

Dear Editor,

Please accept this letter to the editor for your publication.

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### **Volunteers Bring Girl Scout Experience to Life**

As we observe National Volunteer Week April 10 – 16, I would like to acknowledge the more than 9,000 adult volunteers of Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council who devote their time and talents to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. These volunteers serve 34,000 girls in our 30-county council area as mentors, friends, teachers and role models. They join us wanting to share their skills, spend time with their daughters and other girls, and serve others. Soon they gain new friends, learn new skills, and find themselves enjoying making a significant difference in the lives of girls. As a nonprofit organization, we rely on our trained volunteers to deliver our programs to girls, ensure their safety at camps and events, hold troop meetings, organize fun activities addressing girls' needs and interests, handle troop finances and more. They serve selflessly and give their best to help girls from kindergarten through high school achieve their true potential. On behalf of our staff and the thousands of girls they serve, we would like to issue a public "Thanks!" to those caring women and men who have committed themselves to volunteer service.

Tammy Wharton, CEO

Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council

### **Note to editor about National Volunteer Week:**

Established in 1974, National Volunteer Week has grown exponentially in scope each year since, drawing the support and endorsement of all subsequent U.S. presidents, governors, mayors and other respected elected officials.

National Volunteer Week is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities. It's about demonstrating to the nation that by working together, in unison, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals. National Volunteer Week is about taking action, encouraging individuals and their respective communities to be at the center of social change—discovering and actively demonstrating their collective power to foster positive transformation.

National Volunteer Week is not only our moment in time to celebrate our volunteers, but to enable a nation to share ideas, practices, and stories, wherever they happen, and shaping a movement to re-imagine the notion of citizenship for the 21st century.

Source: Points of Light