

## PRESS RELEASE

### GIRL SCOUTS COLLECT NEARLY 39,000 LBS. OF FOOD DURING ONE-DAY FOOD DRIVE

*Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles and Ralphs/Food 4 Less team up to fight food insecurity across Southland*

**LOS ANGELES, May 3, 2015** – Girl Scouts set up booths outside grocery stores across greater Los Angeles on Saturday, April 30—but not to sell cookies. Hundreds of girls and volunteers participated in a one-day food drive as part of Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles' (GSGLA's) annual Feed Your Neighbor Service Week, hosted in conjunction with Ralphs/Food 4 Less. **Girl Scouts across the region collected approximately 39,000 lbs. of food and other items outside participating stores, benefiting local food pantries.** The number is an increase from last year's food drive, when GSGLA collected nearly 37,000 lbs. of food and other items.

To kick-start Feed Your Neighbor Service Week, a "service squad" of Girl Scouts and volunteers sorted food at the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank on Saturday, April 23—packaging 33,500 lbs. of produce, enough to feed nearly 28,000 people across Los Angeles County.

The Feed Your Neighbor Patch Program for Girl Scouts culminated in these two events. Prior to them, girls participated in other educational activities. These experiences incorporated the three keys of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience—Discover, Connect, and Take Action—and reflect a cornerstone of Girl Scouting: community service.

An estimated 1.4 million people in LA County are food-insecure, or nearly 16 percent of county residents, according to the LA Regional Food Bank. Approximately 26 percent of children in LA County live in households that experience hunger.

#### **About Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles**

*Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, serves more than 40,000 girls in partnership with more than 24,000 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](http://www.girlscoutsla.org) or call 213-213-0123.*

[Click here to see more pictures from Feed Your Neighbor.](#)

