



For more information, contact:
Stacey Moyers
Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania
267.308.4983
smoyers@gsep.org

**GIRL SCOUTS OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CELEBRATES 25th ANNIVERSARY OF TAKE THE LEAD LEHIGH VALLEY
AND ANNOUNCES 2023 HONOREES**

*Four women leaders who exemplify courage, confidence, and character will be paired with
local Girl Scouts as mentors and honored this April*

MIQUON, PA (November 30, 2022)—[Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania](https://www.gsep.org) (GSEP) is excited to announce its 2023 Take the Lead Lehigh Valley honorees who will be recognized at a girl-led event on April 25, 2023.

Girl Scouts' mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, girls are prepared for a lifetime of leadership, success, and adventure in a safe, no-limits place designed for and by girls.

Take the Lead recognizes women leaders from the Lehigh Valley whose achievements epitomize Girl Scouts' values, while also serving as a leadership development opportunity for girls. As part of the program, high school-aged Girl Scouts are paired with an honoree to shadow them for a day, gain valuable career and leadership insights, and receive guidance on building their professional network. The girls, who are selected through a competitive application and interview process, then creatively reflect on the experience and deliver presentations at the event. Girl Scouts are the stars of the show, serving as presenters, emcees, event hosts, social media influencers, and chorus.

2023 Take the Lead Lehigh Valley Honorees

- **Vicki Doulé, Senior Vice President, BSI Corporate Benefits:** As Senior Vice President at BSI Corporate Benefits since 2018, Vicki models drive and determination within her career and showcases exemplary philanthropic community support. She is a role model for her younger female co-workers and leads by example through hands-on mentorship that makes a positive impact on her team every day. Aside from her day-to-day work, Vicki currently serves as Chair of the ArtsQuest™ Board of Trustees and has made history as the first female Chair and the first Chair to serve for three consecutive terms. A Board Member since 2014, Vicki helped create the ArtsQuest™ Board's DEI Advisory Council and served as Chair from 2021-2022. Vicki is a member of the Via of the Lehigh Valley Board, the United Way Tocqueville Society Cabinet, Women United, and the Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare's (LVBCH) Wellness and Education Committee.
- **Michelle Kott, Chief of Police, City of Bethlehem Police Department:** As the Chief of Police for the City of Bethlehem Police Department, Michelle is truly engaged in making her community a better and safer place. While working as a police officer in the City of Bethlehem, she obtained her doctorate, raised a family and rose through the ranks to become the city's first female Police Chief in October 2020. Michelle is committed to helping young women believe in their goals and understand that they are within reach. In addition to leading the Bethlehem Police Department, she is an adjunct instructor at Northampton Community College and has volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters.
- **Lisa Liddington, Vice President of Operations, Lehigh Valley Hospital – 17th Street Campus, Lehigh Valley Health Network:** As Vice President of Operations at Lehigh Valley Hospital—17th Street Campus, Lisa has dedicated her career to being a role model for girls and women everywhere. She also serves as Program Director for the John Van Brakle Child Advocacy Center, which provides care for abused and/or neglected children while working with law enforcement to ensure their safety. Lisa's concern and

compassion for others, especially the youth, have helped make a positive difference in the lives of children and those who care for them.

- **Darlene Pors, Project Sales Associate Manager, H.T. Lyons:** Darlene has had a 20+ year tenure at H.T. Lyons, spending most of her time as a Senior HVAC/Plumbing Designer before assuming her current role. As one of the few people in her department with experience in HVAC, plumbing and process piping systems, she is a trailblazer for women looking to excel in a predominantly male field. Darlene has a passion for mentoring young women in business, especially STEM, and consistently empowers young women in her industry to succeed in their careers. She has served several roles within the Women's Business Council (WBC) of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce and is a committee member for nonprofits and community organizations including Women United, the American Heart Association, YWCA, CREW Lehigh Valley, and the Da Vinci Science Center.

“We are proud to say that this year marks the 25th anniversary of Take the Lead in the Lehigh Valley—an event that raises critical funds for Girl Scouting in Eastern Pennsylvania and enables/helps us to continue making a positive impact on the lives of girls in the community,” said Kim E. Fraites-Dow, Chief Executive Officer of GSEP. “Our 2023 Take the Lead honorees truly exemplify Girl Scouts’ values through their service and leadership in our community. Their unwavering dedication to making the world a better place is inspiring, and we are thrilled to have them as role models for our girls.”

Take the Lead is chaired in Lehigh Valley by Marlene Beers, Vice President and Controller, PPL Corporation. Marlene serves as Finance Chair and member of the GSEP Board of Directors.

“In recognition of this special anniversary year, PPL Corporation and Michelle and Vince Sorgi have generously supported Take the Lead Lehigh Valley as ‘Premier Sponsors.’ On behalf of all of us at GSEP, we are so grateful for their dedication to girls across the Lehigh Valley,” said Fraites-Dow. “We’d also like to thank our event chair and committee members who work tirelessly to sustain GSEP programs in our communities, ensuring that every girl has the opportunity to discover her strengths, passions and talents.”

Take the Lead Lehigh Valley honorees will be celebrated at a special girl-led, camp-themed ceremony on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at ArtsQuest™ Center at SteelStacks. Guests will be invited to partake in activities Girl Scouts experience at camp, including soft archery, s'mores, and more. A cocktail reception featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres, and of course, Girl Scout cookies, will be followed by a seated program and paddle raise for campership support, helping provide hundreds of Girl Scouts throughout the Lehigh Valley the opportunity to experience all that camp has to offer with the help of financial aid.

For more information about Take the Lead sponsorships, advertising, and tickets, visit www.gsep.org/takethelead or call 267-332-6788.

About Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania

Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania (GSEP) is the largest girl-serving organization in Pennsylvania and builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. What was started in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia by founder Juliette Gordon Low as one small, yet dedicated troop of diverse girls has grown into 2.8 million Girl Scouts across the U.S. today. GSEP serves nearly 30,000 girls in partnership with more than 15,000 volunteers in Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, and Philadelphia counties. Today, 80 percent of women in leadership and executive roles in the U.S. were Girl Scouts. Girl Scout alum comprise 70 percent of women in the U.S. Congress. For further information about Girl Scouting, how to join, volunteer, reconnect, or donate, call 215-564-2030 or visit www.gsep.org. Follow @GirlScoutsEPenn on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.