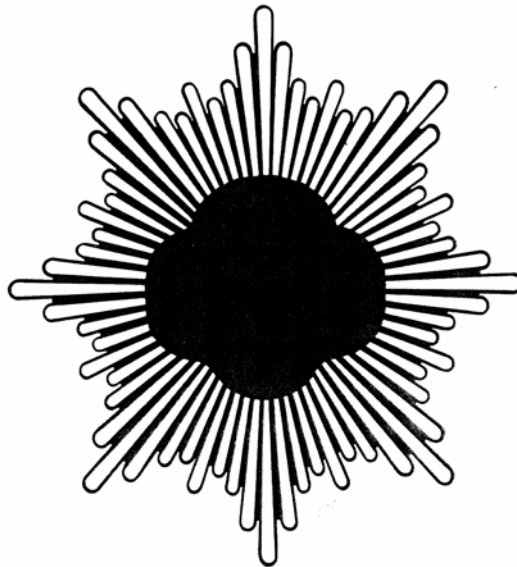


Girl Scouts of Connecticut



Girl Scouts.

Gold Award Workbook



(This method of earning the Gold Award features prerequisites of Focus books, I.P.s, Career and Leadership Awards, and the 4B's. This method may be used if you are *beginning* the process prior to October 1, 2010.)

Girl Scouts of Connecticut, Inc
Program Services Department
20 Washington Avenue
North Haven, CT 06473
(800) 922-2770

A Tree for the Future

***Every spring
The sap rises in the trees
from root to branch,
and makes a tree that looks dead
blossom with green leaves
and life.
So it is that the Scouting Spirit
rises within you, and
inspires you to put forth
your best.***

By Juliette Gordon Low

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INTRODUCTION

This Gold Award Workbook is designed to assist you in your work toward the Girl Scout Gold Award. You will find the specific documents needed and information to help you succeed in this endeavor. The required forms may also be downloaded from the Form Library on our website at www.gsofct.org. This Workbook supplements, but does not replace, the “Go for It: Girl Scout Gold Award” binder insert from GSUSA. Information and project examples may also be found on www.girlscouts.org.

The Girl Scout Gold Award may only be earned by Girl Scouts 14 to 18 years of age. It is the highest earned award for girls in the Girl Scout program. Girls with an identified challenge should inform the area chair prior to submission so proper support can be provided. You should expect to spend approximately two years completing this award. Expect the best from yourself, and your finished product will be an accomplishment you will be proud of for years to come.

Girl Scouts of Connecticut, Inc. has set very high standards for earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. The volunteer Gold Award Committee is responsible for maintaining these standards and for approval of Gold Award Project Plans as well as Gold Award Final Reports. The committee members ask that you clearly set your goals, evaluate, and document your progress in an organized and legible manner.

If you have questions after reading this Workbook, please contact the Program Services Department at 1-800-922-2770 or e-mail your Gold Award committee area chairperson. A map of the areas and the Gold Award area chairs are in the Appendix to this workbook.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER:

- *Accomplishments prior to July 1st of entering 9th grade **MAY NOT** be used towards the requirements for the Gold Award.*
- *You must be 14-18 years old, or in grades 9-12, to work on Steps 1-4. You must be 15-18 years old or in grades 10-12 to start work on Steps 5-7.*

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Troop Advisor – the adult who is responsible for the specific troop (i.e. the troop leader)

Gold Award Mentor – the adult member of the Gold Award Committee who has been assigned to work with a specific girl on her Gold Award project

Gold Award Technical/Community Consultant – an adult (not necessarily connected with Girl Scouts) who has agreed to advise a girl with specific technical aspects of her project. (This could be a member of an agency who is supporting the girl’s project, a professional with specific expertise relevant to the project such as a landscape architect, school counselor, clergy etc.)

The Girl Scout GOLD Award at a Glance

Your Gold Award Project MUST involve the community outside of Girl Scouts, and it should present an original idea.

Your project must be approved by your assigned Gold Award mentor before you begin Step 6
 Submit your original Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal by mail to the Council.
 Be sure to keep a copy for your records.

Girl Scouts of Connecticut
 Program Services
 20 Washington Avenue
 North Haven, CT 06473
 1 (800) 922 2770

You must be 15-18 or in grades 10-12 to start work on Steps 5-7.



Step 7 – Think about it!

- Reflect & evaluate with your GS mentor & Technical/Community Consultant
- Submit your Final Report

STEP 6 - Take Action

Do It! After you receive approval from your assigned Gold Award mentor, put your plans into action. Be flexible and adjust plans if necessary. Work closely with your Gold Award mentor and technical/community consultant.

STEP 5 - Girl Scout Gold Award Project

Your Gold Award Project must take a minimum of 65 hours
 You must have a letter of support for project.
 Attend the Gold Award Project Proposal Workshop

Plan It! Choose It! Map It! Know More About It! Budget It!

STEP 4 - Girl Scout Gold 4 B's Challenge

- **Become** – Assess your set of skills. Set and achieve two goals related to self-improvement.
- **Belong** – Create a community profile through interviews to find out more about your community's needs.
- **Believe** – Write a vision statement which addresses these needs.
- **Build** – Develop a specific network of people who might help with your GS Gold Award Project.

(Use the GSUSA Write Now Focus book to help you write your vision statement and support your issue's position.)
 A maximum of 15 documented hours you spend working on the 4Bs Challenge may be applied towards the 65 hours.

STEP 2 - Girl Scout Gold Leadership Award

- Earn 3 IPAs related to parts of the GS Law
- Earn a charm from one of the GSUSA Focus books.
- Take action: spend 30 hours in one or more leadership roles (minimum of 3 hours per role).

Use the Go For It GS Gold Award insert and/or this workbook to keep records and journal Steps 2-6. Good record keeping will help you in Step 7.

STEP 1- Build a Framework

- Read the GSUSA Go for It Girl Scout Gold Award insert and attend a Council sponsored Girl Scout Gold Award Overview Workshop.
- Meet with your troop Advisor and develop a timeline for Steps 2-4; include some thinking about where Step 5 might fit on your timeline
- Create an agreement with your troop Advisor or other GS trained adult. See page 9 of the insert pages for an example.

STEP 3 - Girl Scout Gold Career Award

- Do one or a combination of the following for a total of 40 hours:
 - Career-shadow one or more people
 - Get an apprenticeship or internship
 - Visit colleges or trade schools (max 3, 3hrs each)
 - Publish a newsletter or create a Web page about careers for school
 - Organize and run a career fair
- **OR** Have a novinn job or start your own business & put at least 40 hours into it

All steps (including submitting your Final Project Report) must be completed by Sept. 30 after the completion of 12th grade.
 (Young women who are developmentally delayed may have until the completion of their 21st year to finish their Girl Scout Gold Award.)

