



From the CEO's Desk

December 19, 2012

Our Girl Scout Sisters in Newtown

The tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut on Friday has all of us shaken and words can't describe the deep sadness over the loss of these children and the brave adults who died trying to save the lives of their students. I learned from the Girl Scout CEO in Connecticut that eight of the girls who were killed were Girl Scout Daisies and two Girl Scouts lost their brothers. The Girl Scouts of Connecticut will be posting on its website some of the ways that sister Girl Scouts can support them. This CEO said, "Newtown has more than 700 Girl Scouts and a strong volunteer base. I know that they feel the love coming from all around." What we do for girls in helping them live their lives through Girl Scout Promise and Law is not to be underestimated. The love we can demonstrate for the families of these girls and all those lives will be forever changed by this tragedy, is the best gift of all.

On another matter, you have hopefully read the special e-blast or visited the council website, and know about the Board's decision regarding GSNYPENN camp properties. If not, I invite you to read the [message](#) from me and our Board chair Sara Ayala.

Every member will receive a letter from me after the holidays with more detailed information about the timeline for implementation of the Board's decisions. I promise you that we will do our best to handle the implementation of the decisions in the same thoughtful and thorough way that the Board handled making the decisions.

Just as the Board gathered valuable input at the town hall meetings, there will be many opportunities in the coming months for girls, parents, and volunteers to provide input into the vision of our outdoor programs. I can't wait to hear what recommendations girls will make. I can't wait to see the design for a new patch program that will encourage girls to visit all our wonderful camp properties! More to come on all of this!

For now, I wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday season celebrating whatever is important to you and your family. I am so grateful for all you did to make Girl Scouting special in our 100th anniversary year and I look forward to launching the next 100 years with you!

Pam

Pam Hyland
President/CEO