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November 13, 2014

Ms. Sandra Tenorio
Executive Director
Texas Rural Communities
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Dear Ms. Tenorio:

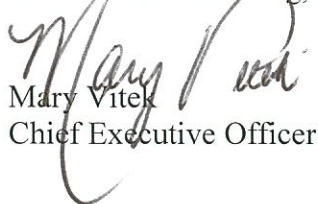
Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council requests that Texas Rural Communities make a \$10,000 investment in Girl Scouts on the Go. Through your support, we can empower approximately 800 girls residing in rural Galveston County neighborhoods underserved by out-of-school-time enrichment programs. We bring Girl Scouting to low-income public school campuses in rural communities, including Galveston, to enhance their school experience through a supportive, all-girl environment.

We believe that every girl should have the opportunity to participate in Girl Scouts: to develop courage, confidence, and character and become one of our future leaders. At Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council, we are committed to serving girls who often face overwhelming obstacles. We deliver several educational community outreach programs, including Girl Scouts on the Go, to empower girls who otherwise would not have the opportunity to participate in Girl Scouts.

Girl Scouting is a sound investment of your resources. The Girl Scout Leadership Experience received the "Exceeds Expectations" rating by United Way of Greater Houston in their 2012 program review and is one of only 14 programs to receive this rating out of more than 200 programs. GSSJC meets all 20 of the Better Business Bureau's Standards for Charitable Accountability, and we have a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.

Together we can make Galveston, its surrounding communities, and Texas a better place to live, work, and raise our families. Please contact Diane Pavey or me at 713-292-0300 with any comments or questions. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours in Girl Scouting,


Mary Vitek
Chief Executive Officer



Ensure Girl Scouting for tomorrow by considering Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council in your estate planning today.

Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council Girl Scouts on the Go Summary

Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council (GSSJC) requests that Texas Rural Communities make a \$10,000 investment in Girl Scouts on the Go to empower 800 girls in rural Galveston County with contemporary Girl Scout programming in approximately 27 sessions during the 2014-2015 year. Girl Scouts on the Go gives girls the opportunity to develop responsible values, increase their self-confidence, and build on their decision-making skills, all while enhancing traditional school curriculum.

Girl Scouts & Academic Achievement

The three processes of Girl Scouting are critical to girls learning to take on challenges and solve personal, interpersonal, and community problems:

- **Girl Led**
- **Learning-by-Doing**
- **Collaborative Learning**

When girls learn to seek challenges and solve problems in Girl Scouts, it helps them do the same in school, thereby supporting their academic growth. Girl Scouts offers a variety of different experiences where girls get to try new things and take on leadership roles. Girls gain skills and confidence that they take with them into their everyday lives, including school, which help equip them for success. Girls experience benefits in their learning aptitude and overall engagement in school, from displaying higher concentration levels and demonstrating an ability to focus cognitively to applying newly acquired concepts to their daily lives.

Furthermore, girls with lower socio-economic status report greater benefits from Girl Scouts than their more affluent counterparts, reinforcing the need for our community outreach programs that empower girls who would not otherwise have access to Girl Scouts (Girl Scout Research Institute 2013). GSSJC is the only organization addressing the need for high-quality all-girl programming in the Galveston community.

Need for the Girl Scout Leadership Experience

Companies employing women in large numbers outperform their competitors on *every measure of profitability*. While women have made significant progress in the workforce, women remain nearly absent at the top, and the number of female leaders has hardly increased over the last decade (Sheryl Sandberg, *Lean In*).

Our society will benefit from more female leaders not only because they can manage as well as men, but because they manage differently than men. The more diversity we have among leaders in the country, the better the range of ideas. Increasing women's presence in leadership roles is critical for our economy and for both Galveston and Texas to compete in the global marketplace.

**Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council
Request to Texas Rural Communities, Inc.**

Section I: Contact Information

a. Name, Mailing Address, Telephone Number and e-mail of Contact person for grant: Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council; 3110 Southwest Freeway Houston, Texas 77098; Contact: Diane Pavey, 713-292-0277, dpavey@sjgs.org

b. Name and Address of Organization: Same as above.

Section II: Organizational Description

a. Give a brief overview of your organization, including its mission, purpose, a short history and any major accomplishments. Founded in 1922 and located in Houston, Texas, Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council is a community-based organization dedicated to building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. In the 2012-2013 year, we served 62,900 girl members through the support of more than 18,000 adult volunteers in 26 Southeast Texas counties. Our mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) is the world's pre-eminent leadership organization for girls with a membership of more than 3.5 million girls and adults. Today, as when founded in 1912, Girl Scouts helps cultivate values, social conscience, and self-esteem in girls while teaching them critical life skills that will equip them for adult success. Girl Scouting provides a supportive all-girl environment that allows girls to build their skills and develop their greatest potential.

