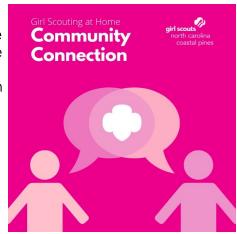
Girl Scouts North Carolina Coastal Pines invites girls, families, and volunteers to stay involved while at home. We know that today's girl is ready to pivot on a moments notice and is willing to embrace new ways to explore Girl Scouting. That's why we're promoting these options for engaging with us while you're at home today... or any day!

COMMUNITY CONNECTION encourages Girl Scouts to continue to maintain a connection with their community. Each Monday we'll share ways for you to

engage with your community by learning about, connecting with, and leaning into the community around you. Join the conversation online. **#OurGSNCCPCommunity**



Share A Letter That Shows You Care

With hundreds of nursing homes across our footprint closing their doors to visitors in an effort to help protect those most at risk of catching the virus, we're presented with a fun opportunity for Girls Scouts to make the world a better place. How's that? Grab a piece of paper and your colored pencils, markers, or even paints and draft a letter or create a card to lift the spirits of the residences — maybe even your loved one!

You may know someone who is in a nursing home or assisted care facility. If so, consider writing them. However, you don't have to know the person to share your act of kindness. Open your letter with by saying, "Hello there!" You don't even have to write a letter at all, you can draw a picture instead. Once you've completed your letter and/or picture, try locating a facility in your community. If you're unable to find somewhere local to mail your letter to, you can send it to Love for the Elderly and they'll take care of mailing it to a nursing home, assisted living facility, hospice or senior center.

Love For The Elderly P. O. Box 24248 Cleveland, OH 44124

Here are a few TIPS for Girl Scouts:

If mailing locally, think safety first! Use the nursing home's mailing address for both the return address and the mailing address. Only include your first name. Since this is a one-way letter, don't ask the person questions. Do share words of kindness, tell a joke, or write a creative story. It's fun to include a picture because most residences will hangup your letter/picture in their rooms.

Looking for another way to use your creative letter writing skills? Consider writing a letter to military troops as part of Operation Cookie Drop.

Operation Cookie Drop (OCD)

Girl Scouts North Carolina Coastal Pines has celebrated over 15 years of Operation Cookie Drop, a community service project that brings a sweet taste of home to deployed military men and women and serving our country at home. We have donated well over 1 million boxes total to our military men and women serving our country!

During each Cookie Program, Girl Scouts across 41 counties work to collect donations through both cookie booth sales and during Walkabout Week where they sell cookies within local neighborhoods. Girls that donate 15 boxes earn our awesome Operation Cookie Drop patch.

Cookie Drops take place at The USO in Jacksonville, Cherry Point in Havelock, Seymour Johnson Airforce Base in Goldsboro, Fort Bragg near Fayetteville, NC Packs 4 Patriots in Ayden and more, to be delivered to military personnel. In addition to boxes of cookies, many Girl Scout troops have written letters to the troops to thank them for their service and to let them know that their country is thinking of them.

Write a letter/story or draw a picture to be sent to military troops along with the Girl Scout Cookies! Send your OCD letters to the Raleigh Service Center by April 24th, 2020. Mail your Operation Cookie Drop letter to:

Attn: Operation Cookie Drop c/o Kelly Griffin 6901 Pinecrest Rd.

CLICK HERE TO SEE OPERATION COOKIE DROP IN ACTION





Dear Girl Scout

We're so excited that you're joining us in this activity! Your words can make a joyful impact on someone else. On the following page, you will find instructions for addressing an envelope, and a special message just for you!

Want to read a book about the power of writing? Head to https://storylineonline.net/books/fast-words-fly/ to hear a book about the impact it had for one North Carolina child.

Dear Girl Scout,

We hope this letter finds you well and enjoying time with family!

We know there are a lot of changes happening right now: the seasons have moved into spring, and our schedules may look a little different than usual. There are also lots of things that are the same: we are excited to explore and learn new things, we love talking and sharing with our friends and family, and we like to show others that we care!

We hope that you will join us in writing letters that will bring joy to the people who read them. And remember that the writing fun doesn't need to stop here: you can write a letter or note to people staying or working in hospitals, your family members, the grocery store clerk, your friends, your future self, and more!

Over the next few days, we'll be sharing additional ways to engage in writing and with your community—we hope that you will to join us!

We would love to hear about what you are writing. If you share what you have done on social media, tag us so we can check it out, using #OurGSNCCPCommunity.

Yours in Girl Scouting, The Staff of Girl Scouts-North Carolina Coastal Pines

Addressing your envelope

Ready to address your letter? Here's how! Don't have an envelope? Learn how to make your own here: https://www.wikihow.com/Make-an-Envelope.

Sender Information
IF you are sending the letter to a family member, this could be your information here. If you are sending it to someone you don't know, put the recipient information here. Check with an adult first!

Name of Person or Organization
Street Address
City, State Zip Code

Recipient Information (that's who it's going to)
City, State Zip Code

Need a copy of a Journey, badge requirements or want to order patches? While our shops are closed, please feel free to <u>shop online</u> or <u>email</u> us for merchandise needs. We will provide free shipping within in our council footprint on orders emailed to us (please provide phone number in email so we can call you for payment details).

Questions? programteam@nccoastalpines.org

www.nccoastalpines.org