

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Inc.
Girl Scouts Amphitheater on the River

At Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida (GSGCF), girls appreciate everyone's unique value, celebrate differences, and support one another through obstacles and conflict, consistent with the Girl Scout mission to build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. At GSGCF, girls develop and maintain healthy relationships and trusting friendships as they step outside their comfort zones, develop skills, and become civically engaged with their communities. GSGCF's proposed initiative, **Girl Scouts Amphitheater on the River**, will support these goals by creating a new outdoor amphitheater at Camp Honi Hanta. The total initiative budget is \$149,000 for permitting, labor and materials, with the balance above the Impact100 SRQ grant amount fully committed.

The outdoor amphitheater at Camp Honi Hanta will become an outdoor classroom, offering a variety of science, technology, engineering, math and arts opportunities. It will also serve as an inviting pavilion for social and recreational opportunities, inspiring creativity and expression as well as socialization as an accessible and inclusive recreational and social venue. Currently, there is no outdoor venue for large group gatherings.

The addition of an amphitheater will encourage all Girl Scouts visiting Camp Honi Hanta to gather as a group for recreational, environmental, arts, and health and wellness activities during their camp experience. Well over half of the Girls Scouts who attend activities in the amphitheater will be the 3,000 Girl Scouts from the 109 troops in Sarasota and Manatee Counties. This will augment the existing camp amenities of walking trails, a sports field, a swimming pool, archery range, river access for kayaking and canoeing, a ropes course and climbing wall, an air-conditioned lodge with a small commercial kitchen, restrooms with shower facilities, and various sleeping accommodations.

As part of GSGCF's strategic plan for upgrades to Camp Honi Hanta, the outdoor amphitheater will provide a year-round outdoor venue that is easy to maintain and sustain, with a life expectancy of more than 20 years. GSGCF will track new reservations from Girl Scout Troops utilizing Camp Honi Hanta, specifically for use of the amphitheater, for overnight camping, multi-day retreats, and cultural activities (ex: theater, dance) and STEM (ex: astronomy). GSGCF anticipates an increase in utilization of the camp by 25% due to the addition of the amphitheater.

The addition of the amphitheater at Camp Honi Hanta will help girls discover who they are and everything they're capable of accomplishing today, tomorrow, and beyond.