



## The State of Girls in New York

In 2013 the Girl Scout Research Institute (GSRI) released a ground breaking report, *The State of the Girl: Unfinished Business*, which staked out key issues and major trends affecting girls' healthy development. This year the GSRI went even further, drilling down their finding to each state in the Union. New York with 1,513,659 girls ages 5 to 17 living within its borders was ranked 21st out of 50 states on an overall index of well-being for girls. This index includes measures of a girl's physical health and safety, economic well-being, education, emotional health and extracurricular activities.

Girl Scouts of Nassau County (GSNC) found that it is addressing these important measures through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE). The 18,609 girls who are members of Girl Scouting in Nassau County are improving their well-being while learning new skills, forming healthy relationships and having FUN.



## **Dear GSNC Members, Parents and Donors,**

We had another wonderful year at Girl Scouts of Nassau County, and each of you had a part in our success. Thank you! Our girls learn, lead and laugh. Our volunteers give generously of their time and talent to ensure that our girls are prepared for today and tomorrow. Our donors safeguard the continuance of our work through their trust and generosity.

We've included a summary of the Girl Scout Research Institute's Report on The State of Girls in New York as part of the 2014 Girl Scouts of Nassau County Annual Report and while it is heartening that our state ranks in the upper half of the country in meeting the needs of girls, we still have a long way to go until every girl in the world is safe and healthy. With your help, we will continue that quest one Girl, one Troop, one Journey, one Badge, one box of Cookies and one great experience after another.

Stay with us as we continue our mission to *Build girls of Courage, Confidence and Character* who *Make the World a Better Place* ... Our girls need us!

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Wanda Jackson

Suna S.

President and Chief Volunteer Officer

Jorna Gravolo

Donna Ceravolo

Executive Director/CEO

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Family and Children Association

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Barbara Murphy Schwaner, LCSW, BCD

Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Kathleen Rau retired

**Leslyn Williams-Mitchell** National Urban League

**Connie Fratianni Wysota** Shearman & Sterling LLP



## Physical Health and Safety

In 2014, 7,546 girls participated in Girl Scout programs and activities that improved their physical health and safety. These girls earned over 5,323 GSUSA badges, and 2,223 girls attended programs designed to get girls moving both indoors and outdoors. They learned new skills that challenged their bodies and minds such as Cross-Training and Geocaching. They learned to safely navigate the waters of our island at Camp Blue Bay and through the Water badge or how to a make a splint out of an everyday object as part of the Senior First Aid badge. Girls avoided the hazards of the Internet by earning their *Internet Safety* badge. They fine-tuned their sportsmanship and participated as team members while earning their My Best Self or Coaching badges. They discovered where their food comes from and how it is grown through their work on the New Cuisines and Locavore Badges. Council events like Girls Go the Distance Walkathon and Activity Fair, City Scrambler, Bowling Bash, Girl Scout Garden, and Survival Challenge motivated girls to move and be healthier. Summer Camping at Blue Bay or Summer Fun Day Camp exposed the girls to the fun of being outdoors while making lifelong friends.

## **Economic Well-Being**

The Girl Scout Cookie Program and our companion program, Mags&Munchies and Memories have helped 16,717 girls develop and improve their economic well-being. These programs foster five skills of economic success: goal-setting, decision-making, money management, people skills and business ethics. These programs, along with the 4,484 GSUSA badges earned, such as Money Counts, Cookie CEO and Financing My Future combined with Council events like Women of Wall Street, Entrepreneurial Envoys and Women in Science and Medicine, impacted the economic well-being of girls in Nassau County while giving them a chance to earn and learn in a safe environment.

These future business owners and industry titans will truly make the world a better place for us all.



## Education

Education is more than academics. Learning occurs in many ways, including using your hands, trying something new, finding your passion or discovering your abilities. GSUSA Badges and Journey Awards allowed 10,604 girls to try their hands at being a *Detective, Computer Scientist, Woodworker and Special Agent*. They became *Public Policy* experts, they took a look *Inside Government* and learned about *Finding the Common Ground*. Exploring Career options at North Shore-LIJ Hospital, learning to program a robot as a member of a team in the FIRST LEGO League or Imagine Your Possibilities at the AT&T sponsored STEM Conference. They learned to honor and respect their flag and show their patriotism through the GSNC Ceremonial Unit; they learned to be media savvy through the GSNC Media Girls and *Day in the Life of a News12 Reporter and Cameraman* programs.

They also learned how to make a difference in this world by developing Take Action projects that address a need in their community both close to home, beyond Long Island and across the globe. To earn the highest awards in Girl Scouting, the Bronze Award for Girl Scout Juniors, the Silver Award for Girl Scout Cadettes and the Gold Award for Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors, each girl identified a need and then developed a solution to address this issue and shared their efforts with others. The results are truly impressive with 2,144 girls achieving these awards in 2014. A special salute must be given to the 70 girls who earned their Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouts.

Experiential learning has been the hallmark of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience for more than 102 years and here at GSNC it continues to effect the lives of girls and assures their well-being.



