



Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains
Serving New Hampshire and Vermont
Gold Award Information Packet

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*New requirements to be used by girls who will not be submitting a Girl Scout Gold Award Proposal prior to September 30, 2011.

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Girl Scout Gold Award

Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains

Since 1916, Girl Scout's highest award has stood for excellence and leadership for girls everywhere. Soon, you will be joining the ranks of generations of young women who have made a difference in their communities and beyond.

As a Girl Scout, you are part of the sisterhood of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, a global movement comprised of more than ten million girls worldwide who are using their talents to positively impact their communities. With your talent and passion, you, too, can make changes in your community that can reach people around the world.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest and most prestigious award that Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors can earn. Fulfilling the requirements for the Girl Scout Gold Award starts with completing two Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador Journeys, or having earned the Silver Award and completing one Senior or Ambassador journey. Each journey you complete gives you the skills you need to plan and implement your Take Action project.

After you have fulfilled the journey(s) requirement, 80 hours is the suggested minimum hours for the steps: identifying an issue, investigating it thoroughly, getting help and building a team, creating a plan, presenting your plan, gathering feedback, taking action, and educating and inspiring others. The suggested minimum hours are not a rule; they are a guide for you to plan your time in achieving your goal.

It is extremely important to keep accurate records, documents of your work. The Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report must be submitted to the Girl Scout Gold Award Committee to be approved before the Girl Scout Gold Award is presented. Keeping a journal or scrapbook or taking digital pictures and putting them on a CD are several ways to share projects with the Committee.

Girl Scout Gold Award forms can be obtained three ways:

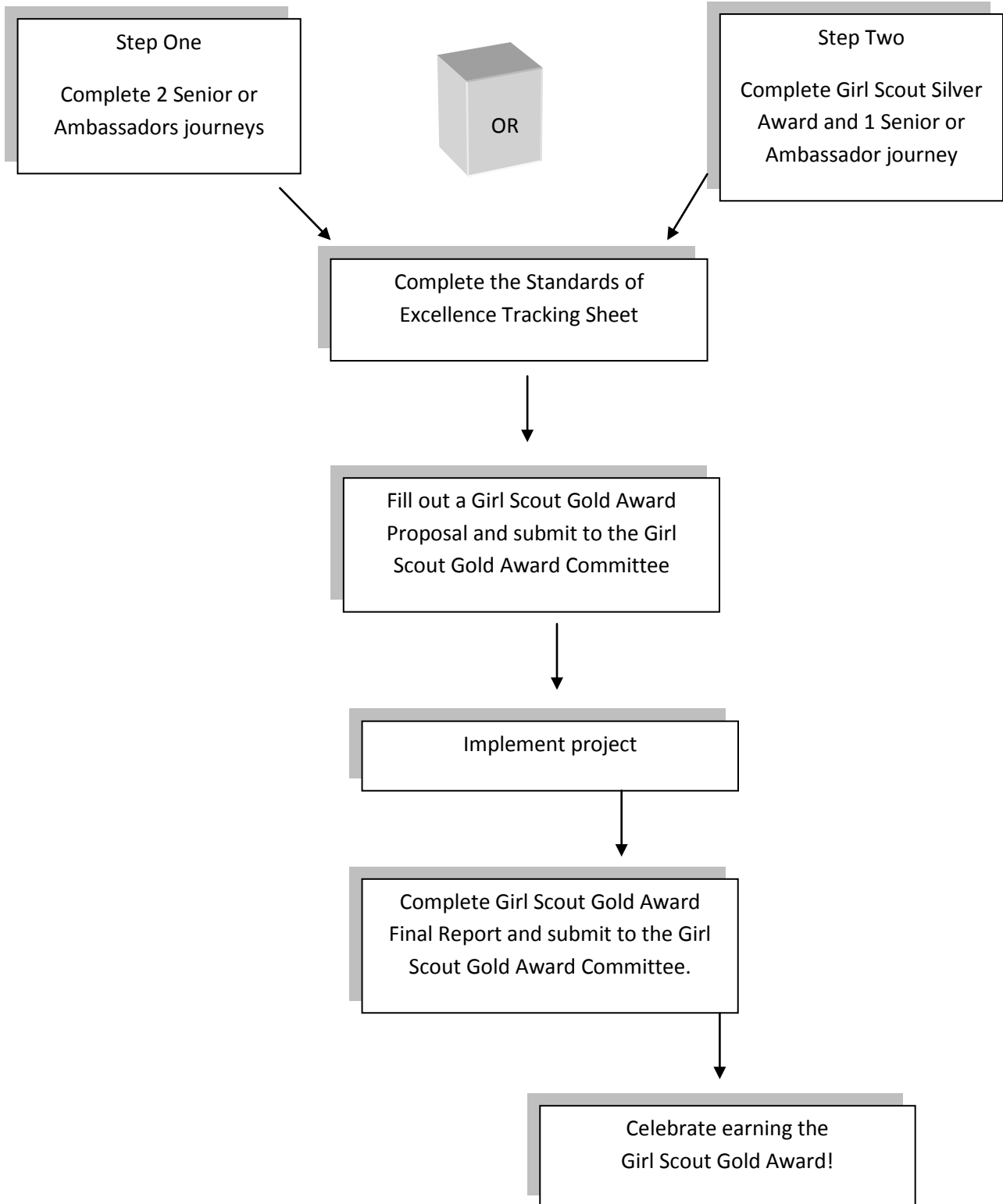
1. Downloading from the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains website www.girlscoutsgwm.org
2. Requesting a packet at GSGWM PO Box 10832, Bedford, NH 03110-0832
3. Calling for a packet at 888-474-9686 x120

Working toward the Girl Scout Gold Award may well be one of the greatest challenges you face in Girl Scouting. With determination and commitment, you can succeed. Best wishes!