Section III: Program Description

a. What community and/or constituency needs will your program meet? How did you identify the need? Girl Scouts on the Go is delivered on public school campuses in Galveston County that have populations of girls who lack the parental, financial, and volunteer resources to otherwise participate in Girl Scouting. Adapted to the needs and challenges of the community served, Girl Scouts on the Go helps girls who are at-risk of dropping out of school find their personal paths into adulthood and prepare them to meet educational obstacles and peer pressure head on. In communities that are underserved by youth development programs, traditional troops can be difficult to develop due to the lack of volunteer support, transportation, and limited financial resources. We address this gap in service through bringing Girl Scouting and a positive adult role model to girls during and after school at no cost to them, their families, or the school through full-time staff members to deliver programs.

b. Give a brief description of your program. What are its primary goals? How will you accomplish them? This year, we are expanding upon the *It's Your Planet* curriculum we delivered in the 2012-2013 year that teaches girls about the environment and conservation. To build on the past programming, girls are learning about cultures and the environment in different states across the country to increase their knowledge of the world around them. This year's programming is incorporating lessons on manners and etiquette to help girls develop social skills. GSSJC is addressing bullying and helping girls develop healthy relationships through the Zink the Zebra program, a curriculum developed by a young Girl Scout who felt different than

her peers. As with all our programs, we instill girls with the tenets of the Promise and Law that promote girls developing into healthy, responsible young adults.

c. Describe the program participants or beneficiaries. Are you planning to serve people of a particular age group, ethnic background or income level? How many people will your program serve? Girl Scouts on the Go will serve approximately 800 at-risk Galveston County girls attending elementary and middle school. The goal of our outreach programs like Girl Scouts on the Go is to reach girls who are underserved by leadership and character development programs like Girl Scouting.

Of girls who participated in our community outreach programs in the 2012-2013 year, including Girl Scouts on the Go in Galveston, 21 percent were African American, one percent was Asian, nine percent were Caucasian, 56 percent were Hispanic, three percent of girls identified as “other,” and 10 percent chose not to report.

Of the 62,900 girls served in 2012-2013, more than one-third participated in Council-funded educational community outreach programs including Girl Scouts on the Go at almost 100 locations with the rest joining traditional volunteer-led troops. More than 2,300 girls attended summer camp in 2013 with over 12 percent receiving camperships, or camp scholarships for qualifying low-income girls.

d. Describe the aspects of your program that are unique or innovative. Is your program a model for other communities? How will you communicate your program’s success to other communities? Girl Scouts is the only organization in Galveston County that empowers today's girls to be the leaders of tomorrow. We deliver comprehensive programming to remove barriers to girls' success academically, emotionally, and socially and equip girls to develop their full potential. Other youth-serving organizations in Galveston County include Boys Scouts of America, the YMCA, and Boys & Girls Club, but Girl Scouts is the only organization delivering girl-led programming designed to close the leadership gap between men and women.

e. Include a one-page profit/loss statement and a budget for your program, including the total budget for each line item and how TRC funds would be used. If TRC were unable to fund the total amount you have requested, would you accept a smaller grant? Yes, we would accept a smaller grant if TRC cannot fund the total amount requested. Our profit/loss statement and program budget reflecting how TRC funds would be used are enclosed.

f. Describe the expected outcomes or accomplishments for your program. How will you measure these outcomes? Through an investment from Texas Rural Communities, GSSJC will achieve the following goals:

- Empower 800 at-risk girls with the Girl Scout Leadership Experience in approximately four Galveston school campuses and a summer day camp;
- Deliver Girl Scouts on the Go in approximately 27 sessions on girls’ school campus;

- Target school campuses underserved by youth development programs to reach girls who want to be Girl Scouts but lack the resources;
- Analyze feedback from school administrators at the end of the year to provide continuous process improvement and make the greatest impact possible on girls; and
- Offer camperships, or camp scholarships, to qualifying low-income girls who want to attend camp but do not have the resources otherwise.

GSSJC will tentatively deliver Girl Scouts on the Go on the following school campuses in the coming 2014-2015 school year and empower approximately 800 girls with our character, skill, and value development programs:

- Austin Middle
- Early Child Learning Center
- Early Childhood University
- La Marque Elementary

GSSJC will also deliver a week-long day camp in the summer of 2015 on Galveston Island.

g. Give a timeline for your project or program and expenditure of proposed grant funds. Girl Scouts on the Go in Galveston is being delivered during the current fiscal year that runs September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015.

h. If the organization has received a grant award from TRC in the two preceding years, report the timeline, outcomes and financial expenditures related to the award. GSSJC submitted a year-end report in September on the TRC grant we received last year for a different rural community, and an additional copy is enclosed for your reference.

**Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council
FY15 Girl Scouts on the Go - Galveston Budget**

Description	Galveston	Texas Rural Designation
Direct Staff Salaries/Burdens/Benefits	83,159	
Part-Time Program Delivery Staff	19,098	
FICA	1,461	
Unemployment	1,662	
Workers Compensation	50	
Program Supplies	7,680	5,000
Assistance to Girls (\$15 per girl x 6,400)	12,000	5,000
Girl Event	1,500	
Tokens of Appreciation for Community Partners	96	
Subtotal	126,706	
Overhead (14%)	17,739	
Total Expenses	\$144,445	
Total Request to Texas Rural Communities		\$10,000