

PRESS RELEASE



Girl Scouts of Central Maryland
4806 Seton Drive
Baltimore, MD 21215-3216
T 410 358 9711 F 410 358 9833
Toll Free 800 492 2521

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Danita Terry, Director of Communications
(410) 358-9711/ dterry@gscm.org

Girls Need Meaningful Partnerships with Adults to Become Strong Leaders

Baltimore—The Girl Scout Research Institute (GSRI) recently released *Exploring Girls' Leadership*, an investigative report about how girls and youth feel about leadership. Among the report's findings is that girls view leadership in terms of the qualities one possesses, rather than a specific role or function. The report also addresses a common misperception about youth leadership and adult involvement, revealing that youth-adult partnerships, particularly in regard to youth decision-making, "have been shown to have particularly strong outcomes."

Girl Scouts has long embraced this principle of youth-adult partnerships. The girl/adult-leader framework is grounded in the understanding that girls need adult partners to guide them in decision-making especially as they grow older, take on increased responsibilities and their skill sets expand. Examples of youth-adult partnership opportunities available through Girl Scouts of Central Maryland include becoming an advisor for a troop's or girl's service project, acting as a career mentor by providing information and knowledge about your own field, or offering your skills as a camp counselor. For more information about how you can develop your own youth-adult partnership, please contact Girl Scouts of Central Maryland at 410-358-9711. For a copy of the GSRI report, go to www.girlscouts.org.

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Girl Scouts of the USA is the largest organization dedicated solely to girls. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland serves nearly 30,000 girls in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties. With the help of 10,000 adult volunteers, the Girl Scout leadership development program develops girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.

Where Girls Grow StrongSM