Sincerely-

Girl Scout Gold Award Committee

Girl Scout Gold Award Blueprint



Girl Scout Gold Award Toolkit

Standards of Excellence

When you decide to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, you are on your honor to uphold the Standards of Excellence. These standards set a high benchmark for everything you do and invite you to think deeply, explore opportunities, and challenge yourself. Following the Standards of Excellence challenges you to develop yourself as a leader, achieve the Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes and make a mark on your community that creates a lasting impact on the lives of others.

Girl Scout Gold Award Steps and Standards of Excellence

Girl Scout Gold Award Steps	Standards of Excellence
<p>1. Choose an issue: Use your values and skills to identify a community issue you care about.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Live the Girl Scout Promise and Law. ▪ Demonstrate civic responsibility.
<p>2. Investigate: Research everything you can about the issue.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use a variety of sources: interview people, read books and articles, find professional organizations online. Remember to evaluate each source’s reliability and accuracy. ▪ Demonstrate courage as you investigate your issue, knowing that what you learn may challenge your own and others’ beliefs. ▪ Identify national and/or global links to your community issue.
<p>3. Get help: Invite others to support and take action with you.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seek out and recognize the value of the skills and strengths of others. ▪ Respect different points of view and ways of working. ▪ Build a team and recruit a project advisor who will bring special skills to your Take Action project.
<p>4. Create a plan: Create a project plan that achieves sustainable and measurable impact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lead the planning of your Take Action project. ▪ Work collaboratively to develop a plan for your project that creates lasting change.
<p>5. Present your plan and get feedback: Sum up your project plan for your Girl Scout council.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Submit a Project Proposal to your council that is concise, comprehensive, and clear. ▪ Describe your plan including the Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes you want to achieve and the impact you plan to make on yourself and the community. ▪ Articulate your issue clearly and explain why it matters to

	<p>you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accept constructive suggestions that will help refine your project.
<p>6. Take action: Take the lead to carry out your plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Take action to address the root cause of an issue, so that your solution has measurable and sustainable impact. ▪ Actively seek partnerships to achieve greater community participation and impact for your Take Action project. ▪ Challenge yourself to try different ways to solve problems. ▪ Use resources wisely. ▪ Speak out and act on behalf of yourself and others.
<p>7. Educate and inspire: Share what you have experienced with others.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reflect on what you have learned when you present your Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report to your council. ▪ Summarize the effectiveness of your project and the impact it has had on you and your community. ▪ Share the project beyond your local community and inspire others to take action in their own communities.

Decision-Making Tips

You are about to make a big decision that will have a significant impact on your life and may even change it forever. Take some time to reflect and get inspired. Start with yourself.

- What inspires you? Is it something in your school, community, country, or the world?
- What motivates you into action? Is it people, events, activities, places?
- What skills, talents, and strengths do you have to offer?
- How do you want to make a difference? As an advocate for justice? A promoter of environmental awareness? As a trainer, mentor, or coach? As an artist, actor, or musician? As an organizer of petitions or campaigns? As an entrepreneur? Can you think of another role?
- What motivates, inspires, and interests others? Can you build a team to support your idea?
- What would benefit the community both immediately and long-term?
- Check back through your Girl Scout leadership journey(s). What interested you that you might be able to translate into an award project?

Need some inspiration? Search through these sites to see what others are doing to address issues in their community.

- **The Corporation for National and Community Service:** www.serve.gov
- **Global Citizens Corps:** www.globalcitizencorps.org
- **Global Youth Action Network:** www.youthlink.org
- **Global Youth Service Day:** <http://gysd.org/share>
- **Learn and Serve America:** www.learnandserve.gov
- **Prudential:** www.spirit.prudential.com
- **Taking IT Global:** www.tigweb.org

- **United Nations Millennium Development Goals:** www.un.org/millenniumgoals
- **World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts:** www.wagggg.org
- **Youth Venture:** www.genv.net

Interview Tips

Find out what you need to prepare and conduct an interview.

1. **Making arrangements:** Deciding who you would like to interview, contacting the person, and setting up a date and time.
2. **Preparation:** Gathering research and background information to help you formulate questions to ask the interview subject(s). Use these sample interview questions to get you started, and then add some of your own. If you need help choosing an issue, you'll want to ask the following types of questions:
 - What are the biggest challenges/problems that you have faced or are facing?
 - What do you think is the root cause of these issues?
 - What will it take to address these issues?
 - Are there any resources available to do that?
 - What do you consider to be the strengths of the community?

If, on the other hand, you've already chosen an issue, move ahead to the interview.

3. **Conducting the interview:** Bring a notebook to take notes. Here are some tips:
 - Find a quiet place where you'll have each other's full attention, and agree to turn off your cell phones.
 - Start by thanking the interviewee for her/his time, and then briefly describe your project.
 - Keep questions simple and related to the issue at hand. Do your research. Preparation is key!
 - Ask the person you interview if she or he would like to hear more about your project as it develops.
 - Send a thank-you note to everyone you interview within a week of the interview. Mention the possibility of a follow-up interview.
4. **Reviewing information and setting up a possible follow-up interview:** Your interview is over. Now what? You have to sift through to find the information that's relevant to what you are working on. If there are some gaps that you need to fill, contact your interview subject(s) to get more information and to find out whether or not you have your facts correct. Remember to check and recheck your facts!

Making Your Pitch

You've seen the advertisements and most times you even remember the slogans. What makes them memorable? It could be because they're clever or catchy or funny. Now that you've chosen your issue, think of a way that you can let people know about it. You should be able to describe the issue you've chosen in about 15 seconds. Here are some tips to help you do that.

