100%** of our Girl Scout families participating at whatever level they can give.

Giving is a personal decision – please give what you can and know that your investment allows us to do more for your daughter and thousands of other girls who deserve amazing leadership experiences! We too feel the pinch and are doing all we can to support our girls. Monthly giving is a great option to give what you can without significantly impacting your budget for one month.

How can I give?

Remember to make your Family Partnership gift as you renew your membership or sign up as new member. Visit www.gsnetx.org and select the donate tab to make a Family Partnership gift online today or print out the Family Partnership flyer online to mail your donation. There are so many different ways to give outlined on page 10- give in the way that best fits you and your family.

Why do we ask our members for support?

With almost 27,000 families engaged in Girl Scouting, we feel very lucky to have such strong, passionate supporters. You are the ones who truly know the power of Girl Scouting! Therefore, we ask you to invest in our programs because you know the impact that each

dollar has. We are also focusing on corporate and foundation gifts, as well as asking individuals outside of our members to invest in the future leaders of tomorrow.

Can I give through my United Way gift?

We receive funds from United Ways across our 32 counties. We were an original partner with United Way of Metropolitan Dallas in 1924 and are still pleased to be in the core group of agencies providing services to girls and families in an effort to improve the education, income, and health of all in our community. If your company runs a United Way campaign, you can choose to give your Family Partnership gift through that campaign. These donations are applied to the Service Unit's Family Partnership goal as they come in to Council. Note: United Way does take a % of donations, so Family Partnership Coordinators need to be aware of this when tracking.

How can I get my company involved?

Some companies will match your contribution and some companies will support agencies for which you volunteer. Ask your employer and apply for the match – we can put it to good use supporting our girls! Please be sure to let your company and the Fund Development Coordinator know about the gift. The company will need to note on the check that it is for Family Partnership as well as identify the Service Unit and/or troop. Dollars contributed by companies can help you reach your goal and earn a rebate. If your company has a 'jeans day' or other fundraiser- ask for Girl Scouts to be a beneficiary!

Can my Service Unit benefit from Family Partnership gifts?

Yes! The council offers rebates to Girl Scout Service Units that actively participate in the family Partnership Campaign. These funds are distributed annually to the Service Units so that they are able to do more for the girls in their Service Unit at a very local level.

Does my gift support girls in my community?

In addition to the Family Partnership rebate program that brings dollars back directly to each Girl Scout Service Unit, the council is committed to providing programs and services in all of our 32 counties. Additionally, Family Partnership money also benefits anyone in your area that has applied for financial aid. We are excited about all of our girls across 23,000 square miles and are committed to providing great leadership experiences for them all.

How much does it cost to provide the Girl Scout leadership program to our girls?

The council invests more than \$413 per girl per year to provide quality program activities and training. This includes volunteer training and education, values and life skills training, leadership development programs, camp programs and maintenance, and much more.

Why can't we continue to rely on cookie revenue to support our programs?

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is a wonderful financial literacy program that teaches girls organization, responsibility, goal-setting, money management skills, business etiquette, and how to make "the ask." Today those dollars support much of our programming, but not all. As we continue to provide outstanding leadership opportunities for girls, the Cookie Program is not able to cover all of these costs. We must engage our families and the external community to support the leadership development of our girls to help them become the leaders of tomorrow. Building strong successful women is a cause that all families, not just Girl Scout families, should care strongly about, and we are working hard to share that message.