

November 20, 2017

Ms. Patti Garibay National Executive Director American Heritage Girls 175 Tri-County Parkway, Suite 100 Cincinnati, OH 45246

Dear Ms. Garibay,

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to meet with you personally to learn more about the American Heritage Girls and to clarify your organization's intention in employing the Statement of Faith.

As you recall, the use of a Statement of Faith had been a hindrance to embracing American Heritage Girls here in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. As such, it was crucial to establish that the Statement is not intended as a personal profession of faith for those involved, but as an organizational statement, that sets parameters for local charters and leadership. While the AHG Statement does not express the fullness of the Catholic faith, we can nonetheless affirm that the Catholic faith fulfills the expectations of American Heritage Girls as expressed in the Statement of Faith. Therefore, Catholic parishes, schools, and individual troop leaders may affirm that the Statement applies to them, and can be assured that their Catholic faith satisfies the requirements articulated by the Statement.

In light of this, I am pleased to inform you that parishes and schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee are permitted to charter American Heritage Girls troops, and parishioners are permitted to serve as troop leaders, subject, of course, to our safe environment requirements and other pertinent policies.

I trust that Catholics will find American Heritage Girls to be an effective setting for girls and young women to develop skills, build character and grow in their faith. May God bless your efforts and the activities of local troops.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki Archbishop of Milwaukee

Cc: Julie Goodwin, National Catholic Relations Specialist, American Heritage Girls Gary Pokorny