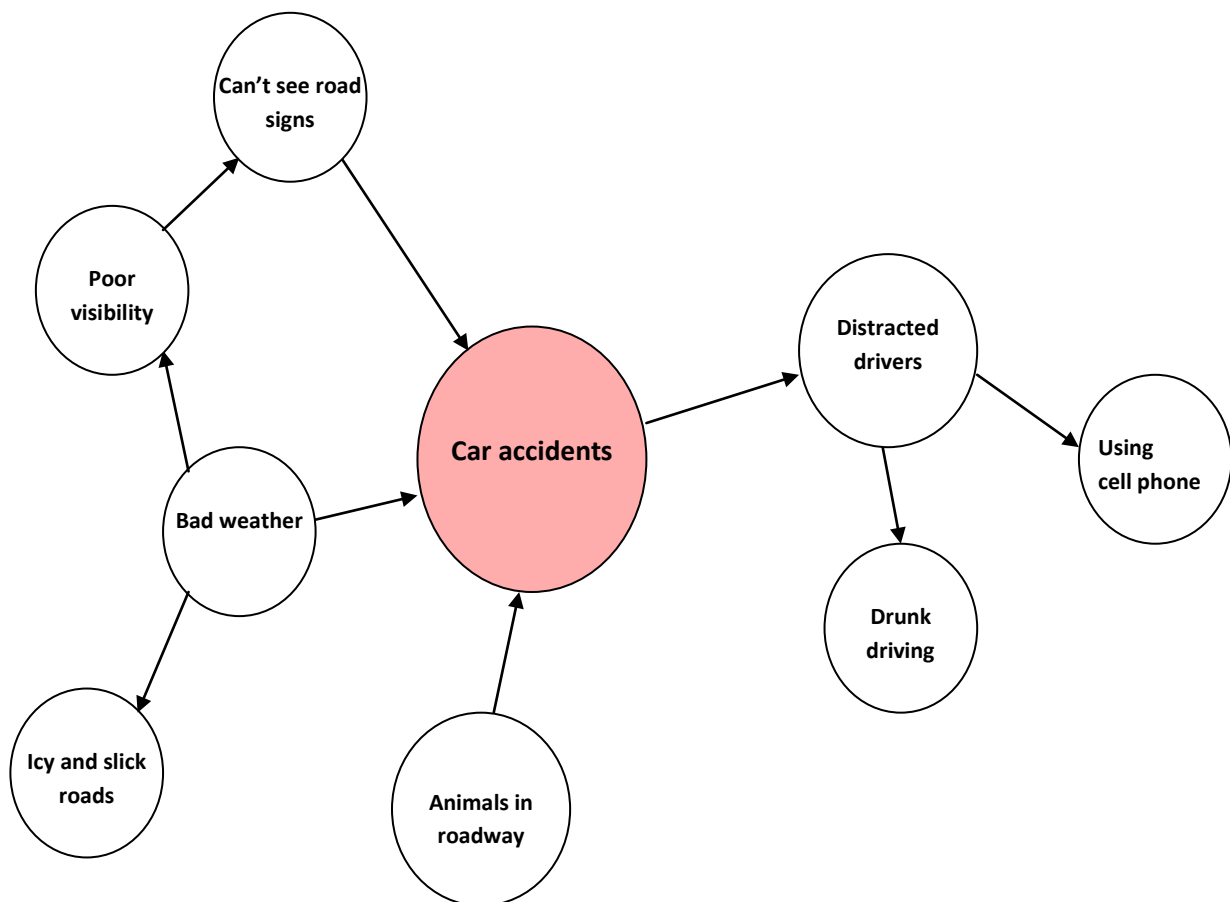
- **Make it memorable:** Develop a slogan. What makes you remember the slogan in those commercials on TV? How can you incorporate that into your pitch?
- **Target your audience:** Who are you trying to reach? If you are aiming for kids, think of a story or riddle that would relate this to them. Young kids love to rhyme. If you're reaching out to adults, no cute stories! Think about your audience and try to tailor your pitch so that it connects with them.
- **How you will help:** You've gotten their attention with your story. Now tell them what your project will do to make their lives better.
- **Personalize it:** Why this project? Why this target audience? How will doing this make you a better person?
- **Do it:** Put it all together. Explain your idea in a short and motivating way that clarifies it for you, your potential team, target audience, and supporters. Remember, 15 seconds. Go!

Mind-Mapping Tool

Create your own mind-mapping diagram like the one shown here, using one of the issues facing your community. Follow these instructions.

- Write the community issue in the middle of the paper or anywhere that works for you.
- Think about what some of the causes of this issue could be. In this example, one of the main causes of car accidents is bad weather. Notice how many different causes connect from bad weather.
- Now, try connecting the different causes you come up with to each other and to the main issue. How do the causes connect to each other?
- Do you see a pattern?

This activity will help you come up with different ways to approach a problem, as well as different ways you might go about addressing it.



Teaming Tips

Think about the people who might be able to help you put your project into action. Choose people who will stick it out until the project is complete. You don't have to limit your team to people your age or just Girl Scouts.

Working in a group will help you make a bigger impact and cover more ground than you would on your own. It might be challenging at times, but remember to always be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, and responsible for what you say and do. Here are a few tips to keep in mind as you build your team:

- Promote a sense of trust and belonging
- Share ownership
- Clarify roles and responsibilities
- Communicate regularly and openly
- Respect diversity
- Have fun and be creative
- Be open to new ideas and different ways of working
- Keep learning and growing

Project Advisor Tips

Here you'll find tips for selecting and working with your project advisor.

