## \*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*

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## **CONTACT:**

Hamilton Strategies, <u>Media@HamiltonStrategies.com</u>, Beth Harrison, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Deborah Hamilton, ext. 102

## American Heritage Girls Helps Young Women <u>'BELONG'</u> to Its Active, Upbeat Community

AHG, Serving Girls Ages Five to 18, Has Issued an Inspiring New 'Kingdom Call'

**CINCINNATI, Ohio** — Thousands of families across the nation know that *American Heritage Girls* (*AHG, www.americanheritagegirls.org*) is the premier faith-based, scout-type leadership development program for girls and young women ages five to 18. *AHG* offers hands-on badge programs, service projects, leadership opportunities, outdoor adventures, and more, stressing Christian values and family participation along the way.

After a year of pandemic-driven isolation, *AHG* and its members have come to realize how truly valuable community is—and a new year of school and programming offers the fresh promise of hope and belonging for all girls. It's why *AHG* is launching its new <u>"BELONG"</u> campaign, which acknowledges that we were created to be in community with a caring group of others—and that deep within us is the desire to *belong*.

Says AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay, "We have a clear focus on not only growing our AHG ministry, but on growing the Kingdom as we seek out more families to instill Christ in the hearts of girls. While some may call this a membership drive, we'd rather refer to it as a 'Kingdom Call!' We're welcoming more people into the family of God through AHG—a Spirit-filled place for girls across America."

Garibay adds, "AHG is a balm for the loneliness and isolation that so many are feeling. The impact of being a member of AHG doesn't just result in a vest full of badges or a memory bank of camping skills. AHG is Kingdom-focused. Here, the seeds of lifelong faith are planted. Here, young women of integrity blossom."

With <u>"BELONG,"</u> AHG has introduced a series of new resources and incentives to equip girls and their parents to spread the word about AHG through their communities. AHG is equipping its Troops to robustly welcome new members—and to celebrate a positive, faith-filled place for girls to grow, excel, and *belong*.

*"BELONG"* is all about kingdom-growth; connection; community; friendship; inclusion; girl and adult recruitment; troop growth; troop multiplication; and a sense of belonging (of course!).

At *AHG*, girls ages five to 18 meet together as <u>a single Troop</u> at the same time and then break out into Units by Levels. This gives *AHG* girls the important social experience of interacting with friends and godly mentors of various ages; members also learn leadership skills within a group setting. *AHG* Troops are located in <u>local</u> <u>communities</u> across the nation. If none exists in a given area, families can bring the *AHG* Program to their own area. An *American Heritage Girls* Troop Development Coach is available to provide resources to potential Charter Organizations and other families to form <u>a new Troop</u>.

*AHG's* mission is to build women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country. It is dedicated to providing authentic, positive, and values-driven character and leadership development opportunities and outdoor adventure for girls across the nation.

American Heritage Girls was founded in 1995 by a group of parents who wanted a faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters. American Heritage Girls across the nation and the globe participate in badge programs, service projects, leadership opportunities, and outdoor experiences, all with an emphasis on Christian values and family involvement.

In addition to the biblically based parenting advice shared in the <u>Raising Godly Girls blog</u> and <u>Raising Godly</u> <u>Girls</u> radio features that are heard on 770 radio stations, *American Heritage Girls* provides a community experience in a Troop setting. Girls benefit from Christ-centered friendships and mentors to assist them in becoming godly girls.

Today, there are <u>Troops</u> in all 50 states and girls being served in 15 countries around the globe. Girls can join a Troop at any time; if a Troop is not available nearby, they can become a <u>Trailblazer</u> and enjoy the *AHG* program alongside their parent. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as <u>Charter</u> <u>Organizations</u> for Troops. Thousands of volunteer members across the country are helping girls grow in their faith, cultivate a heart for service, enjoy the great outdoors, and have more fun than they can imagine.

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To schedule interviews with *Patti Garibay, founder and executive director of American Heritage Girls,* contact <u>Media@HamiltonStrategies.com</u>, Beth Harrison, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Deborah Hamilton, ext. 102.