

Girl Scouts of Manitou Council

Area Plan of Work

Area: _____ Date: _____

Girl Scouts of Manitou Council works in partnership with local communities (areas) to ensure that all girls within the jurisdiction may become members and can be impacted by the Girl Scout program. Girl Scouts of Manitou Council agrees to:

- Provide membership recruitment resources and registration procedures.
- Provide ongoing support to Girl Scout volunteers.
- Provide training and learning opportunities to Girl Scout volunteers.
- Provide financial support for the work of the area for administrative purposes.
- Deliver the Girl Scout program to girls and adults.

Area Team members in a coordinated effort organize girls and volunteers to participate in the Girl Scout program in the community:

- Team members know their community.
- Team members determine how many troops are needed in their specific area and ensure that all girls are registered (new and returning) and placed into troops.
- Team members ensure girl and adult membership is reflective of the population groups living in the area.
- Team members recruit, complete background checks, appoint, orientate, and coach volunteers in the Girl Scout Leadership experience.
- Team members maintain contact with all volunteers assigned continuing to coach them throughout their service within the Girl Scout program.
- Team members should be aware of Girl Scout resources available to troops.
- Team members should subscribe to and interpret the mission of Girl Scouting and demonstrate it through personal action and Girl Scout membership.

Developing a Plan

1. Do we have troops at each school and for each grade in the elementary schools? Where do we need a troop(s) and which school(s)?
2. Of currently registered Girl Scout troops before August, find out if:
 - Volunteers are returning.
 - If new or additional leadership is needed for troop(s).
 - Retaining troops, girls, and volunteers bridging to the next level.
 - Disbanding troops/placing girls interested into other troops.
3. Multi-touch membership recruitment.

Winter/Spring

- In readiness for the fall, Girl Scout Daisy recruitment fliers are mailed out to the schools and electronic messages for kindergarten registrations, and day care centers.
- In preparation for the fall, determine how families will know about joining Girl Scouts in your community/school.
 - Are there special permissions needed in schools?
 - Who is the best person to contact in the schools?
 - Can fliers be distributed in the school?
 - Posters placed in schools? Where in the community?
 - School newsletters/e-news?
 - School Open Houses, Back to School Nights, Registration days?
 - Personal invitation from troops?

Summer

- This is a great time to recruit new volunteers for new Daisy troops and for those existing troops who may need new leadership. You are able to complete background checks, provide orientation, and have the new volunteers' complete training so they are in place before fall.

Fall

- Early September hold registration nights for girls to join Girl Scouting.
 - Use Action Plan Worksheet to determine where, date, time, and who will attend (new girls, new and registering girls, all troop leaders, troop organizers?)

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- Recruit potential volunteers where needed.
 - Complete background checks, provide orientation, encourage training, and help register girls in the troop.
- October - November (determine and continue to recruit girls and adults in grades and schools where needed). Possible Round 2 Recruitment may be needed.
- December - Follow up with troops/areas that weren't reached before the holidays.

4. Volunteer Support

- Orientation, training, and continuing conversation with volunteers.
- Troop Leader Meetings: When, Time, Where, Agenda.
 - August - Membership kick off and community traditions (usually in-person).
 - October - Cookie sale information and community traditions (usually virtual).
 - January - All things summer camp and community traditions (usually virtual).
- Plans to create unity at schools, connect with troop's leaders with each other - Who/How. (i.e. meetings, grab a coffee, check in when you see them, phone calls/emails.)

