



Operation You're Not Alone: April 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all in ways that we could not have imagined, but one of the hardest hit communities are Nursing Homes and Long-Term Care Facilities.

The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois **Operation: You're Not Alone** Community Service project plans to address this problem by donating care packages to facilities across Southern Illinois. We have worked with facilities to determine what they need during this time. Care packages will include lotion, socks, general hygiene items, Kleenex, perfumes, fleece blankets, chocolates, cards, colored pencils, coloring books, word puzzle books, magazines, large print books, hair supplies, etc. We will be obtaining these items with help from the community.

Girl Scout Troops across Southern Illinois will be dropping off paper bags to houses throughout their local neighborhoods that inform them about this project and give a list of items that they can donate for these care packages. Community members will have two weeks to gather items they would like to donate, and they will simply put them in the paper bag and set the bag on their porch on the designated pick up day.

Girl Scout Troops will go back to the neighborhoods and pick up the bags and then sort through the donations to stuff care packages. Girl Scout Troops will also include hand written letters to residents in these care packages. The care packages will then be distributed to designated Nursing Homes and Long-Term Care Facilities throughout Southern Illinois. The goal is to brighten up these resident's day and show them that **they are not alone** while also providing them necessities, entertainment, and little gifts.

Girl Scout Troops will be passing out the paper bags to their local neighborhoods on **April 10th**. Community Members will have two weeks to gather items on the list provided. Troops will pick up the bags on **April 24th** and distribute the care packages within the following two weeks.