

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Girl Scouts and Kroger Co. Partner to Support Mid-Ohio Food Bank

COLUMBUS – Ever wonder what happens to those delicious Girl Scout cookies that don't get sold? The Mid-Ohio Food Bank has found out. Today the Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council and Kroger joined together to donate \$9,000 cash and 5,268 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to the food bank.

Kroger supports the Girl Scouts and hunger relief by allowing the Girl Scouts to sell cookies at booths in their stores in March. As part of the scouts' Gift of Caring program, customers buying cookies may purchase a box and donate it to a charity. All Gift of Caring cookies sold at Kroger stores were designated for the Mid-Ohio Food Bank. Girls throughout the council's 30-county region sold 160 cases of Gift of Caring cookies, totaling 1,920 boxes of cookies worth \$6,720.

The Girl Scouts added another 279 cases of their cookies that remained after the sale as well, equal to 3,348 boxes worth \$11,718. Kroger also added to the donation with a check for \$9,000 to the food bank. The total worth of the donation of cash and 5,268 boxes of cookies to Mid-Ohio Food Bank is valued at \$27,438.

"We enjoy a great partnership with Kroger and the Girl Scouts," said Colin Baumgartner, communications director at Mid-Ohio Food Bank. "This donation of cash and cookies is a special treat for those we serve and will help thousands of people. It is a special joint venture of one of our grocer partners and a community partner working together."

The Mid-Ohio Food Bank serves more than 500 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, after-school programs, and senior housing sites across central and eastern Ohio.

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Cheryl McCormick (left), Kroger public affairs manager, Tammy Wharton, CEO of Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council, and Girl Scouts Judy Rodgers, Hope Buell, Emily Wildman, and Libbie Price present a check for \$9,000 and 5,268 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to Colin Baumgartner, communications director for Mid-Ohio Food Bank.

