

# Success Stories . . .

## Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., Rock River Valley Council

We have started a Girl Scout troop at the new Academic Career Education high school. The percentage of members there is amazing (17 out of 23 girls attending there). The troop meets during their lunch hour and has been wonderful. Both the girls and the principal have been so supportive. The girls began by taking part in a nationwide pilot created by Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and learned about healthy relationships and friendships. They are now heavily involved learning about homelessness in Rockford.

We recently got a glowing letter of recommendation from Principal Michael Cermak. And I quote, "The girls look forward to your Thursday visits. (This is very impressive as high school students can often be a cynical bunch.) Even more impressive is that our group is a diverse group from all over the district so it is quite rewarding to see all enjoying the Scout-time. One of my goals when ACE high school was forming was to make sure students create connections to the community in which they live. The projects you have started with the girls fit nicely with this goal. When you surveyed the girls about issues they face, that certainly got them talking. Your current work having the girls learn about poverty in Rockford is eye-opening. Coupling the discussion with a service project I know will make an impact. They've already started talking about what they can do to help the homeless this holiday season."



**Community Partner**