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

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## Moms in need find compassionate support and encouragement through unique *American Heritage Girls* program

'AHG gave me the opportunity to meet likeminded, Christian women, and I am just so blessed by the entire Troop,' says one AHG mom

**CINCINNATI, Ohio** — Motherhood is one of the most difficult and rewarding roles a woman can undertake. Raising children is a full-time job that, if done correctly, provides boys and girls with the skills to thrive and be successful, God-fearing adults. However, this Herculean task can be made monumentally easier with adequate support and encouragement. A <u>recent Barna study</u> revealed that mothers who attend churches where their leaders understand the unique needs of moms experience a deeper sense of connection, have greater confidence in their motherhood, and are more likely to stay involved in church.

"Motherhood can feel like such a thankless task, but it is so important to celebrate and support moms working to raise their kids to be who God created them to be," said Patti Garibay, founder and executive director of American Heritage Girls (AHG, <a href="www.americanheritagegirls.org">www.americanheritagegirls.org</a>), one of the world's largest Christian, scout-type organizations. Garibay has been working with girls and moms for nearly three decades and knows firsthand how valuable positive encouragement can be for women in the trenches of motherhood.

"Moms are the heart of every family, and it's vital that churches and Christian leaders pour into mothers for the wellbeing of the whole family," said Garibay. "It's more important than ever before for the family unit to receive quality care from the body of Christ, and that starts with the moms! The family unit is under attack from the forces of darkness, and it is up to the leaders of the Church to equip and encourage families to stay strong in the Lord during such tough times. That's why we at AHG are so proud to offer a safe, biblical space not only for girls ages five to 18, but also their mothers."

*American Heritage Girls* provides an oasis for Christian girls and moms looking for solid, biblical community. *AHG* offers engaging activities for all members that challenge girls to consider their relationships with their family, friends and Christ.

"It has really been such a blessing to find women who care about me and my daughters," one *AHG* mom said. "Some of these women have been such a rock to me during incredibly difficult times — they are people I know I can call on and receive prayer for my whole family. *AHG* gave me the opportunity to meet likeminded, Christian women, and I am just so blessed by the entire Troop.

"If it wasn't for *AHG*, we never would have crossed paths."

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 Raising Godly Girls blog 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 <a href="Media@HamiltonStrategies.com">Media@HamiltonStrategies.com</a>, Beth Bogucki, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Robin Sprague, ext. 103.

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