



BUILDING WHAT MATTERS

TODAY'S GIRLS - TOMORROW'S LEADERS

CAMP ELLIOTT BARKER

Legacy of Camp Elliott Barker

As a young Girl Scout growing up in New Mexico, I formed magnificent memories of being in our beloved mountains. The fresh morning mountain air, a cozy sleeping bag, the smell of bacon cooking outside; these are a few of my favorite memories. As an adult, I lived outside of New Mexico for many years and often feared I would never experience my beloved mountains again. Imagine my excitement to not only return to our magnificent state, but to be a Girl Scout once again!

Within a few weeks of beginning my job as CEO of Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails, I found myself at Camp Elliott Barker -- 536 acres of pristine Moreno Valley land surrounded by the Sangre de Cristo Mountains -- my mountains! As I soaked in the beauty, Wheeler and Baldy Peaks welcomed me home, back to where my best Girl Scout memories were made.

Looking around, I could visualize hundreds of girls experiencing the outdoors as I once did. I knew that with a little hard work and support, we could make Camp Elliott Barker the best place for girls to experience the magic of being outdoors and being a Girl Scout.

Girl Scouts transformed me. Through my camp experiences, I grew from a young girl to a woman gaining skills only the outdoors can give. Through nature, hiking, horseback riding and more, Girl Scouts is imprinted on my DNA. The skills and lessons learned are still with me today.

I hope you will join me in remembering your own inspiring outdoor or Girl Scout experiences as you read through this brochure. I invite you to join us as we Build What Matters: giving our girls of today the opportunity to become the leaders of tomorrow through the magic of the mountains.

Peggy Sanchez Mills, CEO



Little girls with dreams become strong women with vision.





**Girl Scouting builds girls of
courage, confidence,
and character,
who make the world a
better place.**

Why Girls Need Camp!



1

Girls love the outdoors

2

Outdoor experiences help girls seek new challenges and solve new problems

3

Research shows that girls who spend a great deal of time outdoors are twice as likely to connect with and care for the environment than non-Girl Scouts

4

Based on national surveys, girls of color and girls in lower socioeconomic backgrounds report even stronger benefits from outdoor experiences



“I LED TIE DYE 4 TIMES! I BELAYED ROPES. I LED PONYCRAFT FOR KIDS. I PLANNED OUR OVERNIGHT. I LED GAMES AFTER MEALS.”

– HEIDI, 10TH GRADER FROM RIO RANCHO

Because of Girl Scouts...

Girls improved an outdoor skill:

- ◆ Outdoor cooking
- ◆ Kayaking
- ◆ Caring for and learning to ride horses
- ◆ Rock Climbing

Girls helped others

- ◆ On the high ropes course (30 feet up!)
- ◆ Make new friends
- ◆ Deal with homesickness
- ◆ Feel welcome

Girls went outside their comfort zone

- ◆ Saw bear & elk for the first time
- ◆ Spent the night outdoors
- ◆ Ate new foods
- ◆ Trusted new people

Building What Matters

Invest in our third phase and support girls to make our community stronger.

The Cornerstone Campaign - COMPLETED!

Developed the infrastructure and ensured safety standards were in place when camp re-opened in 2012. Since that time, over 3700 girls, families and community members have visited Camp Elliott Barker.

High Country Vision - COMPLETED!

Reclaimed our pond and streams, added showers and flushing toilets, winterized cabins and opened commercial kitchen to provide a year-round camp experience.

Building What Matters

Construct **The Lodge** to accomodate increased sleeping space, a welcome area and additional amenities to serve up to 240 people. This is our critical next step to becoming a state-of-the-art camp.

The Final Phase:

Add adirondacks, additional tent platforms, a new amphitheater, maintenance facilites and additional bathrooms.

In partnership with our Board of Directors, we have recreated Camp Elliott Barker to meet the needs of today's girls while respecting its 60 year legacy.

Our driving values for this labor of love were well crafted by the Board:

- ◆ **Preservation of land and property**
- ◆ **Create a safe, welcoming, sustainable year-round camp where girls build outdoor skills, and experience, explore, and celebrate the outdoors**
- ◆ **Create space that brings the outdoors in and inside space that invites girls to explore the outdoors**
- ◆ **Create space that allows the camp to be used during all seasons by girls, their families and troops, and the communities we live in**

Phase I: The Cornerstone Campaign

Completed

Developed the infrastructure and ensured safety standards were in place when camp re-opened in 2012. Since that time, over 3700 girls, families and community members have visited Camp Elliott Barker.



Under the leadership of the Council's CEO, Peggy Sanchez Mills and the Master Development Plan committee, the Board of Directors approved a visionary plan to develop Camp Elliott Barker to be a state of the art camp and premier national and international destination site for Girl Scout Camp and outdoor experiences in the United States. The Cornerstone Campaign was the first phase to make this dynamic vision a reality.

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, significant progress has been made in revitalizing our existing facilities and enhancing the infrastructure at Camp Elliott Barker.

Roads & Equipment

Our existing roads have been re-furbished and widened and we have created miles of roads throughout the property to provide access and assure safety for year-round access. We also purchased a tractor and snow plow to enable our Ranger to do appropriate work without outside contracting.

Sleeping Areas

Restoration & winterization of cabins and platform tents improves camp experience year round.

Economic Development & Job Creation

Creation of one year-round and thirty seasonal jobs adds to the economy in the Moreno Valley and rental of our camp for retreats, social & civic groups generates tourism and revenue. We are continually developing partnerships with the community, including embracing volunteers who join in our vision.

Ropes Course

We have rebuilt and enhanced our ropes course. Nestled among the pines 30 feet up, a zipline was added for a speedy and exhilarating exit.

Wildfire & Forestry Management

Landscaping has been added to create a warm, inviting welcome while also adding to the stewardship of land. We've also created defensible space to protect our buildings from wildfire.

Hoffman Hall

A full renovation was completed to include restoration of meeting and dining facilities, a commercial kitchen, running water, bathroom facilities with indoor showers, a new septic tank to protect our land, upgraded electrical and plumbing, gas heating system and a gas fireplace.

Phase II: High Country Vison

Completed

Reclaimed our pond and streams, added showers, flushing toilets, winterized cabins and opened a commercial kitchen to provide a year-round camp experience.



The High Country Vision continued the development of Camp Elliott Barker's infrastructure, capacity and amenities, thus improving the Girl Scout experience, but also attracting community members and visitors to make Camp Elliott Barker a year-round destination.

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, significant progress has been made in enhancing the infrastructure at Camp Elliott Barker.

Sleeping Areas

Our charming, rustic cabins were winterized with insulation & stoves to keep campers and visitors cozy during the winter months.



Shower House

We built a new shower house in the cabin area which features electricity, ADA showers, flushing toilets, sinks, vanities and a laundry facility.



The Lodge will increase the capacity through additional beds, restrooms, facilities and indoor gathering areas that will accommodate Girl Scouts, staff and community groups.



Thanks to our generous supporters, Camp Elliott Barker has experienced many updates. We are currently at our maximum growth capacity. Camp Elliott Barker cannot continue to host more Girl Scouts and visitors unless we can add beds, restrooms and indoor gathering areas.

Today’s girls are tomorrow’s leaders. We believe every girl deserves the opportunity to become the leader she wants to be and the world needs her to be. In an all-girl setting, camp is her first opportunity to experience true independence giving her the freedom to discover who she wants to be, a safe place to take risks, and the opportunity to explore nature. We believe that when girls succeed, so does society. Girls in New Mexico deserve a top-notch property and facilities which allow them these experiences.

