



## Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois

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**Release #12052012**

**Date:** Jan. 5, 2012

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## Bethany Frick from Edwardsville receives the Girl Scout Gold Award... the highest individual achievement in Girl Scouting

**Glen Carbon, Illinois** -- The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois (GSSI) is pleased to announce that Bethany Frick of Edwardsville has received the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can receive.

For her Girl Scout Gold Award project, Bethany planned and implemented several educational workshops for children of underprivileged families. Bethany organized a group of volunteers to provide individualized guidance while the children explored learning projects such as math manipulatives and science experiments. Bethany implemented her workshops through the Granite City Housing Authority and the Breakfast Ministry program sponsored by her church.

"These sessions hopefully provided kids with new knowledge and a new found drive to seek knowledge for the rest of their lives," said Bethany. "Since what the kids took away was not always a tangible object, I judged the impact of my project by the smiles on their faces."

Bethany noted that she gained new insights from her experience as well, "I learned that I want to help kids in the future. My Girl Scout Gold Award Project has helped me realize that speech pathology is something that I would love to do in the future." She also added, "I learned that even if something doesn't go exactly the way you envisioned it, it does mean that it was a failure. It provides an opportunity to improve."

Bethany is the daughter of Scott and Connie Frick from Edwardsville. She is currently a junior at Edwardsville High School.

The Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can earn, recognizes a Girl Scout's commitment to excellence as she develops skills and values to meet present and future challenges in her life. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, a Girl Scout Senior or Girl Scout Ambassador must design and carry out a project that fulfills a need within a girl's community, creates change, and is sustainable. The project must be completed with a suggested minimum of 80 hours of work. Only about 6 percent of eligible girls earn the prestigious Gold Award.

Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts is now the largest voluntary organization for girls in the world. Its sole focus is to meet the needs of all girls (ages 5-17) from diverse racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Today's Girl Scouts not only enjoy camping and crafts, but they also explore math and science and learn about diversity, good citizenship, leadership and teamwork. Girl Scouting is the place where girls experience the fun, friendship and power of girls together.

The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois is a not-for-profit organization supported by various United Ways throughout the region. The Girl Scouts is a Proud Partner of United Way. For more information, please call Erin Johnson at 618.692.0692.

**Also check us out at: [www.gsofsi.org](http://www.gsofsi.org)**