- **Reach out:** You've figured out the issue you're going to address with your project. Now it's time to find an expert to help along the way and give you advice and suggestions. Ask your troop/group volunteer or your council for suggestions. Then, select a few people who are related to your issue area with whom you'd like to work.
- **Safety first:** Before you meet with new people, talk to your troop/group volunteer for some safety tips and do's and don'ts. Make sure your family knows who you're talking to and meeting with.
- **Ask:** Start with your first choice, and if she or he can't help, go to your next choice. (**Hint:** There may be many others who are willing to help!) Approach the people you selected one at a time. Introduce yourself by sending a brief letter or e-mail, explaining what you're working on and the advice you would like. Give some background. Give an estimate, asking about time commitments and which way would be best to communicate.
- **Say thanks:** When an individual accepts, send her or him a thank-you note, along with a brief description of your project and a list of areas where you think you'll need the most help.
- **Think ahead when asking for help:** Before you compose an e-mail or call your project advisor, think about how you can simplify a problem you're having, so that she or he can offer quick suggestions.
- **Share your progress:** Make sure to tell your project advisor (in a quick e-mail or phone call) about your progress and how her or his help is making your project better, easier, and so on.
- **Celebrate together:** After your project is completed, invite her or him to your Gold Award ceremony and/or your own celebration. Don't forget to send a thank-you note!

Standards of Excellence Tracking Sheet

Girl Scout Gold Award Steps	Notes Regarding Your Progress and Significant Dates	Standards of Excellence
1. Choose an issue.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Live the Girl Scout Promise and Law. ▪ Demonstrate civic responsibility.
2. Investigate.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use a variety of sources: interview people, read books and articles, find professional organizations online. Remember to evaluate each source's reliability and accuracy. ▪ Demonstrate courage as you investigate your issue, knowing that what you learn may challenge your own and others' beliefs. ▪ Identify national and/or global links to your community issue.
3. Get help.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seek out and recognize the value of the skills and strengths of others. ▪ Respect different points of view and ways of working. ▪ Build a team and recruit a project advisor who will bring special skills to your Take Action project.
4. Create a plan.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lead the planning of your Take Action project. ▪ Work collaboratively to develop a plan for your project that creates lasting change.
5. Present your plan and get feedback.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Submit a Project Proposal to your council that is concise, comprehensive, and clear. ▪ Describe your plan including the Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes you want to achieve and the impact you plan to make on yourself and the community. ▪ Articulate your issue clearly and explain why it matters to you. ▪ Accept constructive suggestions that will help refine your project.

<p>6. Take action.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Take action to address the root cause of an issue, so that your solution has measurable and sustainable impact. ▪ Actively seek partnerships to achieve greater community participation and impact for your Take Action project. ▪ Challenge yourself to try different ways to solve problems. ▪ Use resources wisely. ▪ Speak out and act on behalf of yourself and others.
<p>7. Educate and inspire.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reflect on what you have learned when you present your Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report to your council. ▪ Summarize the effectiveness of your project and the impact it has had on you and your community. ▪ Share the project beyond your local community and inspire others to take action in their own communities.

Project Planner

A Girl Scout Gold Award Take Action project addresses the root cause of an issue, produces impact that is measurable and sustainable, and is a local project that links to a national and/or global issue. Here are a few tips to help you lay out your project plan:

- **Set project goals:**

What is your project? _____

Why does it matter? _____

Who will it help? _____

The difference I intend to make in the world is _____

- **Steps to meet the goals:** List step-by-step what it will take to reach your goal. Be as specific as possible so that you can put together a timeline and draw on your team to help you reach your goals.
- **Develop a timeline:** This will help you determine how much time should be allotted to each part of your project. The project plan is the most important part of your project. Be specific on the project steps. Estimate how much time each step will take and what facilities/supplies you will

need. Show what you are doing and how. Be sure to add up the hours and show the total. The following is an example for a butterfly garden project at a community building.

Project Steps	Estimated Hours	Facilities/Equipment Needed
February		
Discuss project with library director	1 hr	
March		
Meet with garden club to get their advice	1 hr	
Research butterfly gardens	3 hrs	
April		
Meet with garden center expert to discuss native plants	3 hrs	
Create garden plan	3 hrs	computer
Make presentation to library and garden club		
May		
Create flyer to recruit volunteers	2 hrs	computer , printer paper
Write article for newspaper	2 hrs	
Train volunteers in planting techniques		snacks
Buy plants, fertilizer, mulch	3 hrs	
Be sure to list all steps, this is only part of a timeline		
Total hours	68	

- **Think about money-earning:** Brainstorm ways to finance your project, if needed, speak with your Girl Scout troop/group volunteer to make sure that your ideas are in line with the Girl Scout policies. Check with your council. Remember, you can make an impact without spending money by influencing policy and so on. Provide as much detail as you can. Include the cost of all items you will need for the project. Include the cost of postage, fliers, in-kind donations, gifts for volunteers, etc. The following is an example for a butterfly garden project at a community building. Be sure to add up the costs and show the total.

Item	Total Cost or Value	Source of Donation or Funds for Purchase*
Water and soda	\$15.00	Shaw's grocery store will donate – Mrs. Smith
Cookies/fruit for volunteer snacks	\$12.00	Troop will donate

Computer paper 1 ream	\$3.50	Family donation
Shovels/rakes		Borrow from neighbors
Work gloves		Volunteers bring their own
Perennial plants/bushes	\$250.00	Ice cream social money earner**
Fertilizer	\$12.00	ABC Garden Center will donate – Mrs. Smith
Mulch	\$30.00	ABC Garden Center will donate – Mrs. Smith
Thank-you cards	\$6.00	Paid from my own funds
Postage	\$6.40	Paid from my own funds
Total cost	\$334.90	

- **Establish a global link:** Consider how to connect your project to an issue that affects people in other parts of the country or the world.

Use the following questions to help you determine what you need and what you need to do.

- What is the goal that you would like to achieve with your project?
- How do you plan to achieve this project goal?
- What are the foreseeable obstacles?
- Aside from your team, troop/group volunteer, and project advisor, do you need anyone else to help with your project?
- What supplies will you need?
- If necessary, how will you earn money or fundraise?
- How will you measure your success as you go?
- How will your project create lasting change?

Planning and Budgeting Tips

It's budget time! Start by figuring out what you need and where you can get it for little or no cost, if possible. If it's not possible, think about how much it is going to cost and how you can cover those expenses. Many projects are possible when you concentrate on the issue at hand. Use your influence and leadership skills to come up with ways that you can make a difference that might not include earning money (see page 15).

