



April 23, 2020

Dear Girl Scout Families and Volunteers,

At Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast (GSWISE), there is nothing we take more seriously than the safety and well-being of our girls, volunteers, and council staff. GSWISE will continue to take all possible and appropriate measures to ensure girls have a safe, fun, one-of-a-kind experience at Girl Scouts – **including opportunities like our new Girl Scouts at Home virtual leadership experience.**

While what health officials know about coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to develop, we do know that verified cases in our state and across the country have been increasing rapidly and on March 17, Governor Evers extended the mandated state-wide school closures indefinitely and banned gatherings of ten or more people. On March 23, the Governor also implemented a "Safer at Home" Order, therefore:

**Effective March 18, GSWISE has extended indefinitely its suspension of ALL Girl Scout in-person activities including girl programs and events, cookie booths, meetings, trainings, troop and other camping, and property/facilities rentals.**

We thank our members and supporters for your continued patience while our council has worked to take important steps necessary to minimize exposure to COVID-19 and its spread while doing our best to continue to provide a quality Girl Scout experience. And we strongly encourage our Girl Scout community to follow all Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for safe and healthy hygiene practices including frequent handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

**GSWISE also remains committed to ensuring that no troop will be in financial difficulty due to this public health emergency and the subsequent inability to hold Girl Scout cookie booths.** Further details on how we are working together with our Girl Scout troops can be found in the information below.

We continue to closely monitor official local, county, state, and federal guidance, and will be prepared to disseminate new, relevant information to our members and their families as it becomes available.

*For the most up to date information and guidance during this rapidly evolving community health crisis, please see the recent developments listed below. All updates are subject to change.*