

Adult Award Information Guide

Thank you for recognizing outstanding volunteers who contribute to our success. There are many ways to show your appreciation and say thank you; one of which is through formal council-level awards. **Anyone** including parents, co-leaders, staff members, girls and community team members can nominate a volunteer for an award.

All forms can be found online under the Adult Volunteer Recognition Forms section at www.girlscouts-swtx.org/forms

Council level awards or certificates available for adult recognition include:

- **Appreciation Pin**
- **Daisy Pin (*specific to GSSWT*)**
- **Honor Pin**
- **Thanks Badge I**
- **Thanks Badge II**
- **Community Partner Award**
- **Outstanding Religious Leader Award**

Community level awards or certificates available for adult recognition include:

- **Friends of Girl Scouting**
- **Volunteer of Excellence**

Basic Criteria for Adult Awards: (Does not apply to Community Partner Award, Friends of Girl Scouting or Outstanding Religious Leader Award.)

- Active adult member with current Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. membership
- Successfully completed term of service and all requirements for the position (ex. required training, paperwork, etc.)
- Current and clear background check screening on file with GSSWT
- No outstanding obligations (ex. monies or paperwork)
- Actively recognizes, understands and practices the values of inclusive behavior
- Performed service above and beyond expectations for the position held.

See individual award descriptions on pages 3-5 for additional award requirements.

Questions about the volunteer recognition process?

Please contact Volunteer Support at
customercare@girlscouts-swtx.org or (210) 349-2404

Fax: 210-349-2666

Information and forms can be found at www.girlscouts-swtx.org

Adult Award Checklist

- Nominee meets the **basic criteria for adult awards** listed on page 1: (Does not apply to Community Partner Award, Friends of Girl Scouting or Outstanding Religious Leader Award.)
- Clearly described what the nominee did to deserve the award. Provided details and examples of service.
- Explained the impact of the nominee's service. Quantified the impact, where possible, to describe the impact (ex. # of girls or adults impacted, dollars saved, etc.).
- Endorsements were written and submitted by individuals other than nominator.
- Complete nomination package with appropriate number of endorsements submitted on official GSSWT forms on or before **April 30**.

Award Hints:

- ❖ Since there are a limited number of formal volunteer recognitions, **it is recommended that there is at least a year between nominations of an individual**. The time between nominations can be recognized through informal recognitions.
- ❖ **Each nomination is considered on its own merit and is not rated against other nominations**. The best nominations and endorsements include as much supporting information as possible. Facts and figures help the task group see the nominee in the best light.



Council Level Award Details

Appreciation Pin

Recognizes superior service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) or in support of council goals which had a measurable impact on one geographic area of service, allowing the council to reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals.

- Meets the basic criteria for adult awards found on page 1
- Contributed to council goals in one geographic area or council initiative
- Requires a **Nomination Form and two Endorsement Forms** due no later than **April 30**.

Examples of possible nominees:

- ❖ *A Community Chair whose management of a Community or a geographic area has resulted in an increase in membership and/or retention over several years.*
- ❖ *A volunteer who has served for several years on a Community Team and has exceeded the expectations of the position.*

Honor Pin

Recognizes exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) or in support of council goals which had a measurable impact on two or more geographic areas of service, allowing the council to reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals.

- Meets the basic criteria for adult awards found on page 1
- Contributed to council goals in two geographic areas &/or council initiatives
- Requires a **Nomination Form and three Endorsement Forms** due no later than **April 30**.

Examples of possible nominees:

- ❖ *A volunteer who has collaborated with a business to implement a program that assists underserved Girl Scouts.*
- ❖ *A volunteer who implements a day camp, series of events or activities, bringing together girls from neighboring areas.*

Daisy Pin *(Unique to Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas)*

Recognizes exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) or in support of council goals which had a measurable impact on two or more geographic areas of service, allowing the council to reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals.

- Meets the basic criteria for adult awards found on page 1
- Contributed to council goals in two or more geographic areas &/or council initiatives
- Requires a **Nomination Form and three Endorsement Forms** due no later than **April 30**.

Examples of possible nominees:

- ❖ *A volunteer who effectively participates in multiple GSSWT committees, events and meetings in various capacities.*
- ❖ *A day/twilight camp director whose effective management results in an increase in participation by girls and adults over a period of time.*

Thanks Badge

The highest honor in Girl Scouts. Honors an individual whose ongoing commitment, leadership and service has had an exceptional, measurable impact on meeting the mission-delivery goals and priorities of the entire council or Girl Scout Movement.

