

GSI Liaison Guide



GSI Liaison Job Description

Responsibilities

- Help Girl Scout Independents (GSIs) and their families Discover Girl Scouting:
 - Provide for a welcome orientation of the newly registered GSIs.
 - Maintain contact with Girl Scout Independents and their families on a regular basis.
- Connect GSIs to activities:
 - Encourage and facilitate participation (including adult volunteers) in Service Unit and Council events.
 - Encourage troops and GSIs to selected activities; promote involvement to them and their families.
 - Connect GSIs with Girl Scouts of the next program level to promote retention.
 - Give recognition for family involvement of GSIs .
- Take Action in the Service Unit Team:
 - Share information about GSIs with the Service Unit
 - Keep informed of local community trends in Girl Scouting.
 - Provide reports on GSIs progress, needs and problems.
- Interpret GSUSA Policies and Standards, Safety Wise, Blue Book Digest and GSCOC Policies and Standards.
- Review and be aware of current resources and materials.
- Attend Service Team and/or Service Unit meetings.
- Complete the volunteer application process, including registration and orientation.
- Support and promote Council Product Sales and Fund Development activities in all aspects.
- Support and reflect the established policies of GSUSA and GSCOC.

Who are Girl Scout Independents (GSIs)?

Girls are Girl Scout Independents, or GSIs, for a variety of reasons:

- Her schedule will not allow time for troop meetings.
- There may not be a troop or group in her area.
- Her troop or group has disbanded and she does not want to join another troop or group.
- She wants to participate in only one or two Girl Scout activities a year, such as resident camp, a council-sponsored event or travel.
- She wants to earn her Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award.



Be in the KNOW!

Know the Events

Know what events your Service Unit has planned for the year. Make sure that the GSIs are invited to attend and they receive regular updates. Be an advocate for the GSIs when events are being planned and organized.

Know your Service Unit

Introduce yourself and build relationships within your service unit with troop leaders and service unit team.

Let them know about GSIs in your Service Unit. For example, if troops are planning a camping weekend, see how GSIs of same level might be able to participate.

Know the Girls!!!

Know what schools the girls go to, their levels, and their interests.

If you have several girls of the same level, introduce them to each other. These girls can attend events together, work on journeys, try-its, and badges as a group.

Invite GSI parents to attend the Service Unit meeting with you.

Frequently Asked Questions

- What does a GSI wear on her uniform?

Girl Scout Independents wear the Girl Scout uniform of khaki pants and white shirt with the membership pins. Sashes and vests may be worn as well. In place of troop numbers, the GSIs wear the letters “G,” “S,” and “I.”

- Can GSIs participate in Product Sales?

Yes! GSIs may participate in Fall Product Sale and the Cookie Sale like all other Girl Scouts. Girls earn the same incentives and awards which are administered by a Product Sale Volunteer.

- How does a GSI earn awards?

GSIs may work on journeys, try-its, and badges on their own or with other Girl Scouts. Girls may also earn the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards.

- What about girls who still want to be in a troop?

Connect these girls with their school organizer or service unit organizer. If there are no troops available for her in your service unit, pass her information on to the Membership Specialist at Council.

NorthEast/NorthWest Sabrina Beg (sbeg@gscoc.org) *Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park/La Palma, Cypress, Fullerton, La Habra, Orange, Placentia, Yorba Linda*

Central/Central Coast Bertha Torres (btorres@gscoc.org) *Garden Grove, Westminster, Santa Ana, Tustin, Huntington Beach, Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Newport Harbor, Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley*

South Coast/South County Karen Myhra (kmyhra@gscoc.org) *San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Dana Point, Aliso Viejo, Laguna Niguel, Irvine, Laguna Beach, Foothill Ranch, Ladera Ranch, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Portola Hills, Rancho Santa Margarita, Trabuco Canyon*



GSI Liaison Tools

1. Email, email, email. Make sure that all GSIs are receiving the regular updates from Council. Also, keep them informed about upcoming events happening locally.
2. Coordination. Help to facilitate girls attending events together and meeting other GSIs in their area.
3. Mail and phone calls. For girls and families who do not have email, mail out information or call girls to connect with them.
4. Connect with other GSI Liaisons. Know other GSI Liaisons in order to network, link GSIs who live in nearby cities, and find out about other opportunities in other service units.
5. GSI Buddies. Let GSIs know about other GSIs in their area who are the same level or share interests.
6. Promote Networking and Involvement. Introduce parents to other volunteers at Service Unit meetings and events.

Liaison Resources

At the Service Unit level, who is who!

Service Unit Manager

Lead Organizer

School Liaisons

Level Consultants

Daisy _____

Brownie _____

Junior _____

Cadette _____

Senior _____

Ambassador _____

Your contact at the Council:

GSLE Specialist

Bradley Wedekind

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949-461-8863



Be HELPFUL to the GSI girls and families by connecting with them personally.



Show ENTHUSIASM about Girl Scout Independents!



Present the information with a POSITIVE ATTITUDE and a SMILE!



EDUCATE other Girl Scouts about Girl Scout Independents.

