



August 12, 2020

Dear Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc. Girl Scout Members,

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, we at GSHH have remained focused on our #1 priority: keeping our Girl Scouts, their families and our volunteers safe. We are now well into Phase 4 of our Hudson Valley reopening, and we continue to follow state and county Department of Health guidelines, as well as rules set by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.

With our #1 priority in mind, we are pleased to announce that we will resume some limited in-person Girl Scout activities and in-person troop meetings.

We have prepared [guidelines](#) for troops and service units to follow when planning in-person activities and meetings. There will be information sessions, listed below, on how we plan to reopen safely and maintain everyone's well-being. We will require social distancing and the use of face masks. And, of course, each parent/guardian should decide what is best for their girl(s). These activities are entirely voluntary and we will continue to provide virtual opportunities for participants who are not ready to resume in-person activities.

Before leading any in-person Girl Scout activities, volunteers must review the Safety Activity guidelines for in-person meetings, and attend one of the [live webinars](#) being offered. More information and updates, as they are available, can be found [here](#).

We continue to encourage and promote virtual and at-home programming as the safest option. Our virtual and at-home programming has been well received by our girls and we are working hard to provide an extraordinary experience.

We understand the importance of girls meeting with their friends in person and participating in outdoor activities. But we need to remember that we do not want to contribute in any way to a reversal of New York's general containment of this pandemic. As we have seen all around us, everyone has a different idea and level of comfort regarding pandemic-era activities. There is no one answer-fits-all solution.

With these thoughts in mind, we will continue to listen closely to your suggestions and carefully monitor events both inside GSHH and within our larger community. We look forward to our future together, and thank you for all you do.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie Reger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marie Reger, CEO
Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc.