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Girl Scouts Work on Biggest Gold Award Project in History of Scouting

Four Girl Scouts Prepare for Construction at Crownsville Chrysalis House Women’s Rehab Center

Crownsville— At 10:00 a.m. on September 29, 2009, after months of anticipation and planning, Girl Scout Troop 913 of Edgewater, will begin what may be the biggest Girl Scout Gold Award project in the history of scouting, when they break ground to begin construction on their Butterfly Boutique, a 1,700 square foot building that will serve residents of the Chrysalis House. A long-term alcohol and drug treatment facility for women, the Chrysalis House provides rehabilitative and support services that include: transitional housing, counseling, education, child care, and job skills.

The Girl Scouts’ two-story Butterfly Boutique will be a full service annex large enough to provide life skills training classes, storage for donation items and a boutique. The building will have a powder room and year round heating and air conditioning service. The girls worked with an architect over the past four years to design the building—for which they earned their Girl Scout Silver Award—and filed the blueprints with the Anne Arundel County Permit Office. They worked on their leadership skills by presenting the project to various suppliers throughout the area soliciting donations and support. They successfully received commitments for goods and services that include: paint, lumber, landscaping, windows, rebar, steel piping, roofing, plumbing, electrical and excavating.

With the completion of the Butterfly Boutique and implementation of the girls’ individual projects, they will each receive the coveted Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. However, these girls will quickly tell you that is not what the project is all about: “The idea of the project was not about me, or my friends, instead, it was about others... the project will help so many women regain their confidence and strength that has slipped from their grasp,” said Troop member Allison Reisinger . “I feel amazing making this Butterfly Boutique project a reality...that I will help change these women’s lives for the better,” added Troop member Lacey Shirley-Keffer.”

“This is what Girl Scouting and the Girl Scout Gold Award project are all about: helping girls discover a community need, connecting with people who they can work with to take action and make the community a better place,” remarked Girl Scouts of Central Maryland CEO Traci A. Barnett. For more information about the Chrysalis House visit www.chrysalishouses.org.

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Girl scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland provides a myriad of programs and activities for nearly 30,000 girls in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties. These

experiences encourage girls to discover their potential and connect with others in their communities who inspire them to take action to fulfill their dreams.