Your Girl Scout Gold Award Project must take a minimum of 65 hours.

The time you spend working on your Gold Project in Steps 4-6 may be included. From Step 4 you may apply up to 15 documented hours towards the 65 hours.

- Accomplishments prior to July 1st of entering 9th grade MAY NOT be used towards the requirements for the Gold Award.
- A girl must be age 14-18 years old or in grades 9-12 to work on Steps 1-4. You must be 15-18 years old or in grades 10-12 to start work on Steps 5-7.

STEP 1: *Organize* **BUILD A FRAMEWORK**

Remember you can do Steps 2-4 in any order or even simultaneously as long as you are 14-18 or in grades 9-12; but,, you must be 15-17, or in grades 10-12, when you do Steps 5-7.

Step 1 Checklist

- Read GSUSA's *Go for It Girl Scout Gold Award* binder insert.
- Attend a GSOFACT Girl Scout Gold Award Overview Workshop. (Visit www.gsofct.org website for dates and locations of workshops.)
- Meet with your troop leader/advisor and develop a written detailed timeline for Steps 2-4; include some thinking about where Step 5 might fit on your timeline.
- Create a written agreement with your troop advisor/leader.

Gold Award Overview Workshop Date: _____

STEP 2: *Lead* **EARN THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD LEADERSHIP AWARD (charm)**

Step 2 Checklist

- Earn 3 Interest Project Awards related to parts of the Girl Scout Law.
- Earn a charm from the GSUSA Focus Book series.
- Take action: spend 30 hours in a leadership role(s).
- The Girl Scouts of Connecticut requires all documentation for the Girl Scout Gold Award to be presented as outlined in this workbook, effective October 1, 2008.
- Obtain signatures as you go along. Don't forget about signatures on your Project Proposal paperwork as well as on the preliminary steps.

THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD LEADERSHIP AWARD

Tracking Interest Projects* and Focus Book**

Interest Project Award #1:

“honest and fair; friendly and helpful; considerate and caring; courageous and strong”

Interest Project (IP)	Date Completed	Adult Signature <small>(the person with whom you worked on this IP)</small>

How did this Interest Project help you live the Law?

How did it help you be a better leader?

Interest Project Award #2:

“responsible for what I say and do, respect myself and others, respect authority”

Interest Project (IP)	Date Completed	Adult Signature <small>(the person with whom you worked on this IP)</small>

How did this Interest Project help you live the Law?

How did it help you be a better leader?

*See Appendix III for the various methods which may be used to earn an Interest Project Award.

** See Appendix IV for detailed Focus Book Guidelines

Interest Project Award #3:

“use resources wisely, make the world a better place, be a sister to every Girl Scout”

Interest Project (IP)	Date Completed	Adult Signature <small>(the person with whom you worked on this IP)</small>

How did this Interest Project help you live the Law?

How did it help you be a better leader?

GSUSA Focus Book of your choice:

Focus Book	Date Completed	Adult Signature <small>(the person with whom you worked on this Focus Book)</small>

Describe the S.M.A.R.T. goal* that you set for yourself:

REFLECTION:

What is one thing you learned about setting goals?

How will that make you a better leader?

*See Appendix V for detailed information regarding S.M.A.R.T. goals.

Tracking Leadership Hours

Spend **30 hours** in a leadership role(s). Do any combination of the following for a total of 30 leadership hours, keeping in mind the difference between leadership and service*. Each leadership role should consist of a minimum of three hours.

<u>Experience*</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Officer in a group or a club at school.	_____
Chair or captain of an extracurricular activity.	_____
Lead a Girl Scout Troop in your neighborhood or at camp.	_____
Serve in a leadership role for your Council.	_____
Play a leadership role in your town or at a place of worship.	_____
Other _____	_____

- **Fast Track*** – If you are pursuing any additional awards, such as Leader-in-Training, Counselor-in-Training, or Program Aide after you complete your training, you may apply your hours to the Girl Scout Gold Leadership Award. These leadership hours may not be applied to both – the leadership award and the LIT/CIT/PA. That would be double dipping.

Evaluation for Each Experience (Use additional space and paper as needed)

What did you do?

What went well?

What would you do differently?

What did you learn about yourself?

GIRL SCOUT GOLD LEADERSHIP AWARD REQUIREMENTS COMPLETED _____
Date

***Leadership** is defined as originating, planning, organizing, executing and evaluating a project to achieve a goal by inspiring others to perform within the guidelines of that planned project.

Service is helping or assisting others with a program already mapped out by someone else.

STEP 3: *Network*

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD CAREER AWARD (charm)

To earn this award, do one or a combination of the following for a total of at least 40 hours:

<u>Hours</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	
_____	_____	Career-shadow one or more people*
_____	_____	Get an apprenticeship or internship*
_____	_____	Visit colleges or trade schools**
_____	_____	Organize and run a career fair
_____	_____	Publish a newsletter or create a Web page about careers

*See Pages 11-12 for required evaluation forms for each career exploration experience.

**A maximum of 3 college visits are permitted with a maximum of 3 documented hours per college.

- **Fast Track:** *If you currently have a paying job or have started your own business and have put in 40 hours, congratulations! Your fast track career moves have allowed you to be promoted. You can use this experience in place of the above step. For a paying job, you must provide a W2 or a copy of your official pay stub, obtain an evaluation from your employer on the form provided, and prepare your own job evaluation on the form provided.* For starting your own business, documentation following the guidelines in Mind Your Own Business Focus Book must be provided.*

Describe what you did to earn the Girl Scout Gold Career Award:

THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD CAREER AWARD
CAREER EXPLORATION EXPERIENCE
Supervisor Evaluation

Name of Girl Scout: _____

Place of Experience: _____

Supervisor: _____

Dates: _____

Total Hours: _____

Description of Work and Job Responsibilities _____

Evaluation of Performance _____

Signature _____ Date _____
(Supervisor)

THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD CAREER AWARD
CAREER EXPLORATION EXPERIENCE
Self Evaluation

Name of Girl Scout: _____

Place of Experience: _____

Supervisor: _____

Dates: _____

Total Hours: _____

Description of Work and/or Job Responsibilities _____

What has this experience taught you about employment?

NOTE: If applicable, attach copy of official pay sub to this document.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Your Signature

STEP 4: *Explore*

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD 4Bs CHALLENGE (charm)

- Become** – Assess your set of skills. Set and achieve two goals related to self-improvement
- Belong** – Create a community profile to find out more about your community needs and assets by calling and/or interviewing key people in the community
- Believe** – Come up with an actual vision statement for your Girl Scout Gold Award project. Use the GSUSA *Write Now* Focus Book to help you write your vision statement.
- Build** – Focus on developing a specific network of people who might help with your Girl Scout Gold Award Project
- Document the time you spend on planning for your project.