List the Steps to Achieve Your Goal	What Resources and Materials Will You Need?	Where Can You Get the Resources and Materials?	How Much Will They Cost?	How Do You Plan to Cover These Costs?

Does your plan sound doable? If not, take a step back and refocus. Try to find a different angle to pursue. Work with your troop/group volunteer, project advisor, and Take Action team to find solutions to problems and obstacles that come up along the way.

Sustainability Tips

Girl Scout Gold Award projects are not “one shot”—they create lasting change. You can ensure a lasting project by setting clear timelines, collaborating with community organizations, building alliances with adults and mentors, and keeping good records. Sustainability often involves influencing others to pitch in. Here are some examples of sustainable projects.

Example #1

Community issue: Food waste from school lunches poses a danger to the environment.

Root cause: No community composting or recycling program.

Take action: Create a food-waste composting program for the school.

Making the solution sustainable:

- Work with school officials to find biodegradable plates and cups to use in the cafeteria.
- Work with town/state food waste officials to ensure the system is in place.
- Implement a plan in your school to separate their cafeteria waste into composting, recycling, and trash bins. (Farmers can use the compost to fertilize crops, improve the quality of the soil, decrease soil runoff, and so on.)
- Get a commitment from school administrators to carry on when your project is complete.

Making your project bigger (national and/or global link): Recruit students at schools in the area to develop the program for their schools and/or contact local and state officials about adopting the program.

Global link: Find out how people in other parts of the world deal with food waste in schools. What kinds of programs do they have in place? How can you learn from this?

Example #2

Community issue: Teen suicide.

Root cause: Lack of awareness and prevention.

Take action: Establish an awareness and prevention program.

Making the solution sustainable:

- Produce a short video that can be used in other communities with an online brochure outlining the steps to an awareness and prevention program.
- Share the video and online brochure with schools and community organizations.

Making your project bigger (national and/or global link): Share the program with local youth groups, health/human services agencies, community centers, church/synagogue/mosque community centers, or school district.

Project Planning Checklist

The answers to all of the questions below must be yes before you submit your plan for council approval.

- Will your project demonstrate your leadership skills?
- Have you set your project goal and identified what you would like to learn?
- Have you chosen your Take Action team? Have you discussed the project with them?
- Have you created a budget for the project?
- Have you created a plan to raise funds, if necessary?
- Have you made a timeline for your project?
- Does your project address a need in the local community and have you found national and/or global links?
- Can your project be sustainable?
- Does your project challenge your abilities and your interests?

Once you answer yes to all the items on this checklist, you're ready to submit your Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal.

Application Tips

Type or print clearly on your application! Carefully check your application for spelling and grammatical errors. Have someone who you haven't shared your project idea with read over your proposal and see if they understand everything you are planning to do. At least 2 months prior to the date you propose to begin your project, send in your proposal to the Gold Award Support Committee.

Make sure your plan is clearly explained on your Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal form – use additional sheets if necessary.

Remember to share your application with your troop/group advisor and project advisor for his/her review and signature. In addition, it's a good idea to ask someone who is not familiar with your project to read through the proposal to see if they understand your plan. Their comments can help improve your project description and plan.

Your project must go beyond the Girl Scout community. It must reach beyond the "world" of Girl Scouting and extend into the surrounding community and national/group community as well.

The committee may want to meet with you to discuss your project or you may wish to meet with the committee to present your project. See the preparing for the committee meeting form for guidance on planning for your meeting with the committee.

Make sure you receive approval in writing from the Girl Scout Gold Award Support Committee **before** you begin working on your project.

Some helpful tips

Keep a notebook with a section for tracking activities and hours, questions, "to-do" list, etc. Use

it as a journal for the self-evaluation portion of your final project. It will be much easier to do it gradually than to try and remember it all at the end of your project!

You should maintain contact with your Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor throughout your project.

Have you reviewed *Safety-Wise*? *Safety-Wise* contains GSUSA program standards, guidelines and checkpoints for safety. It must be consulted to ensure your project falls within the acceptable safety guidelines.

If you need to change your project plan midstream for any reason, make sure you get approval for this from the Girl Scout Gold Award Support Committee.

Remember to submit your final report, with copies of any materials you have created for your project, than-you letter, evaluations, etc.

Graduating Seniors, please remember your Girl Scout Gold Award project must be completed by September 30th of the year you graduate.

Take pictures throughout your project for publicity, to show your progress, and for submission with your final project. Submit to the committee on disk or by e-mail in digital form if possible.

Encourage publicity about your project (newspapers, television, etc.). Refer to letter from Public Relations Manager for public relations information.

Key Roles in the Girl Scout Gold Award Process

Troop/Group Volunteers: The Troop/Group Volunteers support and challenge Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors to strive for excellence. The troop/group supports girls in developing their leadership skills, achieving the Standards of Excellence outlined in the guidelines, and making a lasting impact in the community. The troop/group volunteer partners with girls throughout the award process and encourage them to think critically, be open to multiple perspectives, investigate thoroughly, work cooperatively, and identify resources within and beyond their local communities.

Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisors: Is a volunteer who guides a girl as she takes her project from the planning stage through implementation. The project advisor is not a girls' parent or a Girl Scout troop/group volunteer. Instead, a project advisor is typically someone from the community who is knowledgeable about the issue and who can provide guidance, experience, and expertise along the way. Some examples include individuals from community organizations, religious organizations, and educators; local businesspeople; and so on.

Girl Scout Gold Award Support Committee

The Girl Scout Gold Award Support Committee is made up of volunteers from the council who have earned or who have helped girls earn the Girl Scout Gold Award. They meet monthly throughout the year. Meeting dates are posted on www.girlscoutsgwm.org. Girl Scout Gold Award proposals need to be submitted two week prior to the meeting date to be reviewed.

