

# On my honor, I will... not do this alone.



Girls who have family support and participation in their Girl Scout adventures are *more likely* to stay in Girl Scouts. Ask your parents to volunteer four hours this year - 4Her! **Troops excel when parents take part.** 

### Family volunteers can:

- 1. Manage troop cookie program as a **Troop Cookie Manager**
- 2. Coordinate communication (i.e. Facebook group, parent emails, etc.)
- 3. Provide transportation for troop outings & activities
- 4. Volunteer to get **First Aid certified** to help with activities
- 5. Manage troop funds & bank account as the **Troop Finance Volunteer**
- 6. Offer to host & facilitate meetings in your business or coordinate the use of a local venue (church, library, rec center, school)
- 7. Organize badge work for the troop; rotate leading badge activities
- 8. Get **Troop Camp certified** for camping and/or overnight trips
- 9. Organize community service projects & activities for the troop
- 10. Create & manage a snack calendar for meetings year-round



## Tips for working with family volunteers

#### **Communicate with Families**

- Hold a Parent Meeting early on to build a network of success for everyone.
- Don't be afraid to set an expectation of family involvement (most families are looking for that opportunity anyways). Ask for 4 hours minimum per family, per year.



Stay in communication – create a troop calendar, budget, and plan for how you will update parents. Use a parent volunteer to help create and share this information.

#### Provide Options for Families to Take Part

- ► Use the 4Her sign-up sheet to give families ideas of ways they can help and give them a means to commit to helping the troop.
- Family means more than just mom and dad, by the way. If a grandparent or aunt wants to volunteer by all means, yes.
- ► View and print 4Her resources online at girlscouts-ssc.org under the "Volunteer" tab.

#### **Recognize Family Efforts**

- Say thank you.
- Encourage families to track their time spent on Girl Scouts, so they can be recognized for it. Many large corporations make a donation to the nonprofit where their employees give of their time. Check with your company to see if they have an employee volunteer match.
- ► Girls can earn the GSSSC 4Her patch for each parent/guardian that volunteers with her troop (volunteer approval process must be followed where applicable). Adults are also eligible for other council recognitions as well. (Leaders may submit copies of parents Sign-Up Sheets after the completion of 4 hours. Patches will be issued 2 times per year. January and May)





#### Parents and other family members can take an active role in supporting your Girl Scout's experience.

What Can a Four-Hour Promise Really Do?

- The Four Hours, For Her Promise is an open door to participation for parents and family members. It can build a solid support base and strengthen a girl's chances of longevity with the troop. You'll witness the positive effect your participation has on the troop and your daughter. Your troop can accomplish so much more with just a little help! Communication between you and other troop families significantly increases. •
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- You build future volunteers as children witness parent volunteerism first-hand. •

Note: All adults who help the troop regularly, have regular contact with girls, transport girls or handle troop funds must complete the GSSSC volunteer application and background check process. Begin at <u>www.girlscouts-ssc.org</u>.

I would like to help my Girl Scout earn her 4 For Her patch!		
Adult Name	_ Email	
Girl Scout (s) Name	τ	<sup>-</sup> roop #
I can help by (Please see listing below and on next page or work with Troop Leader for form for each troop if assisting in multiple troops)	or other roles needed. Pleas	e use a separate

ROLE	DESCRIPTION
Assistant Leader	Provide regular support to the key leader of the troop and attend all meetings. Registration, training and background check required. Select "Troop Leader" when registering.
Activities Leader	Assist in leading activities; example, craft projects, games, etc. on an as needed basis. Registration and background check may be required.
Troop Treasurer	Work with leader to help with budgeting, collection, deposits and payment of troop funds. May also support financial literacy activities with troop. Registration and background check required. Select "Troop Volunteer" when registering.
Camping Adult	Drive and chaperone the troop on overnight camping trips. Registration, training and background check required. Select "Troop Volunteer" when registering.
Driver	Drivers are needed to transport girls on field trips, troop camping or day-camps, carpool for meetings, to trans- port equipment, and more. Drivers must be 18-years- old, a registered and background checked GS member, licensed and insured. Select "Troop Volunteer" when registering.
Troop Cookie Manager	Help girls set and reach goals, provide girl and family support, assume responsibility for cookie orders and pick-up, booth sale sign-ups, troop cookie finances, girl recognition orders and other aspects of the Cookie program. Registration and background check required. Select "Troop Cookie Manager." when registering.

Cookie Program Booth Chaperone	Pick up cookie cases from Cookie Manager, set up booth table and chaperone shifts of girls during annual cookie program. Return money to Cookie Manager. Usually 2-4 hour shifts on weekends in February/March. Registration and background check required.			
ROLE	DESCRIPTION			
Supplies Coordinator	Coordinate collection and purchase of troop craft sup- plies.			
Refreshment Coordinator	Set up the schedule of girls/parents bringing snacks for each meeting and send out reminders.			
Special Event Coordinator / Decorations	Provide support in making decorations and coordinating logistics for troop ceremonies, holiday parties, meetings and other events. Several parents may sign up for this role.			
Child sitter	If the troop leader and assistant troop leader have younger children, volunteer to help watch their child(ren) during the meeting (usually 2-3 hours bi-weekly). Several parents may sign up for this role.			
Communications support	Share troop news with your Service Unit, local press, and families. Volunteers may choose to create a newsletter, online portal, or other method of communicating about troop happenings. Take pictures, share and archive for the troop.			
Badge/Patch Pal	Help sew uniform patches and badges for those needing help or be the shop runner/web order placer, to purchase badges/awards. Offer support to coach girls through their badge requirements as individuals. Troops may assign one adult volunteer or ask each parent/guardian to take on this role.			

**Do you have a talent not represented above?** Let your troop leader know! From song and skit leaders to photographers, hobby experts, firewood suppliers and more, there is a place for you to volunteer with your Girl Scout troop.

**Complete this sign-up sheet and return it to your troop leader.** Troop leaders will contact each family volunteer to confirm assignments for the year.

**Girls can earn GSSSC's 4Her patch** for four hours a parent/guardian volunteers with her troop, to wear on the back of her sash or vest. Volunteer approval process must be followed where applicable. Girls will be issued their patch after the completion of adults 4 hours. Adults are also eligible for other council recognitions as well.

For Troop Leader Use - (Troop Leaders, pleas W Barnes St., Boise, 83709 or <u>customercare@</u> Service Units for distribution)				
Troop Leader Name			_Troop #	_SU#
Troop Leader Address				
City	_Zip	_Email		
How many hours did family member complet	e?			