Our goal is to build The Lodge, a year-round, modern multi-use space that will add the amenities necessary to build a state-of-the-art camp for Girl Scouts. The Lodge will be the centerpiece of camp featuring a grand hall, camp office, nursing station, laundry facilities, indoor restrooms, a rock-climbing wall and will have additional space to house up to 16 people.

The Lodge will allow us to:

Live Girl Scout Traditions	Serve Girls with Excellence	Inspire New Generations of Girls	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Provide girls with a Girl Scout Leadership Experience in a girl-only space◆ Girls learn by leading, by doing and through cooperative learning◆ Girls learn through discovery, connecting and taking action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Develop girls as individuals & team members◆ Create lifetime bonds and relationships◆ Provide safe access to green space & nature◆ Inspire girls to have a greater appreciation & respect for the environment◆ Inspire girls to become stewards of the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Embrace wellness, healthy lifestyles and respect for the environment◆ Enjoy Arts, Crafts, Nature & Environment◆ Explore the rapids of the Rio Grande & the exhilarating hike to Wheeler Peak◆ Become courageous as they soar through the Ponderosa Pines from a zip line	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Learn to rock climb in our 9500 ft elevations and 13,000 ft mountains◆ Learn to become a scientist, an entrepreneur or an environmentalist
Build a Financially Sustainable Business Model			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Provide year-round access for retreats, community groups and families to generate revenue for our mission to serve girls			

COST TO BUILD THE LODGE: \$1 MILLION

“I WAS NERVOUS TO JUMP OFF THE ROPES COURSE PLATFORM! BUT AFTER FRIENDLY ENCOURAGEMENT, I JUMPED AND HAD A GREAT TIME ON THE ZIPLINE!” – CAROLINE, 9TH GRADER FROM SANTA FE

The Lodge supports the Girl Scout Leadership Experience



Girls who attend camp benefit when we measure the impact in five outcomes:

1. Discovering a sense of self
2. Developing positive values
3. Seeking challenges in the world
4. Developing critical thinking skills
5. Gaining practical life skills

Camping is an ideal way for girls to build leadership skills, independence, develop a deep appreciation for nature, build healthy relationships and cultivate a respect for diversity. By attending Girl Scout camp, girls develop skills that may not necessarily be available at home or in school. Studies show that girls are more apt to actively participate, ask questions, and explore when being taught in an all-girl environment.



The potential for girls experiencing something new at camp is endless. From learning how to pitch a tent, canoeing, sleeping in the great outdoors and experiencing the black sky filled with stars through a telescope in our observatory, girls can reach up to touch the stars! These new experiences give girls the courage to dream about a future filled with possibilities and support them as they become young women of courage, confidence and character.



You can help us Build What Matters!

Girl Scouts says “yes” to every girl - we are the pipeline building the next generation of female leaders. Join us in investing in girls.

Your support in Camp Elliott Barker is an investment not only in the girls of New Mexico, but for the future. As the largest girl-serving organization in the U.S., Girl Scouts ranks among the nation’s top nonprofit brands. For over 107 years, Girl Scouts offers every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure, and success.

By investing in girls, you help them explore their choices and options for the future while helping them create memories that will last a lifetime.

Join the legacy of supporters who, for more than 50 years, have invested in this jewel nestled among the Sangre de Cristo Mountains adjacent to Eagle Nest Lake within the lovely Moreno Valley.

Ways to Give

There are several convenient ways to support us in Building What Matters.

- Cash or check made to the Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails
- Credit card - American Express, Visa, MasterCard & Discover donations can be made online at NMGirlScouts.org
- Monthly, quarterly, or annual pledge payments over one- to three-years
- Gift transfer and securities, and contributions to the Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails Capital Campaign through your favorite community foundation
- Remember us in your will





The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

The Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be
Honest and fair,
Friendly and helpful,
Considerate and caring,
Courageous and strong, and
Responsible for what I say and do,
and to
Respect myself and others,
Respect authority,
Use resources wisely,
Make the world a better place, and
Be a sister to every Girl Scout.

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