NOTE: You can use up to 15 ‘documented’ hours in Step 4 toward your total project hours.

A. BECOME: YOURSELF

Learning to set goals for personal growth

What are your strongest skills in managing projects? Are you organized, good at motivating others, great with managing time, or detail oriented?

Life Skills	I'm great at this	Needs Improvement
Listening to others		
Talking to people		
Making decisions		
Planning and organizing		
Time management		
Budget and money management		
Helping people get along		
Getting along with people different from myself		
Solving problems		
Dreaming up great ideas		

Decide on two skills you need to improve on from the preceding list or other ones you have identified.

1. _____

2. _____

Now set your goals for improvement using a SMART* goal for each

SMART* Goals Look Like This:
By [a given time] I will [do something specific] [a measurable number of times] to [accomplish some task] so that I [get to something attainable].
(With permission from Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area)

*More information on SMART goals can be found in Appendix V of this Workbook.

Goal 1

Goal 2

Now you need to **achieve** these goals. Once you have **completed** your work, answer these questions:

What did you do?

What went well?

What would you do differently?

What did you learn about yourself?

B. BELONG: YOUR COMMUNITY

Find out about your community and who lives there by calling or interviewing a variety of people in your community. The following is a list of **possible** informational resources. There are certainly many other possibilities.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Local school offices | Girl Scout Council office |
| U.S. census report | Community organizations |
| Town planning offices | Yellow pages |
| Local library | Community Websites |
| City Government offices | Youth associations |
| Local Health Department | Women's organizations |
| Cooperative Extension office | Local colleges and universities |
| Chamber of Commerce | Social Services |
| State assembly member | Professional organizations |

Who did you contact and what were their concerns:

#1 Contact/ Concerns _____

#2 Contact/Concerns _____

#3 Contact/Concerns _____

#4 Contact/Concerns _____

#5 Contact/Concerns _____

C. BELIEVE: A VISION FOR CHANGE

Using what you learned through your visits and phone calls, answer these questions:

What are the top five needs of my community?

- 1. _____ 4. _____
- 2. _____ 5. _____
- 3. _____

Why do these needs exist? (One line for each need)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____

What project can be done to address the root causes of these needs? (One line per project)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Where do I fit into addressing these causes? (One line per project)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

What will the community look like after the project is completed? (One line per project)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

What long-term effects will this project have on the community? (One line per project)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Writing your vision statement

Use the Focus Book *Write Now* pages 9 -12, as your guideline to help you draft a vision statement of change for **ONE** of the five community needs you have identified above.

My vision for my selected community problem is: _____

D. BUILD: YOUR NETWORK

Review what you discovered in the section “Believe: A Vision for Change,” about the issues in your community. Answer the following questions about **one** of these issues: (Read pages 18 – 19 in the Focus Book *Write Now* about building your persuasive writing skills).

Who are the other people in the community who care about this issue? _____

What people in the community are affected by this issue? _____

Who supports young people and community service? _____

Who are the political community leaders? _____

How can you gain support of the people you need to support your vision? _____

Girl Signature _____ **Completion Date** _____

Adult Signature _____

(The person with whom you worked on Step 4)

How many ‘documented’ personal hours were spent working on Step 4? _____

(Up to a maximum of 15 documented personal hours may be used toward your Gold Award project hours.)

STEP 5: *Create*

PLAN YOUR GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT



Your Gold Award Project must take a minimum of 65 hours.
You may include up to a maximum of 15 'documented' hours from Step 4 on your time log

Step 5 Checklist

Use the following guidelines to complete your project and earn your Girl Scout Gold Award.

- Attend It** – Attend the 'required' Gold Award Project Proposal Workshop (check www.gsofct.org for list of dates and locations.) Attendance at the Gold Award Project Proposal Workshop is valid for one year.
- Plan It** – Decide on the community problem you want to address.
- Research It** - Know More About It – Research it! Contact the organization you think you'll want to work with. They may help you define the problem.
- Budget It** – Create your proposed budget using the form provided on page 31 of this workbook.
- Map It** – Create a projected timeline for your project with target dates.
- Obtain It** – Obtain a letter of endorsement and support (on letterhead) acknowledging a real need for your project.
- Write It** – Your Proposal should be neat, organized and legible. Use black ink, type it or use a word processor. (Proposals which are illegible or written in anything but black ink will be returned unread to the candidate.)
- Review It** – Your completed project proposal packet should include only the 3+ page form itself and the referenced documents, i.e. timeline, budget, letter of endorsement.
- Copy It** – Don't forget to make a copy of your project proposal paperwork for your files.
- Submit It** - Submit your Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal to: Program Services Department, Girl Scouts of Connecticut, North Haven Service Center, 20 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473 at least 6 weeks prior to the date you wish to begin your project. **For graduating Seniors, the very last possible submission date for a project proposal is July 15th following graduation from high school.**
- Document It** – Complete this GSOFACT Gold Award Workbook and bring it to your initial meeting with your Gold Award Mentor.

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD ESSENTIAL DEADLINE DATES

- Rolling Attendance at Gold Award Project Proposal Workshop required within one year prior to submitting Gold Award Project Proposal to Council.
- Rolling Gold Award Project Proposals may be submitted at any time during the year.
- Rolling Girl Scouts is an inclusive environment for all girls. We encourage Girl Scouts of varying abilities to pursue the Gold Award. If you require special assistance or an aide in order to fully participate, please let your Gold Award mentor know so that she can support you in the best way possible.
- April 1 Annual Cut-off date for submission of Final Gold Reports for inclusion in current year's Council-wide Gold Award Celebration, Gold Award photo brochure, celebratory certificates solicited by Council from national organizations and key figures.
- April 1 Connecticut Gold Award scholarships' deadline: Emily Chaisson Scholarship, Bea Okwu Girl Scout Gold Award Scholarship, and the Connecticut Elks Gold Scholarship.
- July 15 Last date for Gold Award Project Proposal submission by girls who graduated that past June from high school.
- September 30 Last date to submit the Gold Award Final Report to Council for girls who have graduated from high school the prior June.
- October 1, 2008 All girls beginning on the road to Gold must adhere to the GSOFCT Gold guidelines and dates outlined in this Workbook.
- January 1 Interview deadline for girls away at college who have completed their Gold Award project and submitted Gold Award Final Report paperwork by September 30 following graduation from high school.

Note: The GSOFCT Gold Award Reception is held on the first Sunday in June. At this reception, all Gold Award Recipients are honored and receive their Gold Award Certificates and National congratulatory letters and certificates. The rsvp date for this event varies. You'll be notified with specific information. Local Gold Award Pinning ceremonies planned by the troop, Service Unit, family or girl may occur once the Gold Award Recipient has successfully completed her final interview.