The Girl Scout Gold Award Committee knows the work that is required to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award and is here to assist you. You can contact them throughout your project for any reason.

If you plan on having your own local Girl Scout Gold Award recognition ceremony, notify the Girl Scout Gold Award Support Committee 2-3 months in advance.

Girl Scout Gold Award Support Committee contact information:

Council Liaison: Stephanie A. Erickson

603-627-4158 x120

888-474-9686 x120

jriendeau@girlscoutsgwm.org

Money and the Girl Scout Gold Award

Remember that Girl Scouts cannot raise money for any other organizations. Refer to *Safety-Wise* Standard #33, page 76.

As a girl member of Girl Scouts you can't ask for money, materials, or services. This asking is considered fundraising by the IRS and Girl Scout policies — and for a lot of reasons (legal and otherwise), adults are the only people who can raise money for Girl Scouting. Since adults can solicit money, work with an adult partner if you need a donation of materials or funds. You **can** describe your project to others, write a letter, create a PowerPoint presentation or write the grant, but an adult has to do the actual ask and sign on the dotted line.

Don't forget to get council approval for money earners. Contact the council staff member in charge of the Girl Scout Gold Award for the appropriate paperwork.

All materials that are donated need to have a Gift in Kind Form filled out, see attached documents.

Remember to keep track of all money spent and any donation of materials and funds. This all needs to be included in your final project budget.

Use the following procedure if it is necessary to earn money to support your Girl Scout Gold Award project.

1. Some pieces of *Safety-Wise* section on money earning are reproduced and included here.
2. Submit a copy of the Permission for Girl Scout Gold Award Money-Earning Project to Stephanie A. Erickson. If the project is approved, you will receive a signed permission form. A final report of the project should be submitted to Stephanie A. Erickson at the conclusion of your project. Keep a copy of the final report form yourself.

From *Safety-Wise* Standard 28 **Activities Involving Money**

“Group money earning” refers to activities following a planned budget and carried out by girls and adults, in partnership, to earn money for the group treasury. “Council-sponsored product sale activities” are council-wide sales of authorized products, such as Girl Scout Cookies or calendars, in which groups participate. The funds are for Girl Scout activities and are not to be retained by individuals as their property.

Girls' participation in group money-earning projects or council-sponsored product sale activities is based on the following:

- Voluntary participation
- Written permission of a parent or guardian
- Council guidelines
- An understanding of and ability to interpret to others why the money is needed
- Correct business procedures
- Observance of local ordinances related to involvement of children in money-earning activities
- Adherence to guidelines for personal protection
- Planned arrangements for safeguarding the money

Girl Scouts, in their role as Girl Scouts, may not raise or solicit money for other organizations.

From *Safety-Wise* Standard 29

Group Money-Earning Activities

Money-earning activities are valuable program activities for girls.

Group leaders obtain written approval from their council before starting a group money-earning project. Money-earning activities may not be conducted on the Internet. The number of money-earning projects may not exceed the amount of money needed to support group activities. The group determines the amount to be raised by preparing a group budget. Group money-earning activities need to be suited to the ages and abilities of the girls and consistent with the goals and principles of Girl Scout program. Review all procedures and equipment used to ensure that the activity is environmentally sound and the equipment is safe for girls to use. Some examples include making items and selling them; washing cars; putting on meals or dances for families; providing a gift-wrapping service; recycling beverage cans; working at special events in the community.

Obtain the permission of a parent or guardian and make sure adults are present at all times when girls participate in money-earning activities outside their group meeting place.

From *Safety-Wise* Standard 33

Fund Raising for Other Organizations

Girl Scouts, in their Girl Scout capacities, may not solicit money for other organizations. Girl members may support other organizations through service projects or a donation from their group treasury.

Some examples of suitable service projects to support other organizations include stuffing envelopes, delivering informational pamphlets to businesses, helping to organize and catalog books for a library book sale, serving as aides, or providing record-keeping assistance.

Girl Scouts, in their capacity as Girl Scouts, may not raise or solicit money for other organizations, or participate in walkathons or telethons or similar activities that raise funds for other organizations.

Money-Earning Activities

Suggested activities, coded by appropriate age level:

- Petsitting, dog wash, or walking service B,J,C,S,A
- Car wash J,C,S, A
- Bake sale B,J,C,S,A
- Yard sale B,J,C,S,A
- Auction J,C,S,A
- Raking leaves, shoveling walks, weeding gardens B,J,C,S,A
- Babysitting at Town Meeting, school meeting, or other public places J,C,S,A
- Delivery service B,J,C,S,A
- Birthday party service C,S,A
- Ironing or laundry service C,S,A
- Collect and redeem recyclable materials B,J,C,S,A
- Catering meals for meetings or organizations J,C,S,A
- Put on a play, fashion show, talent show, karaoke night, family dance, game night, or costume party B,J,C,S,A
- Conduct classes for younger children in crafts, bike repair, sports clinics C,S,A
- Sell items from GSUSA-approved vendors (candy, nuts, wrapping paper, T-shirts, pens, etc.) B,J,C,S,A
(Call the Regional Office to get information about approved vendors.)

* Check with your Service Unit Manager or Regional Office for more information on these activities:

*Craft sale B,J,C,S,A

*Put on a breakfast, tea, or supper J,C,S,A

*Holiday gift-wrapping J,C,S,A

*House-cleaning service J,C,S,A

Not Appropriate

- Games of chance, raffles, casino nights, home demonstration products, coupons from restaurants, receiving a percentage of sales from a business during a specific time frame, "a-thons" (walk-a-thon, bike-a-thon, etc.).

Questions about appropriate money-earning activities should be directed to the Regional Office.

Sharing Tips

It's time to tell others about what you did, what you have learned, and the impact you hope your project will have on its intended audience. Your story may inspire others to take action to do something to make their community better!

