

## Girl Scouts Heart of the South

### Working Towards Implementing the New Girl Scout Leadership Experience

The staff of Girl Scouts Heart of the South is hard at work to fully launch the New Girl Scout Leadership Experience by August of 2009. Before launching the program council-wide, we are selecting forty troops to pilot the 1<sup>st</sup> Journey Series: *It's Your World Change It* and give us feedback to successfully launch the program next year. The following is a timeline detailing our plan of implementation:

August '08-October '08	Selection, Training and Implementation of the Pilot Troop Project
September '08-October '08	Training Sessions for Staff and Volunteer Trainers
Beginning October '08	Training Sessions for SU Managers and Troop Leaders
March 2009	Conclusion of Pilot Troop Activities
April '09	New Leadership Experience Council-Wide Kick-off Event
August 2009	Launching of the Leadership Journeys & New Age Levels

### FACTS TO KNOW

- ✓ The New Journey Series: *It's Your World -Change It* girl and adult books will not be available to purchase from our retail shops until **April of 2009**.
- ✓ During this membership year, troops will continue to use the current Girl Scouts levels listed below; however all troops will transition to the use of the new levels at Girl Scouts Heart of the South by **August of 2009**.

#### Current Girl Scout Levels (Fall 2008-Spring 2009)

- Daisy Girl Scout (grades K-1<sup>st</sup> or ages 5-6)
- Brownie Girl Scout (grades 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> or ages 6-8)
- Junior Girl Scout (grades 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> or ages 8-11)
- Cadette Girl Scout (grades 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> or ages 11-14)
- Senior Girl Scout (grades 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> or ages 14-17)

#### New Girl Scout Levels (Beginning Fall 2009 @ Girl Scouts Heart of the South)

- Daisy Girl Scout (Grades K-1)
- Brownie Girl Scout (Grades 2-3)
- Junior Girl Scout (Grades 4-5)
- Cadette Girl Scout (Grades 6-8)
- Senior Girl Scout (Grades 9-10)
- Ambassador Girl Scout (Grades 11-12)

## **DISCOVER + CONNECT + TAKE ACTION= THE NEW GRIL SCOUT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

The three keys to leadership replace Girl Scouting's "four program goals."

- **DISCOVER:** Girls understand themselves and their values and use their knowledge and skills to explore the world.
- **CONNECT:** Girls care about, inspire and team with others locally and globally.
- **TAKE ACTION:** Girls act to make the world a better place.

### **The Process**

Girls discover, connect, and take action through activities which are Girl Led and feature Learning by Doing and Cooperative Learning:

- **Girl Led:** Girl led is just what it sounds like-girls plan an active part in figuring out the what, where, when, how, and why of their activities.
- **Learning by Doing:** This is a hands-on learning process that engages girls in continuous cycles of action and reflection that result in deeper understanding of concepts and mastery of practical skills.
- **Cooperative Learning:** Through cooperative learning, girls work together toward shared goals in an atmosphere of respect and collaboration that encourages the sharing of skills, knowledge, and learning.

### **The Model, Pathways, and Journeys Understanding the New Lingo on the Road to Leadership**

#### **The Leadership Model**

The leadership model provides the design for what girls do in Girl Scouting. It illustrates how adult support strengthens girls' experiences and drives and displays all the elements that must be in place to create a positive impact on girls' lives.

#### **Girl Scout Pathways**

A pathway is the way girls and volunteers join Girl Scouting. They can choose from several pathways, including troops, camp, events, special interest, destinations, and virtual (online) connections.

#### **Leadership Journeys**

Journeys represent the experiences Girl Scouts engage in to achieve leadership outcomes. For each Girl Scout grade level, GSUSA has created a series of leadership journeys accompanied by new resources and new awards.

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION & UPDATES IN THE MONTHS TO COME!**