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT CRITERIA

The Gold Award Project is the culmination of a young woman's self-discipline, leadership, time management, originality, initiative and a significant mastery of skills.

Your project must fulfill the following criteria.

- ◆ Is originated, developed, planned, executed, and evaluated by you with additional outside assistance and with official approval from your assigned Gold Award mentor
- ◆ Should be an original project idea and not a 'blueprinted' project (i.e. one that has been done before) unless put into a new format with your own personal touch
- ◆ Is approved in both the planning stage and final report by members of the GSOFCT Volunteer Gold Award Committee
- ◆ Has a lasting benefit to the community....your project should be ongoing so you'll need to plan how it is to be maintained or sustained in the future.
- ◆ Is an individual girl project and not a group project
- ◆ Forces you to stretch and grow outside your comfort zone
- ◆ Is something you firmly believe in
- ◆ Requires commitment and effort of at least sixty-five personal documented hours
- ◆ Must be beyond the world of Girl Scouts but may include Girl Scouts as a component
- ◆ Must contain a leadership component – that involves directing others.

When fulfilling the criteria for the Gold Award project, the girl agrees to:

- ◆ Follow all *Safety-Wise* guidelines
- ◆ Follow all Copyright laws, when applicable – no exceptions. (see Appendix I)
- ◆ Understand that a project done for school grade or credit or pay is not accepted for Gold credit
- ◆ Work with adult consultants and advisors who are not related to her
- ◆ Not raise funds for another organization



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 Program Department
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GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT PROPOSAL

Please fill out using a word processing program, type or print in black ink. Make at least one copy for your own records. Submit original paperwork (no staples) to Council **6-8 weeks prior to proposed project start date**: Program Dept. - Gold, GSOFC, 20 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473. If this form is emailed to program@gsofct.org, the original must also be sent as indicated above.

Do not begin your project until you have received Council approval through the Gold Award Committee.

Date Gold Award Project Proposal Workshop Attended ____/____/____
 Formal Letter of Project Endorsement Attached ____
 Timeline Attached ____ Budget Attached ____
 Detailed Project Plan ____

Name: _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Your E-Mail: _____

Year of Planned Graduation _____ School _____

Troop/Group Advisor: _____ Troop/Group Number: _____

Troop/Group Advisor's Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Technical/Community Consultant : _____

Technical/ Community Consultant's Affiliation and Address _____

Technical/Community Consultant's Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

GIRL SCOUT GOLD LEADERSHIP AWARD

Activities	Date Completed	Adult Signature The person with whom you worked on this activity
1. Earn It: IPA:		
IPA:		
IPA:		
2. Believe It: GSUSA Focus Book (your choice-please identify)		
3. Lead It: (30 hours) Describe:		

Submit this page!

Name _____

GIRL SCOUT GOLD CAREER AWARD	Date Completed	Adult Signature The person with whom you worked on this award
Describe 40 hour career related activity:		

GIRL SCOUT GOLD 4Bs AWARD	Date Completed	Project Advisor Signature The person who you worked with on this item
Activity (briefly summarize)		
A. Become		
B. Belong		
C. Believe		
D. Build		

Number of 'documented' hours from Step 4 _____
(maximum of 15 hours)

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT

Title of Project: _____

Proposed start date: _____ **Proposed completion date:** _____

A. Describe the issue your project will address, what you hope to achieve, and who will benefit.

B. Describe your project in detail.

Submit this page!

Name _____

B. (continued)

C. Discuss the reasons for selecting this project.

D. Outline your strengths, talents, and skills that will be put into action.

E. Describe the steps involved for putting your plan into action, including facilities and/or equipment needed. (You can attach project plan.)

F. Indicate how you will evaluate the effectiveness of your project.

G. List the names of volunteers and/or groups who will assist you with your project, as well as consultants and advisors with their identified areas of expertise.

H. Estimate overall project expenses and how you plan to meet these costs (attach your budget).

I. Attach copy of timeline developed by you and your technical/community consultant for your Gold Award project implementation.

Your signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Community/Technical Consultant's signature: _____

Submit this page!

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD AGREEMENT

(Signed at initial meeting with assigned Gold Award Committee Mentor)

- I have read the Girl Scouts of Connecticut Gold Award Workbook and understand the requirements for the Gold Award Project and its preliminary steps.
- I understand that the project needs to involve a minimum of 65 acceptable and documented hours of my personal time, of which up to 15 documented hours may be used from the 4Bs step.
- I understand that my troop leaders/advisors, my parents, and my relatives may be my emotional support, but may NOT be my project advisors, technical/community consultants, or mentors.
- I understand that the Gold Award Committee mentor assigned to me is responsible for approving my project proposal and is the person I need to turn to for guidance, direction, and questions about my overall project.
- I understand that I will be asked to sign an agreement of any changes decided upon by myself and my Gold Award Committee mentor after thorough discussion and mutual agreement before starting my project.
- I understand that I may not begin my proposed project until all preliminary requirements are completed and I have met with the assigned Gold Award Committee mentor and she has approved my project as submitted or I have agreed to her suggested changes/additions to my project proposal in writing.
- I understand that Money Earning Activities for my Gold Award project are a “last resort” and need special written approval from Girl Scouts of Connecticut/Program Services Director before a formal Money Earning Activity application is completed and submitted through my Gold Award Committee Mentor to council for consideration.
- I understand that if I intend to solicit local merchants (who are known to me) for ‘gifts in kind’, and I must first prepare and submit a listing to my assigned Gold Award Committee mentor for review of said merchants and the specific materials/services desired. This signed listing will then be reviewed by the Director of Program. I understand that gifts in kind are not considered tax deductible as they are not a donation to GSOFACT.
- I will contact my Gold Award Committee mentor **at least once a month** via phone or e-mail to advise her of my progress, lack of progress, problems and/or successes.
- I understand that if two months go by and my assigned Gold Award Committee mentor does not hear from me, my project proposal paperwork will be returned to council and my work on Gold kept on hold.
- I understand that my Final Report (and no documentation support) is sent to the Program Dept. – Gold at the North Haven Office (with a copy for my files) upon completion of my Gold Award Project and not before.

- I understand that only when the Final Report is submitted to the Program Department in North Haven and is approved by my assigned Gold Award Committee mentor will an interview be granted to review my Gold Award project, provided I am still a registered Girl Scout member.
- I understand that being granted an interview does not automatically grant me the Gold Award. The interview Committee may not feel my project is complete or does not fulfill the mandated requirements and thus may require additional work on my part to complete the Gold Award project. Additional work may only occur if the girl is still a Girl Scout and not an adult Girl Scout. A girl becomes an adult Girl Scout on October 1st following graduation from high school.
- I understand that the information I provide to the Gold Award Committee and my assigned Gold Award Committee Mentor is accurate, truthful and in full compliance with the spirit of the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- I understand that any fliers, brochures, or promotional pieces intended for distribution, need to be pre-approved by my Gold Award Committee Mentor.

