



New  
Council's  
Own Patch!

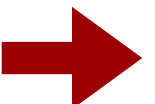
# California Central Coast Cares: Girl Scouts in Service to Our Communities

Council's Own patch programs are developed and offered by Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast as an enhancement to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE). California Central Coast Cares empowers girls to take action in their own communities, learning about local needs, building empathy, and discovering how service can create lasting impact. From supporting food drives and thanking community heroes to volunteering and leading acts of kindness, this patch invites Girl Scouts to live their Promise and Law through compassion and action across our region.

**Together, we can make a difference, one act of kindness at a time.**

Across our communities, families and children face food insecurity every day. Whether it's a classmate, a neighbor, or someone in our own troop, hunger impacts people closer than we think. As part of our California Central Coast Cares initiative, girls across the Central Coast can take action to fight hunger and support those in need.

**When Girl Scouts unite for good, the impact is powerful. Let's show what it means to be a force for change, right here at home.**



# How to Earn Your Patch:

## Step 1: Learn and Discuss

- Start with a troop discussion about food insecurity and how it affects families locally and around the world.
- Use our Troop Discussion Points to learn what food insecurity means, why it matters, and how Girl Scouts can help.

## Step 2: Take Action

### Option #1: Creating a “Give Thanks” Box

Help provide a complete meal for a local family this holiday season.

- Partner with your local food pantry, school district, or United Way to learn what’s most needed.
- Pack your “Give Thanks” box using sturdy containers with handles for easy carrying.
- Include nonperishable items like stuffing mix, canned vegetables, or pasta.
- Add a note of encouragement from your troop!

### Option #2: Support a Community Food Drive

Help provide a complete meal for a local family this holiday season.

- Partner with your local food pantry, school district, or United Way to learn what’s most needed.
- Pack your “Give Thanks” box using sturdy containers with handles for easy carrying.
- Include nonperishable items like stuffing mix, canned vegetables, or pasta.
- Add a note of encouragement from your troop!



# How to Earn Your Patch:

## Step 2: Take Action

### Option #3: Thank a Food Bank Hero

Show gratitude to the heroes who make food access possible, the volunteers, drivers, and coordinators at your local food banks.

- Create handmade cards, drawings, or notes of appreciation.
- Mail or hand-deliver them to a nearby food pantry or drop-off center.

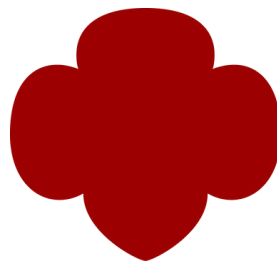
A kind word can brighten the day of someone who spends theirs helping others.

### Option #4: Volunteer Together

Older troops can volunteer at a food pantry or community event that helps distribute food.

- Contact your local pantry or food distribution site to check age and safety requirements.
- Always follow Girl Scouts Safety Activity Checkpoints when volunteering.

Every can you sort, every meal you hand out, and every smile you share helps feed hope.



## Step 3: Share Your Impact

Once your troop has completed an activity:

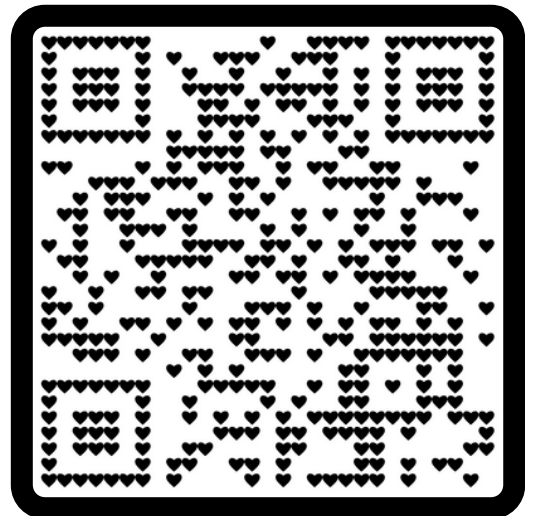
- Complete our California Central Coast Cares Cognito Form to earn your patch.
- Inspire others by sharing your story on social media with #GSCCCares.
- Receive your official Girl Scouts California Central Coast Cares patch!

Patches must be requested by December 30th, 2025, & we will have them available for pickup at one of our Program Centers no later than January 15, 2026.

### **Be a Force for Good**

No act of kindness is too small. When one Girl Scout gives back, it sparks a chain reaction of generosity that spreads through schools, families, and entire communities.

**Scan the QR code  
to purchase your  
patches!**



Together, we can help our California Central Coast shine a little brighter, one box, one meal, one heart at a time.

You can also visit our website for patches & more information:

[www.girlscoutscoc.org](http://www.girlscoutscoc.org)