## The State of Girls in New York

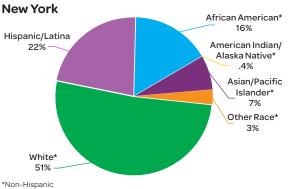
This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 1,513,659 girls ages 5 to 17 living in New York. Girls in New York rank 21st out of 50 states on an overall index of well-being that includes measures of girls' physical health and safety, economic well-being, education, emotional health, and extracurricular activities.

## State Rankings of Girls' Overall Well-Being

Top States	Rank
New Hampshire	1
North Dakota	2
South Dakota	3
Massachusetts	4
Vermont	5
New York	21

Areas of Girls' Well-Being in New York	
Area	State Rank
Physical Health and Safety	19
Economic Well-Being	26
Education	10
Emotional Health	27
Extracurricular Activities	22

## Racial/Ethnic Composition of Girls in



In 2012, about 22% of girls ages 5 to 17 in New York were Latina, 51% were white, 0.4% were American Indian, 16% were African American, 7% were Asian, and 3% identified with other racial groups.

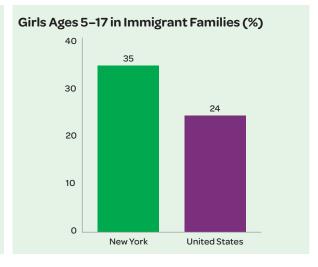
About 35% of girls ages 5 to 17 in New York live in immigrant families,\* compared with 24% of school-age girls nationwide.

\*Children who are foreign-born or who reside with at least one foreign-born parent.

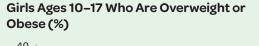
#### Girls Ages 5-17 in Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity

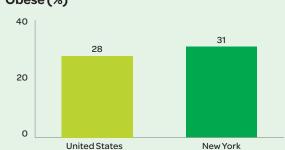
	•
Race/Ethnicity	Percent
All girls	23
White*	13
Hispanic/Latina	37
African American/Black*	31
Asian/Pacific Islander*	27
Other Race*	21
*Non-Hispanic	

Data are not shown for all racial/ethnic groups because of the small sample size.







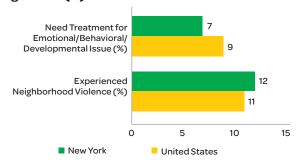


In New York, about 23% of school-age girls are living in poverty.

About 31% of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.

Roughly 12% of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

## Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6–17 (%)



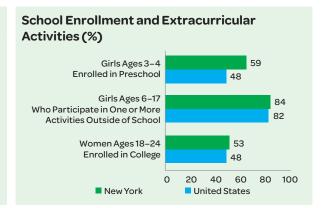
# Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (%)



Roughly 38% of fourth-grade girls in New York are proficient in reading and 30% of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math.

In New York, 59% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.

About 84% of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.



Data is not destiny! As the premier leadership organization for girls, Girl Scouts is committed to ensuring that all girls develop to their full potential. To learn more, visit www.girlscouts.org/stateofgirls.

Source: PRB analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2011-12 National Survey of Children's Health, and U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). For information about the state-level index of girls' well-being, see www.girlscouts.org/stateofgirls

 $Note: ACS and \, NSCH \, estimates \, are \, based \, on \, surveys \, of \, the \, population \, and \, are \, subject \, to \, both \, sampling \, and \, nonsampling \, error.$ 

September 2014, Girl Scout Research Institute

## **Emotional Health**

The Emotional Health of a girl is often measured with negative words in The State of Girls in New York research. Words like obesity, bullying and depression are linked to a girl's well-being, but here at GSNC we look for ways to provide tools to help girls cope and overcome these negatives in their lives. The all-girl environment of GSNC helps girls feel safe. GSUSA Badges such as *Eating for Beauty, Making Choices, Fair Play, Social Butterfly, Simple Meals, Science of Happiness* and Council programs like *BFF: Be a Friend First* and *Love Your Selfie* were designed to help girls develop confidence in themselves. Emotional Health also comes from the ability to reduce the stress of daily life. Learning a new hobby or sport at Camp Blue Bay, finding a way to change their environment through organic gardening in the GS Garden, expressing their passion for animal rights in a Gold Award project and allowing creativity to flourish as they wrote a new one-act play for *Theatri-Gals* are all ways to foster emotional health.



Girls need extracurricular activities for their well-being and GSNC is ready to fill that need. In 2014, 18,609 girls in Nassau County became members of Girl Scouts. Throughout the year, girls in Troops, Council-sponsored groups and individually registered Girl Scouts earned 24,071 GSUSA Badges. Girls attended programs, events and activities that allowed them to Discover, Connect and Take Action while having fun and making new friendships.

## GSNC is Nurturing the Well-Being of Every Girl

A girl's well-being needs to be nurtured and some girls need a helping hand to participate in Girl Scouts. To ensure that all girls can be a Girl Scout, GSNC provided over \$45,032 in financial assistance in 2014 to cover the cost of uniforms, membership fees, Troop dues, books, program opportunities and camperships for girls. Girls are never turned away from Girl Scouts of Nassau County because of an inability to pay.