Here are a few suggestions for how you can demonstrate your project achievements and share what you learned.

- Create a web site or blog or join a social networking site (Facebook and others) to post updates and details about your project and its impact on the national and/or global community.
- Log on to some web sites where you can share your story:
 - World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts:
www.wagggs.org/en/projects
 - Taking IT Global:
www.tigweb.org
 - Global Youth Service Day:
www.globalyouthserviceday.org
- Create a campaign that showcases your cause. Make buttons, posters, and flyers to let people know about your cause.
- Present what you have learned and what your project will do for the community at a workshop for community members.
- Make a video about the effects of your project. Post it online. Invite friends, community leaders, and people from organization who are tackling the same or a similar issue to take a look at it.
- Write an article for your local newspaper or create a newsletter about your project.

Reflection Tool

Reflection is more than talking about your feelings; it's about thinking critically, solving problems, and interpreting and analyzing the results of your experiences so that you can gain a better understanding of who you are. After you complete your project, take some time to assess yourself.

1. Which values from the Girl Scout Promise and Law did you employ?
2. Which new leadership skills have you developed?
3. How are you better able to advocate for yourself and others?
4. How has your access to community resources and relationships with adults changed as a result of this experience?
5. How important has cooperation and team building been in developing your leadership skills?
6. What changes would you make if you were to do this project again?
7. Has this helped you get an idea of what your future career might be?
8. Now that you have planned, developed, and taken action on your project, how are you better equipped to pursue future/life goals?

Hello, Girl Scouts!

An important goal at Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains is to attract as much media attention as possible for all of the wonderful projects that girls in our council undertake. We have had much success in promoting service projects, the cookie program, camps, troop trips, and more. In order for us to continue our successful media streak, I need your help. If we all work together to get girls the recognition they deserve for the terrific things they are doing in Girl Scouts, the entire council will benefit.

I've found that girls and volunteers who call a reporter or walk a press release into their local newspaper offices get excellent results –just call first to make sure that editor is not on deadline(s). Whether you are working on your Girl Scout Silver or Gold Award, completing the requirements for LIT, working with younger troops, or traveling the world on a destination—you have a great story to tell!

Don't be afraid to share your story with local media. You know the details of your Girl Scout experiences better than anyone; therefore you are the best person to promote them.

I am happy to help you do that. In order for me to help you out, I need you to call me when you are ready to approach the media. Together, we can figure out how to pitch the story. Keep in mind that reporters would rather write a story that really captures the essence of what you are doing than attend a ceremony that honors you for something you have already done.

Your assistance in promoting your project is crucial—not only to get you the recognition you deserve, but to educate the public about all of the great things Girl Scouts are doing. Ask any women you talk to if they were Girl Scouts. That could open up a wealth of possibilities.

After you receive this letter, please call me at 888-474-9686 ext. 119 so we can work together to let your community know about the difference you are making.

Best wishes,

Mary Ellen Hettinger

Public Relations Manager

888-474-9686 ext. 119

mhettinger@girlscoutsgwm.org



**Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal for
Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains
*Serving New Hampshire and Vermont***

The Girl Scout Gold Award Committee meets every third Wednesday of the month; proposal must be submitted two weeks prior to the meeting date to be reviewed. For an up-to-date schedule of meetings, please refer to www.girlscoutsgwm.org. Please type or print in black ink. Make copies for your Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor, your troop/group advisor, and for you to keep. **Do not begin project until you have received council approval.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Troop/Group Number: _____ Troop/Group Volunteer: _____

Troop/Group Volunteer's Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Project Advisor's Organization: _____

Project Advisor's Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Prerequisites: Two Senior or Ambassador Journeys or one journey and the Girl Scout Silver Award. List two journeys that you have completed along with your troop/group volunteer's signature.

Senior/Ambassador Journey Books	Date Completed	Troop/Group Volunteer's Signature
1.		
2.		

Girl Scout Silver Award Completion Date	
Council Where You Earned the Award	

Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal, continued

E. Enter the names of people or organizations you plan to inform and involve.

F. Estimate overall project expenses and how you plan to meet these costs.

G. What methods or tools will you use to evaluate the impact of your project?

H. How will your project be sustained beyond your involvement?

I. Describe how you plan to tell others about your project, the project's impact, and what you have learned (Web-site, blog, presentations, posters, videos, articles, and so on).

J. Attach Time Line

K. Attach Budget

Your Signature: _____ Date: _____

Project Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Council Representative Approved: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

Project: _____

Appointment Date & Time: _____

Impact Planning

Using the Impact Planning Chart, describe the impact you hope your project will have your community, your target audience, and you.

Impact On...	Goals	Potential Impact
Community	What community issues do you plan to address?	What example of the project impact might you see in future?
Target Audience (workshop participants, other youth, community members, and so on)	What skills, knowledge, or attitudes will your target audience gain?	How will you know that the target audience gained skills or knowledge?

The following is a list of the 15 Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes. * Which do think you will develop through this project?

Discover:

- I will develop a stronger sense of self.
- I will develop a positive values.
- I will gain practical life skills.
- I will seek challenges in the world.
- I will develop critical thinking.

Connect:

- I will develop healthy relationships.
- I will promote cooperation's and team building.
- I will resolve conflicts.
- I will advance diversity in a multicultural world.
- I will feel more connected to my community, locally and globally.

Take Action:

- I will identify community issues.
- I will be a resourceful problem solver.
- I will advocated for myself and others, locally and globally.
- I will educate and inspire others to act.
- I will feel empowered to make a difference in the world.

*Want more information on the Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes? Visit: www.girlscouts.org.



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Welcome to your Gold Award Committee Meeting!

Girls are more than welcome to attend a Gold Award Support Committee meeting. If you are interested in attending one please contact the committee via their e-mail address: jriendeau@girlscoutsgwm.org to add yourself to their agenda. Then you can use the questions/list below to confirm that you have included everything the committee is looking for.

