



News Release

For Immediate Release

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AmeriCorps Contract Terminated for Girl Scouts of Western Washington

Federal funding cuts impose limitations on the organization's mission to serve all girls*.

(Seattle, WA) April 25, 2025. Effective immediately, the federal government has terminated Girl Scouts of Western Washington's AmeriCorps contract—eliminating \$150,000 in critical funding with just eleven weeks left in the school year.

This abrupt funding cut in year two of the three-year contract further undermines Girl Scouts of Western Washington's contract by revoking an additional \$375,000 the organization was counting on for planned program expansion—effectively halting efforts to double their outreach efforts with fifteen additional AmeriCorps members serving 378 youth in Title I Schools during the 2025–2026 school year.

This loss in funding not only impacts the youth in these programs but also means fifteen dedicated AmeriCorps members—many of whom are Girl Scout alums from the very communities they now serve—face an abrupt end to their living expense stipends with no eligibility to apply for unemployment benefits.

Without AmeriCorps funding, Girl Scouts of Western Washington must urgently secure \$150,000 to continue this essential programming for 184 Girls Scouts across eleven Title I schools and community centers. While Girl Scouts of Western Washington has already

committed to maintaining this programming through June, they are seeking funding support from the community to help offset this unexpected cost.

The AmeriCorps program is integral to Girl Scouts of Western Washington's mission to serve ALL girls*, but especially those from historically excluded communities.

The program provides crucial after-school care that is free, reliable, and culturally responsive. Its loss will leave many families scrambling to find alternative childcare and facing new financial burdens.

Additionally, the AmeriCorps program operates in areas where families want their girls* to join Girl Scouts—but barriers of time, financial stress, or cultural differences in volunteerism prevent traditional troop formation. When no parent or adult volunteer is available to lead a troop, AmeriCorps members step in—ensuring girls* don't miss out on the opportunity to be Girl Scouts.

Further, fifteen dedicated AmeriCorps members (adults of all ages and life stages) serve as troop leaders in six communities, providing programming for 184 Girl Scouts in eleven Title I schools and community centers. In many of these schools, if there's no AmeriCorps member, there's no access to Girl Scouts.

This is more than a funding crisis. It's a disruption of a safe, joyful, and transformative space for hundreds of girls* who count on Girl Scouts of Western Washington to deliver an enriching experience. It's the loss of weekly, sometimes daily, after-school programming, mentorship, and leadership development, and a loss of hard-earned momentum in Girl Scouts of Western Washington's work to make Girl Scouting accessible for every girl* by building long-term relationships in these communities.

The loss of AmeriCorps funding may also be just the beginning. Girl Scouts of Western Washington anticipates additional federal funding cuts in the weeks ahead due to their mission to create and uplift safe spaces specifically for all girls* and not all children.

In a world where occupational segregation, misogyny, and systems designed to hold girls* back persist, the need for dedicated spaces and support has never been more urgent. Girls* still need champions who believe in their limitless potential—now and into the future.

Through the generosity of the community, Girl Scouts of Western Washington aims to protect what they've built—and keep building toward a future where all girls* feel seen, supported, and powerful.

Every dollar raised helps bridge this gap—keeping 184 girls* connected to the friendships, mentorship, and leadership opportunities they rely on. If you're interested and willing to stand alongside them and show girls* that their future is too important to pause, you can donate online at www.GirlScoutsWW.org/Donate.

About Girl Scouts of Western Washington

Girl Scouts of Western Washington is consistently and unapologetically committed to providing safe spaces for all girls* to belong. We build Girl Scouts of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Founded in 1912, our organization has been committed to meeting the needs of our youth members for over a century. We uplift all Girl Scouts in a supportive environment where they can discover their strengths and rise to meet new challenges—whether they want to climb to the top of a tree or the top of their class, lace up their boots for a hike or advocate for climate justice, or make their very first best friends. Backed by trusted adult volunteers, mentors, and millions of alums, Girl Scouts lead the way as they find their voices and make changes that affect the issues most important to them. They are the future leaders paving the way toward a brighter tomorrow. To join us, volunteer, reconnect, donate, or learn more, visit www.girlscoutsww.org.

**Girl Scouts of Western Washington uses the term girl inclusively to speak to everyone who identifies with the Girl Scout experience, which includes cisgender girls, gender-expansive youth, transgender youth, non-binary youth, gender nonconforming youth, genderqueer youth, and any girl-identifying human.*

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