GSNC strives to reach girls from every community in Long Island. Our membership reflects the diversity of Nassau County. In 2014, 12.4% of Girl Scouts in Nassau County identify as Hispanic, 8.7% identify as Black/ African American and 3.6% identify as Asian Americans. We have work to do in these minority populations, and we continue strong volunteer and staff focus on these populations through our Hispanic/Latino Task Force, Asian Task Force and UMOJA Alliance.

As the GSRI report details, every girl is at risk in some way, and our members, parents, donors and the community can be confident that Girl Scouts of Nassau County will continue to work hard to improve the well-being of girls in the state of New York! Because as our founder, Juliette Gordon Low said we have "something for all the girls!"

## Chairs of Association Volunteers and Delegate Chairs

#### Baldwin

Sheree Lindsay Yvette Holmes

#### Bay

Mary Elizabeth Delaney Lynn McDonnell *Christina Girardi* 

#### Bellmore

Patricia Miller
Joan Monastero

#### Carle Place/Westbury

CAV position vacant Paula Ducker-Davy

#### Central Park

Susan Garfinkel Beth Elenko

#### East Meadow

Jeanette Rotolo

#### ELLM

Debbie O'Connor Karen Feltkamp

#### **Elmont**

CAV position vacant Alexis Greaves

#### Five Towns

Blasia Baum Allison Castagna

#### Floral Park/Bellerose

CAV position vacant DC position vacant

#### Freeport

Alison Flaumenbaum
Leslie Thomas

#### Garden City

CAV position vacant Kimberly Murphy

#### Glen Cove

CAV position vacant Barbara Betkowksi

## Great Neck

Leigh Gresalfi Dana Epifan

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Barbara Ann Keenan Klavdia Krieg

### Hempstead

Annie Barrett Janet Gordon

#### Herricks

CAV position vacant Teresa Santosus

#### Hicksville

CAV position vacant Eileen Sill

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CAV position vacant Concetta Slaney

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Janine Dagger Mary VandenHeuvel Maureen Tredwell

#### Shore

CAV position vacant Deborah Ilberg

#### Uniondale

Cynthia Gamble Beverly Edouard

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Supervisor Kate Murray

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## A special thank you to each of you for your support!

You make sure the Girl Scout Leadership Experience is available to every girl in Nassau County. You make a positive impact in the lives of girls, and you break down barriers to participation by funding membership and program fees, camp and S.T.E.M. activities and so much more.

(If we omitted or misspelled your name, please accept our apologies and notify us at agostaa@gsnc.org so we can make the corrections.)

#### Summary of Selected Financial Data (For the Year Ending December 31, 2014) 4% **Assets** 2014 Expenses by Category **Current Assets** 23,990,477 Membership 9% Fixed Assets, Net 1,873,043 Volunteerism **Total Assets** 25.863.520 **Programs** 25% Camp **Liabilities and Net Assests** Management 15% **Total Liabilities** 263.462 **Public Relations** Net Assets: Fundraising Unrestricted: 15% 25% General Fund 470.059 **Expenses** Land, Building & Equipment 1,873,042 Program Services Expenses: Board Designated Endowment Fund 6,860,557 Membership 1,423,317 Board Designated Capital Fund 6,248,698 Volunteerism 861,012 Board Designated New Directions Fund 10,075,635 **Programs** 1,417,473 Temporarily Restricted 18.972 849,908 Camp Permanently Restricted 53.095 Supporting Services Expenses: **Total Net Assets** 25,600,058 Management 530,752 **Total Liabilities & Net Assets** 25,863,520 **Public Relations** 402,270 **Fundraising** 255,126 **Public Support & Revenues** 5.709.858 **Total Expenses** Public Support 327,074 Revenues 5,532,909 Excess (Deficiency) Of Public Support &

Revenues Over (Under) Expenses

Financial Statements of Girl Scouts of Nassau County, Inc. are audited by Nawrocki Smith, LLP

Total Public Support & Revenues

5,859,983

150,125



#### The Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

#### The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

#### The Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

#### Girl Scout Misión

Girl Scouts ayuda a las niñas a desarrollar el valor, la confianza en sí mismas y los principios para hacer del mundo un mejor lugar.

#### La Promesa de Girl Scouts

Por mi honor, yo trataré: De servir a Dios y a mi patria, ayudar a las personas en todo momento, y vivir conforme a la Ley de Girl Scouts.

#### La Ley de Girl Scouts

Yo me esforzaré por:
Ser honrada y justa
cordial y servicial,
considerada y compasiva,
valiente y fuerte, y
responsable de lo que digo y hago,
y por
respetarme a mí misma y a los demás
respetar la autoridad
usar los recursos de manera prudente,
hacer del mundo un lugar mejor, y
ser hermana de cada una de las Girl Scouts.

### **Girl Scouts of Nassau County, Inc.**

110 Ring Road West, Garden City, NY 11530 Tel 516.741.2550 Fax 516.741.2207 gsnc.org



