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

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## American Heritage Girls partners with The Radiance Foundation to celebrate life for National Day of Service

AHG teaches the value of life through age-appropriate, biblically based curriculum designed for girls to serve their communities

**CINCINNATI, Ohio** — Birthdays are for celebrating! And in the case of *American Heritage Girls* (*AHG*, <a href="https://www.americanheritagegirls.org">www.americanheritagegirls.org</a>), one of the largest Christian, scout-type organizations in the world, birthdays are also about giving selflessly to others rather than receiving.

**AHG's** National Day of Service (NDS) began in 2012 and is held annually on the third Saturday in September. This year, the National Day of Service will be held on **Saturday, September 16**. This day is set aside for Troops across the country to join together in living out the **AHG** Oath in their own communities as they thoughtfully and faithfully give to others. This event allows Troops to simultaneously celebrate **AHG's** birthday and serve their communities.

A core tenet of AHG's foundation is to respect life. This made the partnership with <u>The Radiance Foundation</u>, a faith-based, educational 501(c)(3) nonprofit that illuminates that every human being has inherent and equal worth, a natural fit.

"All life has value," said AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay. "This is more than a social, moral, or ethical issue — it is a foundational biblical principle handed down by our Heavenly Father. Over and over, Scripture testifies to the devotion and love of God in designing, creating, and pursuing each individual person in His creation. To respect life is to see life through God's eyes.

"Through service to expectant mothers, new mothers, foster mothers, adoptive mothers, pregnancy care centers, foster services, and, of course, newborns, girls can gain an appreciation for the wonder and beauty of new life. They can carry this biblical worldview into adulthood by respecting and valuing children and motherhood."

For the National Day of Service, *AHG* and The Radiance Foundation worked together to provide a plethora of service project ideas, such as providing an in-home service for an expectant mother, crocheting baby booties or caps for newborns and donating them to a hospital, or creating care bags for a local foster program. *AHG* also provided discussion questions for Troops to consider both before and after the service event.

In addition to this special day dedicated to serving others, Troops perform service in their communities year-round. In the *AHG* Program Year ending May 30, 2024, girls performed 590,720 service hours across the country.

Garibay added, "Throughout my tenure as a volunteer working with girls and now as a leader of volunteers who work with girls, one area remains constant: Girls love service. Girls grow emotionally and spiritually from serving. They become more compassionate and empathetic when they consider the needs of others."

American Heritage Girls was founded in 1995 by a group of parents who wanted this faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters. At AHG, girls ages five to 18 meet together as a single Troop 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 local communities 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 a new Troop. To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of AHG from Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay, click here.

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.

The "*Raising Godly Girls*" radio feature and <u>Raising Godly Girls blog</u> shares guidance and biblically based advice on many key topics affecting girls today—from bullying and identity to anxiety and body image issues. It gives parents, educators, and faith community leaders a set of tools, resources, and Scripture-based advice to assist in raising girls after God's own heart. The "*Raising Godly Girls Minute*" with *Patti Garibay* airs on 900+ Christian radio stations across the country.

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

To inquire about airing the <u>"Raising Godly Girls Minute"</u> with Patti Garibay, contact Michael Hamilton, 610.584.1096, ext. 101.