If applicable, I agree to revise my project proposal as follows: _____

Gold Award Candidate's Signature _____
Date

My assigned Gold Award Committee Mentor is _____

Phone Number: _____ e-mail: _____

Girl Scout Gold Award Committee Mentor Signature _____
Date

CC: parent or guardian
CC: GSOFCT Program Department file

SAMPLE

STANDARD LETTER

REQUEST FOR LETTER OF GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT ENDORSEMENT

Date: _____

<<Contact Name>>
<<Name of Company or Organization>>
<<Street Address>>
<<City>>, <<State>>, <<Zip Code>>

Dear: << Contact Name>>

The Gold Award is the highest award in the Girl Scout program and is earned by girls 14 to 18 years of age. Each girl connects with her community and then develops and implements a project of at least 65 personal hours that will fill an identified community need.

My name is _____ and I would like to do the following for my Gold Award project:

If you believe this project plan will fulfill an existing need within your community, I am requesting a letter of endorsement from your organization. Please use your official letterhead, include my name, the project idea, and how the project will help the community. Please send this letter of endorsement to me at the address below, and I will share it with my Gold Award Committee Mentor. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

<<Signature of Girl>>

<<Printed Name of Girl>>
<<Street Address or P.O. Box>>
<<City>>, <<State>>, <<Zip Code>>
<<Phone Number>>
<<E-mail Address>>

**This is a SAMPLE letter.
Use this as a guide when writing
to request a letter of endorsement.
Please ask your endorser to write
their letter on official letterhead.**

AGREEMENT WITH TECHNICAL/COMMUNITY CONSULTANT (Optional to the Project)

My Technical/Community Consultant _____

Organization (if applicable) _____

We met on _____
Date

As part of my Girl Scout Gold Award Project, I will do the following:

My Technical/Community Consultant will help me with the following:

Technical/Community Consultant signature:

My signature _____

Date: _____

STEP 6: *ACT*

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

Do It!!

After you receive approval from your assigned Gold Award Mentor,
put your plans into action.

Step 6 Checklist

Once your project proposal is approved, here's a checklist to help keep you on task:

- Maintain your project time-log
- Maintain your project budget log
- Maintain regular contact with your assigned Gold Award mentor
- Remember copyright laws
- Seek assistance from your mentor when needed
- Gather photos, newspaper articles etc for your Gold Award notebook
- Check *Safety-Wise* for all activities
- Seek permission for gifts of goods and services from your mentor and Council
- Use the 'sample letter' provided when requesting approved goods and services

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT TIMELOG

Name: _____ Troop _____

Use this log to document the time you spend working on your Gold Award Project. If you have more entries to make than these tables allow, attach additional sheets.

Planning and Preparation (Up to a maximum of 15 documented hours from Step 4)

Date	Activity	Hours*
Total Hours:		

Implementation

Date	Activity	Hours*
Total Hours		

Total Project Hours (must be a minimum of 65 personal hours):

*Time increments should be in minimum blocks of 15 minutes.
 Such things as thank you notes and driving time should NOT be included in this log.

PROPOSED PROJECT BUDGET REPORT

Name: _____

Use this to prepare a budget for your Gold Award Project. Keep track of your expenses so that you always see how you are doing compared to what you expected to do. If you have more entries to make than these tables allow, attach additional sheets.

Projected Expense Report

Item	Anticipated Need	Date Obtained	Where Obtained	Actual Value
Total Expenses:				

Potential Income Report

Source of Donation (goods & services)	Anticipated Item or Value	Actual Item or Value
Total Income:		

NOTE:

- For requests of donations for goods and services, please use the sample letter provided on page 34 of this Workbook when contacting known merchants. These donations are not tax deductible.
- Money Earning Activities (MEAs) should only be used as an absolute last resort. When applicable, the Council Money Earning Activity Form may be downloaded from the Resource and Form Library at www.gsofct.org, completed, and submitted to your Gold Award Mentor for review and action. Hours spent on MEAs are not included in Gold Award hours.
- For other sources of income, you may use personal funds, if you so desire.

Program Department
**Gold Award Project Goods and Services
Council Permission Request Form**

Girl's Name _____

Phone (____) _____

Street _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

e-mail address _____

The following goods or services are needed in order to complete my Gold Award Project. I am seeking permission to send a request letter to the companies or organizations listed below. I understand that I may contact small local companies or organizations who are known to me. I also understand that any donation of goods or services is not tax deductible.

Girl's Signature _____ Date _____

As this Girl Scout's Assigned Gold Award Committee Mentor, I have reviewed the list below:

Gold Award Mentor's Signature _____ Date _____

Gold Award Mentor's Name (Please print) _____

Girl's Instructions:

- Complete both pages of this form and ask your Gold Award Mentor to review and sign it.
- Send this completed form to GSOFACT, Program Dept. – Gold Award, 20 Washington Ave., North Haven, CT, 06473
- Wait till you receive approval from the Council office before approaching any company or organization. Allow time for processing.
- If permission is granted, you must use the Request for Goods or Services Letter when approaching companies or organizations. Always have an adult be a part of this process.

Standard Letter

Gold Award Project Request for Goods or Services

Date: _____

<<Contact Name>>
<< Name of company>>
<<Street Address>>
<<City>>, <<State>>, <<Zip>>

Dear <<Contact Name>>

The Gold Award is the highest award in the Girl Scouts. Each girl spends time connecting with her community, then develops and implements a service and leadership project of at least 65 personal hours which meets an identified community need. It is a great honor to achieve this award. Nationwide, approximately 5.4% of eligible Girl Scouts ages 14 to 18 earn their Gold Award.

My name is _____ and I am working on my Gold Award Project. Briefly described, my project involves: _____

In order to make this project happen, I'm going to need support from volunteer friends as well as local merchants such as yourself. I would like to set up an appointment with you to discuss my project and the identified materials needed. I plan to call within the next few days to set a mutually agreeable time and date. If you would prefer to call me instead, my contact number is _____. Please note, as items of support are for my project and not for the general Girl Scout council use, they are not tax deductible.

What I am specifically seeking assistance with are the following goods or services necessary for the successful completion of my Gold Award Project.

Goods or Services	Quantity

I look forward to discussing this with you in the next few days.

