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ON IMMEDIATE RELEAS

MEDIA NOTES:

- Unique and inspiring Girl Scout volunteers are available for interviews/profiles. <u>Click here</u> to read about some of them who are doing remarkable things for girls in greater LA. Please contact Melanie Larsen, 626-677-2339, to find out about interesting local Girl Scout volunteers.
- Click here for a list of local Girl Scout recruitment/information events open to the public.

GIRL SCOUTS OF GREATER LOS ANGELES CALLS FOR NEW MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

New research shows majority of parents and volunteers see benefits for girls and participating adults

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 10, 2014 – Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSGLA) is making its end-of-summer push for girls and adult volunteers to join Girl Scouts, the country's preeminent leadership development organization for girls. With families already thinking about how to allocate their time during the new school year, Girl Scouts has released new data showing the organization's benefits for both girls and volunteers.

Results of a summer 2014 pulse poll conducted with more than 3,500 volunteers and parents of Girl Scouts show positive effects on members of all ages. Ninety-seven percent of parents agree that Girl Scouts has been a positive activity for their daughter, that she has had fun and exciting new experiences (95 percent), and that she has learned or tried something new (96 percent). In addition, 94 percent of parents say that because of Girl Scouts their daughter feels special, has more friends (95 percent), and is happier (89 percent).

The data also shows it is not just girls who benefit: 94 percent of volunteers have made new friends, 88 percent believe their life is better because they volunteer with Girl Scouts, and two-thirds believe their volunteer experience has helped them professionally. Ninety-five percent of Girl Scout volunteers are happy knowing they are making girls' lives better.

In greater Los Angeles, there are currently 40,000 girls registered as Girl Scouts—that's four percent of the one million girls in grades K–12 in the region. The council already has approximately 6,500 girls waiting to start their Girl Scout adventure; all that's missing is volunteers—mainly troop leaders and co-leaders—to lead the way.

"Girl Scout volunteers help us bring fun, friendship, and new confidence-building experiences to girls ages 5–17. Imagine what that can do to shape the next generation of female leaders," said Lise L. Luttgens, GSGLA chief executive officer. "We want every girl in greater LA to have the opportunity to join Girl Scouts and gain the courage, confidence, and character she needs to realize her full potential—but we need volunteers to help make this happen."

Girl Scouts helps foster a lifetime passion for learning and offers a variety of unique opportunities to girls, including programs in robotics and rocketry, community service, leadership and public speaking, travel, outdoor adventure, arts and culture, and more.

Girl Scouts is open to all girls from kindergarten through grade 12. Adults over age 18 may become volunteers and can come from all walks of life; they are men, women, young professionals, retirees, college students, and more. To join or volunteer, please visit girlscoutsla.org.

About Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles serves more than 40,000 girls in partnership with more than 20,000 volunteers throughout the diverse communities of Los Angeles County and parts of Kern, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. The council engages girls through programs in Leadership, Business and Financial Literacy, Outdoor Adventure, STE[A]M (science, technology, engineering, art, math), and Healthy Living. To join, volunteer, reconnect, or support, visit www.girlscoutsla.org or call 213-213-0123.