- Meets the basic criteria for adult awards found on page 1
- The outstanding service performed by the nominee resulted in outcomes that benefitted the total council or the entire Girl Scout movement.
- Served in a leadership role at the council level in the last four years.
- The service is so significantly beyond expectations that no other award is appropriate.
- Requires a **Nomination Form and four Endorsement Forms** due no later than **April 30**.

Examples of possible nominees:

- ❖ *The director of a successful council wide initiative that results in increased retention of girls and/or adults. This opportunity also resulted in significant positive publicity for the council and the entire Girl Scout movement.*
- ❖ *A volunteer that helps establish a successful collaboration with a local business and/or youth serving agency that results in increased program opportunities for girls in all parts of the council.*
- ❖ *A volunteer who establishes a new or revised component for the council's fund development initiatives which surpasses expectations and goals.*

Thanks Badge II

Recognizes a previous Thanks Badge award recipient who has continued to provide exemplary service in a leadership role, resulting in a measurable impact that benefits the entire Girl Scout Movement.

- Meets the basic criteria for adult awards found on page 1
- The nominee has received the Thanks Badge.
- The nominee continued to provide distinguished service by:
 - continuing to perform at the same high level for an extended period of time, or
 - increasing her/his sphere of influence, or
 - using her/his skills and talents to move into another field that benefits the council
- The service benefits the total council or entire Girl Scout movement.
- The service is outstanding and significantly beyond expectations that no other award is appropriate.
- Requires a **Nomination Form and four Endorsement Forms** due no later than **April 30**.



Community Partner Award *(unique to the Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas)*

Recognizes an individual, business or organization whose interest in the Girl Scout Movement resulted in superior contribution of time, talents and/or resources which impacted the entire council and contributed to achievement of the council's goals.

- The nominee is a **non-member adult, business or organization**.
- The nominee promotes a positive public image of Girl Scouts.
- Contribution of time, talents or resources benefitted Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas.
- Nomination cites examples of the service and information about the audience benefiting from the service is required.
- Requires a **Nomination Form** due no later than **April 30**.

Examples of possible nominees:

- ❖ *A business or organization that contributed to increasing the Girl Scout visibility in the entire council area.*
- ❖ *A corporation or agency consistently donating space, supplies, staff time or money over time (not just a one-time donation.)*

Outstanding Religious Leader Award *(unique to the Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas)*

Recognizes an individual who provided outstanding support and encouragement for Girl Scouting in their religious community.

- The nominee is a **member OR non-member adult**.
- The nominee encourages parental involvement in Girl Scouts.
- Nominee encourages Girl Scout visibility in the religious community
- The individual promotes a positive public image of Girl Scouts
- The individual has been involved with Girl Scouts for at least 2 years
- Nomination cites examples of the service and information about the audience benefiting from the service is required.
- Requires a **Nomination Form** due no later than **April 30**.



Community Level Award Details

Volunteer of Excellence

Recognizes outstanding service while partnering directly with girls to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) through the use of the National Program Portfolio or who have contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery goals to girl and adult members.

- Meets the basic criteria for adult awards found on page 1
- The nominee's performance has been beyond expectations for the position to deliver the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to girls using the national program portfolio **OR**
- The nominee's performance has been beyond expectation of the position and has supported the council's mission-delivery goals in one or more of the following functional areas: Membership Development/Community Cultivation, Volunteer Relations and Support, Program, Leadership and Governance, Fund Development and Council Support Service.
- The nominee actively recognizes, understands and practices the values of inclusive behavior.
- Requires a **Nomination Form** due **anytime**.

Friends of Girl Scouting

Recognizes an individual, business or organization who provided outstanding support to Girl Scouting which impacted one geographic area for at least one year.

- The nominee is a **non-member adult, business or organization**.
- Support must have resulted in outstanding contribution of time, talents, effort and/or resources.
- Impacted Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas in a local community or single council initiative for at least one year.
- Requires a **Nomination Form** due **anytime**.

It doesn't take many words to say a lot. In approximately 100 words you can give a good picture of service!

A good endorsement might go something like this...

Anna joined our Community 5 years ago. When she took over the Community Membership Recruitment Coordinator role on the Community Team 3 years ago, our membership was only 125 girls in 5 schools. Now the membership is 440 girls in all 15 schools in our community. More than 75% of the girls consistently return for another year of Girl Scouting. She started a Daisy Girl Scout program in 3 schools where no program was available to the Kindergarten girls. She was instrumental in getting 25 girls to join a Junior group that is still growing. The adult membership has grown from only 20 adults in 2006 to more than 86 today.