Girl's Name

Troop or Juliette Advisor

STEP 7: *Reflect* **THINK ABOUT IT**

Step 7 Checklist

- Take some time to reflect as you complete your Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report.
- The form may be downloaded from the Form Library at www.gsofct.org
 - Please complete the form on the computer or in black ink. If you complete it by hand, print neatly.
 - Please do not staple or fold the pages. This helps us when making copies.
 - Make sure your name is on all pages.
 - Remember to retain a copy of your Final Report and all your forms.
- Submit your completed Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report to GSOFCT Program Dept. - Gold Award, 20 Washington Ave. North Haven, CT 06473.
 - Submit your Final Report by April 1 in order to attend the Council-wide Gold Award Celebration to be held in June. Girls who submit their reports after April 1 will be invited to attend the following year's event.
 - Remember you must submit your Final Report no later than September 30th following your Senior Year of High School. It will not be accepted after this date.
- Organize and complete a binder or scrapbook of your project. This will be reviewed by the Gold Award Committee, and serve as a memento of your work. It may include: a copy of all your forms and paper work, as well as other relevant materials such as pictures, newspaper articles, letters, lesson plans or materials developed, and any other back-up materials, etc. that you developed during your project.

At your final project interview, you will be asked to complete a short biographical information sheet. You will also be asked for a photo for the media and council publications.

Your Gold Award pin will be presented to you at a local ceremony held by your troop or Service Unit. Contact your Gold Award Mentor for your Gold Award pin.

You will be informed of and invited to a Council-wide celebration of your achievement. This celebration will recognize all Girl Scouts in Connecticut who have earned their Gold Award this year. At this time, certificates and congratulatory letters from community leaders, GSUSA, and organizations will be presented.



Girl Scouts of Connecticut, Inc.
 Program Department
 20 Washington Avenue
 North Haven, Ct 06473

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD FINAL REPORT

Please fill out using a word processing program, type or print in black ink. Make a copy for yourself. Submit the ORIGINAL to: Program Dept. - Gold, Girl Scouts of Connecticut, 20 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473.

Name: _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Your e-mail: _____

Year of planned Graduation _____ School _____

Troop/group Advisor: _____ Troop/group #: _____

Troop/group Advisor's phone: () _____ E-mail _____

Gold Award Technical/Community Consultant: _____

Technical/Community Consultant's Phone: () _____ E-mail _____

Assigned Gold Award Committee Mentor _____

Title of Project: _____

Date started: _____ **Date completed:** _____

How many hours did you personally invest in your project? _____

How many hours did others volunteer for your project? _____

A. Briefly summarize your project. Include the issue your project addressed and the methods you used for meeting the project objectives.

B. Discuss the benefits your project provided to others in the community.

C. Detail the method used for evaluating the impact of your project.

D. What did you learn about yourself as a result of this project?

E. What aspects of your project would you change or do differently?

F. What was the most successful aspect of your project?

Your signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Gold Award Technical/Community Consultant signature: _____

APPENDIX I

DO'S AND DON'TS OF COPYRIGHTS

When planning publications or audio-visuals for your project, you must adhere to copyright restrictions.

To reproduce (copy) ANY copyrighted materials, whether in whole or in part, by any means (electronic or mechanical, photocopying, recording, etc.): WRITTEN PERMISSION must be obtained from the owner of the copyright. Copying without permission can result in legal action.

When seeking permission to reproduce copyrighted material (songs, articles, poems, recipes, disks, photos, clip art, etc.), it is necessary to identify the copyright owner. Local or school librarians may be helpful in determining copyright ownership and addresses of corporations.

In your contact letter, state the title of the original work, the exact page number(s), words, or music you intend to reproduce. Indicate the anticipated date of publication, approximate number of copies to be made, intended audience, and, if the material is to be offered for sale, the asking price. Allow at least 4-6 weeks to secure permission to use copyrighted material.

REMEMBER: Do not, under ANY circumstances, use the material until all permissions have been received in writing, and, if required, all fees have been paid.

**NOTE:
PROJECTS THAT INCLUDE UNAPPROVED COPYRIGHT CONSENT WILL BE REJECTED**

Reference:
www.copyrightkids.org

APPENDIX I-A

SAMPLE LETTER TO SEEK COPYRIGHT PERMISSION

Date _____

<<Name of Author/Company>>
<<Street Address>>
<<City>>, <<State>>, <<Zip Code>>

RE: Girl Scout Gold Award Project

Dear Sir or Madam:

As the final project for the Gold Award, the highest girl award in Girl Scouts, my proposal includes _____
_____.

I understand that you are the owner of the copyright for (___name of item___) and I want to include your work as part of my project. Specifically, I want to use (specific details – number of minutes, actual words, etc.) in my project as (state use of material).

*My budget is very limited and the final project will be available to (local schools, libraries, troops, etc.) at no cost. I am hoping that you will permit the use of this material without any charge. If this is not possible, please notify me of the required fee involved.

*Your signature below, under 'confirmed by', will indicate that you agree to permit this use without payment of a fee. Please notify me if you have any questions concerning this request. My contact information is as follows: <<name, address, city, state, zip, phone number.>>

*Thank you for your assistance with my Gold Award project. I look forward to hearing from you.

