

# Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley Delegate Bulletin

October 25, 2007      [www.gsgv.org](http://www.gsgv.org)      e-mail: [board@rochester.rr.com](mailto:board@rochester.rr.com)      Vol. 1, Issue 17

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We are sharing with you the preliminary draft of the Vision for the Girls Scouts of Western New York. Please e-mail the Board with your suggestions or comments. [board@rochester.rr.com](mailto:board@rochester.rr.com)

## GIRL SCOUTS OF WESTERN NEW YORK

### VISION

The Girl Scouts of Western New York brings together the strengths, diversity of experience, and rich history of four legacy councils and the Girl Scouts of the United States of America. We are committed to providing innovative, relevant, girl-centric leadership experiences that appeal to today's girls, by ensuring highly relevant experiences to future generations. With our increased capacity and wealth of expertise, we will provide new opportunities for all girls including girls in underserved areas throughout our region, by providing access to meaningful programming where girls live and learn.

Our high-capacity council will be transformed into a high performance council through the appropriate use of technology, efficient operations, flexible deployment of resources, high quality professional development for staff and volunteers, and a stable yet agile financial platform. Through our growth and commitment to our vision, Girl Scouts of Western New York will provide valuable leadership experiences to more girls who will, in turn, enrich their communities.

#### **Programs for Girls:**

Flexible programming, made possible by the formation of our new council, offers new pathways and journeys for girls with expanded opportunities for leadership experience. Our new council will leverage best practices and offer increased program opportunities while ensuring that programs are locally delivered, connected to the community, and regionally relevant.

#### **Volunteers:**

With our increased resources and capacity, we will provide our volunteers with flexible, timely, and relevant training, as well as ongoing support to ensure that their Girl Scout experience is personally rewarding and gratifying. Acknowledging that our volunteers are central to our ability to fulfill our mission, we will continue to express our respect and appreciation for them through ongoing recognition efforts.

## **Community:**

The Girl Scouts of Western New York seeks to benefit the communities where we are active by providing girls with new leadership experiences. Because service to others is integral to Girl Scouting, girls will come to appreciate the real difference they can make in the lives of others, and they will experience the personal rewards that come from contributing to and enriching the social fabric of their communities. Moving forward, we will seek partnerships in our communities to enhance programs and build our outreach efforts.

## **Staff and Staff Leadership:**

The staff of our new council will bring together the depth of expertise and rich experience of our legacy councils, and with new resources, help our girls (and volunteers) reach their potential. The increased resources of the new council will provide staff with greater opportunities for professional development and career advancement resulting in a more effective and efficient infrastructure.

## **Facilities and Operations:**

The size, number, and deployment of facilities will reflect our new council's ability to leverage new technology and communications to reach more girls and engage more volunteers. Centralized functions will create new efficiencies and economies of scale, which in turn, will direct more resources into the field. These same technologies will offer staff new methods and modes of work, allowing field staff to support volunteers and girls in their communities, regardless of where their offices are located. The council is also committed to promoting environmentally friendly practices in day-to-day operations.

## **Funding:**

Our new size and capacity will allow us to extend, expand, and enrich the Girl Scout brand in our region and offer new opportunities for individuals, businesses, and other organizations to partner with Girl Scouts of Western New York to benefit the communities we serve. We will use technology to increase our visibility and promote awareness of the contributions of Girl Scouting, allowing us to become a model of excellence among our peer organizations.

## **History & Legacy:**

Girl Scouts of Western New York will honor the rich history of our region and use the events of the past as a guide for our girl leaders as they build a new tomorrow for themselves and our country. The long and successful histories of our legacy councils will be honored and respected as the basic foundation for new work in a new era of Girl Scouting in Western New York.

**Board of Directors:**

Our new Board of Directors will represent the talent and commitment of our legacy councils and be enriched by new individuals and business partners that may only be available to us because of our significant size and capacity to serve. In addition, the culture of our new board will allow our volunteer leaders to stay focused on the strategic elements of our work and general management oversight without becoming mired in daily operations. Our new board members will be our ambassadors throughout our region and open new doors for our council and our girls.