



## Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois

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## Sydney Haberberger from Chester 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 Sydney Haberberger of Chester has received the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can receive.

For her Girl Scout Gold Award project, called "E Recycle: A Step in the Right Direction," Sydney planned and conducted two E Recycling days where community members could bring old and unwanted electronic equipment for proper disposal that would not harm the environment. During her two day recycling days, more than 180 people brought more than 1,200 used computers, televisions and other equipment for disposal. She worked with local companies to ensure that the electronic recycling was environmental friendly and whenever possible could be repaired and reused.

"Through my Girl Scout Gold Award project, I learned that through sheer perseverance I was able to meet and exceed my goals," Ms. Haberberger said. "I also gained confidence and completing my Girl Scout Gold Award has made me a much more productive and less fearful leader," she added.

Sydney is the daughter of Mike and Cheryl Haberberger from Chester. She is currently a senior at Chester High School. After graduation, she would like to attend Saint Louis University or Washington University and pursue a degree in physical therapy or psychiatry.

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.

Today, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. is 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)