*Sincerely
Name of Girl Scout
Name of Advisor

Confirmed by: _____
Licensor: _____
Name of Publisher _____
Date: _____

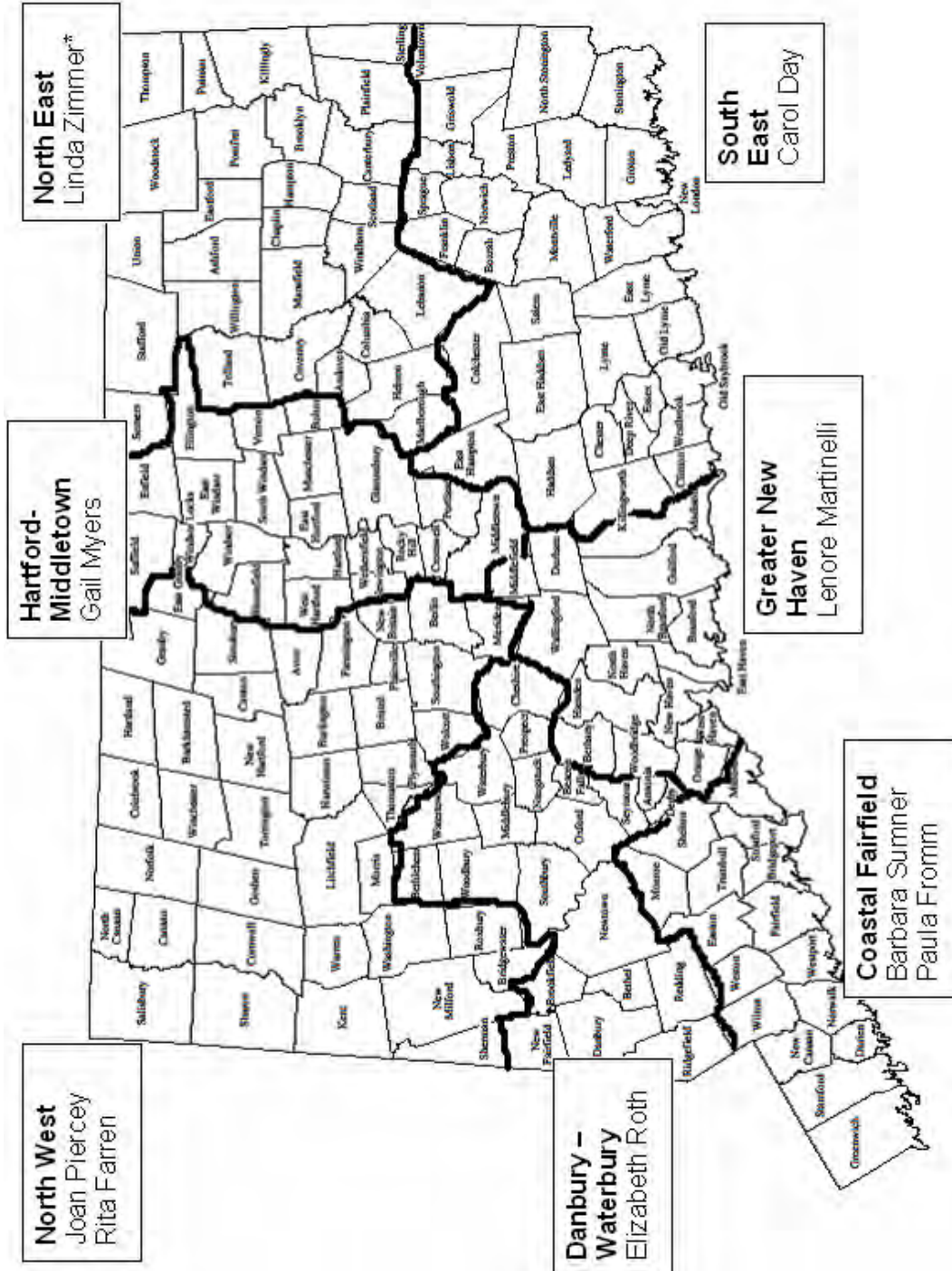
*PARAGRAPH VARIES WITH NEEDS AND INTENT

APPENDIX II

GSOFACT GOLD AWARD COMMITTEE AREAS (MAP)

GSOFACT Gold Award Volunteer Committee Areas & Area Chair(s) Fall 2009

* Volunteer Chair of the GSOFACT Gold Award Committee



Important Contact Information:

APPENDIX III

INTEREST PROJECT AWARD GUIDELINES

<p>Interest Project (IP) Awards are badge-earning projects that cover a variety of topics – everything from fashion and fitness to communication and camping. IPs have specific guidelines for activities as shown below. They can be found in the Interest Projects for Girls 11-17 book, on the internet at www.studio2b.org and www.gsofct.org. Girls earn patches for completing IPs, but can also opt to earn a certificate instead. Charms are available for a few of the IPs found on the STUDIO2b website. Much more information is available on GSUSA's Girl Scout Central section of their website, including; setting your own SMART goal and REFLECTION activity.</p>				
Where can I find IPs?	GSUSA's IP book	GS Central Website: www.girlscouts.org	STUDIO2b website: www.studio2b.org	GSOFACT FORM LIBRARY: www.gsofct.org
What are the requirements?	<p style="text-align: center;">"Old" or "New" Requirements</p> <p>"Old" (as printed in the IP book) You must complete at least seven activities as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Skill Builders activities • 1 Technology activity • 1 Service Project activity • 1 Career Exploration activity • 2 additional activities from any category that you choose. <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>"New"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do two "Skill Builders" activities of your choice. 2. Do two activities of your choice from the four categories. (selected activities can't be from the same category) 3. Design and do one goal of your own (must be a SMART goal) 4. Prepare a short REFLECTION describing what part(s) of the Promise and Law relates to what you did while earning the IP. 		<p>There are six steps, described below, for completing each of the online IPs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build: Build a skill foundation by doing the IP's REQUIRED activity. 2. LEARN: DO ONE activity of your choice from the LEARN category. 3. DO: Do ONE activity of your choice from the DO category. 4. SHARE: Do ONE activity of your choice from the SHARE category. 5. DESIGN and do one activity of YOUR OWN (based on a SMART goal you'll plan with the help of an adult Advisor). 6. REFLECT: Prepare a short REFLECTION describing what part(s) of the Promise and Law relates to what you did while earning the IP. Think about how the IP has given you skills or greater understanding to help you live out that part(s) of the Promise and Law in your own life, and then prepare a REFLECTION that best expresses your experiences and personality, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-2 paragraph description • poem • song • drawing/painting/photo • short movie 	
What do you earn?	Rectangular IP Patches or certificates. Charms are available for some IPs			
What is double-dipping?	Each activity should only be counted once toward completing an IP – you must do different activities to earn the IP. For example, if one activity is to learn to sew from a pattern and another is to make a tote bag, you cannot make the tote bag from a pattern and count it both places. (you must sew two different items to satisfy the two different requirements.			
<i>With permission from the Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area</i>				

APPENDIX IV

Working with Focus Books

Step 1. Choose a Focus Book

Girls begin by selecting a GSUSA Focus book Series that interests them. They can work individually, in pairs or in groups. Advisors may be aware of girls who have certain interests and may suggest books that the girls might enjoy.

Step 2. Become Familiar with the Activities

Girls review the table of contents and flip through the book, to discover the activities. Girls may choose to do some of the activities before settling on goals. Advisors talk with the girls about what they would like to accomplish.

Step 3. Set Goals

In most of the books, girls may use the last page to set goals for what they hope to learn or accomplish. Girls may set as many or as few goals as necessary to accomplish meaningful objectives. Girls begin thinking about their overall objectives, and then each aspect of the SMART model is examined. The goal is worded and reworded until it meets all of them. The books are flexible and adaptable so that each girl can create her own set of goals, depending on her prior knowledge and skill level in the topic.

Girls do not need to complete all of the activities nor do they need to complete a set number of goals. Some girls set small goals after each activity and use them as stepping-stones to a larger goal, and some girls only do activities that lead to their larger objective. There is no set way to do it!

Advisors should ask questions such as:

Why is this goal important to you?

How will this goal help you?

If necessary, get the girls to reach a little higher by asking questions such as:

Will you be proud of your accomplishments when you are finished?

Will you feel as though you accomplished something meaningful?

Step 4. Make Plans

Girls discuss the completion of the goals with their Advisor (and possibly the other girls in their group.) They should decide how to accomplish their goals and establish a timeline and deadline for each step. Sometimes it is necessary to develop shorter-term goals to help accomplish the overall objectives.