Our meeting with you is to help you refine your project so that it meets the standards of the Gold Award. Please be prepared to give a brief explanation of your project including the what, when, where and how of the project. Together we will brainstorm ideas to improve your project and the process you will take to complete it. Prior to your appointment, please think about how your project meets the following ideals and criteria of the Gold Award:

- **Leadership:** This includes the following six skills. How will your project use *each* of these skills to develop your leadership abilities?

Organizing _____

Coordinating _____

Communicating _____

Problem Solving _____

Decision Making _____

Managing a Group _____

- **Community Need.** Does your project meet an expressed need in the community? Who will benefit from your project?
- **Community Outreach.** Does your project serve people beyond the Girl Scouting community?
- **Legacy.** Does your project have a result that will continue on? Who and how will your project continue in the future?

After your appointment, hopefully the direction in which your project is going will be more defined. You have been in contact with a Gold Award Support committee member and she/he will continue to be available if you need her/his assistance. Thank you for meeting with the Committee and good luck on your project.



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GIFT IN KIND DONATION

I, _____
 (print name), hereby unconditionally and irrevocably give to the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains of Bedford, New Hampshire, the property as described below.

Description of gift in kind:

Value of donation (as assigned by donor): \$ _____

Donor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Business or individual name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Received by: _____ Date: _____

GSGWM Staff Member

Attach documentation in form of invoice, letter or e-mail and place in accounting drop box.

Office Use Only:	Accounting: _____
Account #: _____	Fund Dev: _____
(if you had purchased this item service for your dept)	



girl scouts

Please check:

___ 1st Money-Earning Activity

___ 2nd or more Activity

(Money Earning Form from 1st activity must be submitted before 2nd activity can be approved)

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PERMISSION FOR GOLD AWARD MONEY-EARNING PROJECT *

Name: _____ Date: _____ Region: _____
Address: _____ Town: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____
Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Money-earning activity (where and what):

Date planned: _____ Dollars expected: \$ _____

Total Amount Needed for Gold Award Project: \$ _____

COMPLETE BUDGET FOR GOLD AWARD PROJECT

	Income	Expenses
Donations from Troop or Service Unit	\$ _____	
Donations from parents or family	\$ _____	
Non-solicited donations from the public	\$ _____	
Supplies need for project:		
_____		\$ _____
_____		\$ _____
_____		\$ _____
_____		\$ _____

TOTAL INCOME: \$ _____ TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ _____

How many money-earning activities do you expect it will take to fund your project?

What is your plan if the expected dollars are not raised through this money-earning activity?

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's signature: _____ Date: _____

Approval Given

First Money-Earner Second Money Earner

Girl Membership Support _____ Date _____

Chief Executive Officer _____ Date _____



**Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report for
Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains
*Serving New Hampshire and Vermont***

Please type or print in black ink. Submit the original completed form to your council. Make copies for your Girl Scout Gold Award project advisor and you to keep. When you submit your final report, please include copies of any written material, documentation, photographs (digital preferred), or evaluations that were part of your project as well as your time log and any Gift in Kind Forms.

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Troop/Group Number: _____ Troop/Group Volunteer: _____

Troop/Group Volunteer's Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor: _____

Project Advisor's Organization: _____

Project Advisor's Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Your Team: List the names of individuals and organizations that worked with you on your Take Action Project.

Team members	Affiliation	Role

Take Action Project

Project Title: _____ Start Date: _____ Completion Date: _____ Hours: _____

- A. Describe the issue your project addressed, what impact you had hoped to make, and who benefitted.

Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report, continued

B. What was the root cause of the issue? How did you address it?

C. How will your project be sustained beyond your involvement?

D. Explain the national and/or global link to your project.

E. Describe any obstacles you encountered and what you did to overcome them.

F. Describe what steps you took to inspire others through sharing your project (Web site, blog, presentations, posters, videos, articles, and so on).

G. Describe what you learned from this project including leadership skills you developed. What did you learn about yourself as a result of this project?

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

I. What aspects of your project would you change or do differently if you could start over?

Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report, continued

Impact

Using the Impact Chart, describe the impact signs your project has had and will have on your community and your target audience.

Impact On . . .	Goals	Examples of Immediate Impact	Possible Future Impact
Community	What community issue was addressed?	What are concrete examples that you made a difference?	What examples of the project impact might you see in future?
Target Audience (workshop participants, other youth, community members, and so on)	What skills, knowledge, or attitudes did your target audience gain?	What examples demonstrate that the target audience gained skills or knowledge?	What would be examples of a long-term impact on your target audience?

Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report, continued

Impact, continued

Impact On . . .	Goals	Examples of Immediate Impact
You	<p>Which of the 15 Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes* listed do you think you were able to develop through this project?</p> <p>Discover:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I developed a stronger sense of self.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I developed positive values.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I gained practical life skills.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I sought challenges in the world.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I developed critical thinking.</p> <p>Connect:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I developed healthy relationships.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I promoted cooperation and team building.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I resolved conflicts.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I advanced diversity in a multicultural world.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I felt more connected to my community, locally and globally.</p> <p>Take Action:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I will identify community issues.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I will be a resourceful problem solver.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I will advocate for myself and others, locally and globally.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I will educate and inspire others to act.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I will feel empowered to make a difference in the world.</p> <p>*Want more information on the Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes? Visit www.girlscouts.org/research/publications/outcomes/transforming_leadership.asp.</p>	<p>Within each leadership key (Discover, Connect and Take Action) list one or two examples of your growth as a leader.</p>

Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report, continued

Possible Future Impact

How do you think your leadership skills will grow in the future because of this project?

Attach Timeline and Budget.

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Project Advisor's signature: _____ Date: _____

Actions	Date
Received by council	
Final approval given	

Approved: _____ Date: _____
Council Representative