NEWS RELEASE

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NOVEMBER 11 IS VETERAN'S DAY

AHG honors American veterans through biblical programming and focus on volunteerism

AHG girls logged 590,720 hours of service during AHG Program Year that ended on May 30, 2023

CINCINNATI, Ohio — Volunteerism has always been a foundational principle in America, yet tragically, serving others is not a top priority for many Americans. Volunteerism in the United States has been declining dramatically since the 1950s, according to <u>a recent report</u>. This decline in volunteerism directly impacts the youngest generation. Without leaders demonstrating such important ideals for today's children, how will they learn the value of serving others?

American Heritage Girls (AHG, www.americanheritagegirls.org the premier faith-based, scout-type leadership development program in the country, is proud to encourage volunteerism in girls ages five to 18. AHG supports volunteerism through hands-on training and participation in its numerous patch programs, community outreach, and other poignant opportunities. When it comes to serving others, AHG leadership instills the value of volunteerism through meaningful patch programs, community outreach, and other poignant opportunities.

"It is vital for girls to learn how to serve others," said AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay. "Christ never hesitated to serve those around Him, even personally washing the feet of His disciples. It is our job as followers of Christ to emulate the model that Christ set before us, and that includes serving others with glad hearts."

As the nation prepares to celebrate <u>Veteran's Day</u> on November 11, *AHG* offers a variety of badges that teach girls about the history and sacrifices of America's Armed Forces, including: US Military Heroes Badge, Citizenship and Government Badge, Dawn of our Country Badge, Freedom Seekers Badge, Living in the USA Badge, Our Constitution Badge, Our Flag Badge, and Our Heritage Badge. Many *AHG* Troops prepare various service activities for veterans to honor Veteran's Day on November 11.

AHG Troops have clearly shown their heart towards service. Throughout **AHG's** program year ending on May 30, 2023, girls logged a mind-boggling 590,720 hours of service nationwide.

Garibay said, "Like the patriots before them, American Heritage Girls must understand their heritage to improve the future. We must understand both the sacrifices — and the mistakes — of our forefathers while respecting those who are on the front lines to protect our nation. Once girls learn of what our brave men and women who have served in the Armed Forces have done for this nation, they are quick to want to serve them

any way they can. We are proud to have fostered that spirit of service through our unique, Christ-centered programming for nearly 30 years, and we look forward to continuing these important traditions for the next 30."

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 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 1000+ 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 Media@HamiltonStrategies.com, Beth Bogucki, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Robin Sprague, ext. 103.

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