Help girls break up large goals into more manageable steps:

Brainstorm all of the necessary steps.

Establish concrete criteria for measuring progress toward the attainment of each goal.

Decide who will be responsible for each step.

Step 5. Do Activities

Girls work on their own or in groups to accomplish their goals. The Advisor should check with girls from time to time to make sure they are on target.

Step 6. Achieve Goals

Girls earn a charm after they have completed their goals and discussed them with their Advisors. Girls can collect their charms wherever they want to – on a bracelet, on a charm holder pin, or in their rooms.

The Advisor plays a huge role in helping the girls accomplish something meaningful! Throughout the process, Advisors should:

Advise girls to write plans down.

Let girls set their own pace.

Be available for advice and questions the girls may have.

Let the girls do the work themselves.

With permission from the Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area.

Focus Books Real Girls, Real Goals

The following goals were set by two different girls working on the "On Track" Focus book. These girls have different levels of ability and experience, and different overall objectives that they are working towards. However even though each of the girls will do different activities, each will have accomplished something meaningful. That's the beauty of working with Focus books – they allow flexibility for girls to be challenged at their own level!

Karen is a member of her school's cross-country team, and regularly runs 35-40 miles each week. She would like to improve her race times this year. Karen's overall objective might be to improve her personal best race time in her three-mile race.

After reading through the On Track Focus book, Karen knows that most of the activities are things she already does and she chooses to focus on some specific areas of her training: she knows that she tends not to drink enough water, she is prone to ankle injuries and loses training time because of this, and she would like to improve her upper-body strength.

Karen's goals to earn her charm might be:

1. I will carry a 48 oz. water bottle with me and drink at least a full bottle each day. On race days, I will drink this before 2:30 p.m.
2. By next week, I will investigate the exercises on the website in Activity 8 and I will work with my coach to choose the correct ones for me.
3. I will do my ankle exercises twice a day at least four days per week throughout the entire cross-country season.
4. By next week, I will work with my coach to develop an upper body weight training routine, and I will do this at least twice each week throughout the season.

Dana has never enjoyed organized sports, but would like to become more physically fit by incorporating regular exercises and healthier eating habits into her life. Dana's overall objectives could be to be able to run a mile without stopping and to exercise at least five times each week.

Dana knows that she is starting from scratch in terms of getting in shape. She has tried out many of the activities in the Focus book and decided to focus on stretching properly, logging her miles, developing a running program and improving her diet.

Dana's goals to earn her charm might be:

1. This week, I will begin the running program suggested in activity 4.
2. Beginning in week 5, I will exercise 4x a week, and beginning in week 8, I will exercise 5x a week.
3. Each time I exercise; I will do the stretching exercises in activity 1.
4. I will keep a journal each time I exercise, like the one found in Activity 3.
5. I will keep a food journal and record everything I eat for one week.
6. I will use my food journal to talk with my parents about making some healthier choices like those suggested in Activity 9.
7. By week 12, I will run one mile without stopping!

With permission from the Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area.

APPENDIX V SMART GOALS

Setting SMART Goals	
<p>Goal setting is an important life skill. The SMART goal-setting model will help girls to develop goals that they will be able to accomplish. Using SMART goals is an effective way to help girls break down their goals into doable pieces.</p>	
S	<p>Specific: Goals should be straightforward and emphasize what you want to happen. Specifics help us to focus on our efforts and clearly define what we are going to do. Example: Instead of setting a goal "get more exercise"; set a specific goal to work out for 30 minutes 3 times a week for a month.</p>
M	<p>Measurable: If you can't measure it, you can't manage it. There are usually several short-term or small measurements that can be built into a goal. When girls choose a goal with measurable progress, they can see change occur. Example: "I will write in my journal two times a week for a month" not "write more"</p>
A	<p>Attainable: A goal needs to stretch the girls slightly so that they can feel it can be done and that it will need a real commitment. For instance, if a girl wants to run a 10 K next week, but has never run before, that's not an attainable goal. But if she sets incremental goals such as: a goal to run a mile and once she has achieved that, aiming to run another mile further; the goal will be achievable for her. Example: "I will compliment my brother" not "get along with my brother"</p>
R	<p>Realistic: This is not a synonym for "easy". It means that the learning curve is not a vertical slope; the skills needed to do the work must be available. Have the girls devise a plan that makes the goal realistic. Be sure that girls set goals that can be attained with some effort! If the goal is too difficult, the stage is set for failure, but if the goal is too easy, there is no sense of accomplishment. Girls should feel proud when they have reached their goal. Example: "I will make a schedule to plan my term paper", not "I will never get stressed again".</p>
T	<p>Timely: Setting a timeframe for the goal gives girls a clear target to work towards. Without a time limit, there is no urgency to start taking action now. Time must be measurable, attainable, and realistic. Setting a timeframe for the goal such as; for the next week, in three months, or by 10th Grade; puts an end point on the goal and gives the girls a clear target to work towards.</p>
<p>SMART Goals Look Like This: By (a given time) I will (do something specific) (a measurable number of times) to (accomplish some task) so that I can (get to something attainable)</p>	
<p><i>With permission from the Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area.</i></p>	

A TRADITION OF HONORING GIRLS

The **Golden Eagle of Merit**, the highest award in Girl Scouting from 1916 to 1919, marked the beginning of a long tradition of using prestigious awards to recognize girls who make a difference in their communities and in their own lives. To earn the **Golden Eaglet**, 1919 to 1939, a girl needed to earn at least fourteen badges chosen from a list of seventeen. A girl who earned the **Curved Bar Award**, 1940 to 1963, might have worked on badges under such groupings as Agriculturist, Ambassador, Flier, Homemaker, Docent or Entertainer to meet the requirements for this top honor. From 1963 to 1980, **The First Class Award** was given to girls who met four or more challenges in addition to earning a specified number of badges. These challenges were real-life situations designed to test a girl's skill and knowledge. The **Gold Award** was introduced in 1980, and *at that time* the requirements included leadership, a career component, a specified number of Interest Project Awards, a Challenge, and the girl must have earned the Silver Award.

The times may change, but Girl Scouting continues to encourage girls to “go for the gold” and be the best they can be at whatever they do.

The **Girl Scout Gold Award** exemplified that for girls to become leaders, they need to:

DISCOVER – Understand their values and use their knowledge and skills to explore their world.

CONNECT – care about, inspire, and team with others locally and globally.

TAKE ACTION – act to make their world a better place.
(2006 Annual Report, GSUSA)

Yearly, approximately 5,500 girls received the Girl Scout Gold Award. That represents approximately 5.4% of eligible Girl Scouts in grades 10-12.

“Whatever you take up, do it with all your might, and stick to it.”

Juliette Gordon Low, from first Girl Scout handbook, 1913.