



"Helping Hands" Award A Council Service Patch

The "Helping Hands" Award is intended to supplement national GSUSA recognitions such as service training bars, leadership awards and service done to fulfill a badge or complete a Journey.

Service for "Helping Hands" does not call for special training (as is required for a service training bar) nor does it need the girl planning, documentation and evaluation of the national recognitions. The girl and her leader determine when the number of hours is completed.



The "Helping Hands" Award recognizes the value of community service and is our council's way of thanking girls for being available to the community and the council to lend a hand when called upon. Sometimes what is called for is a willing worker--to stuff envelopes, unpaid baby sitting, pick up trash, and many other small jobs.

Some guidelines for successful service:

- the girl understands it (how to do it, why it is needed)
- she has the ability to do it
- it is something she wants to do
- it meets a real need of others
- she is responsible for keeping her own record of her service hours

Each segment requires 25 hours of service

- First 25 hours - Blue wedge
- Second 25 hours - Turquoise wedge
- Third 25 hours - Purple wedge
- Fourth 25 hours - White arc for a total of 100 hours

We suggest that each girl keep a "Service Record Sheet" for **all** service given, regardless of the recognition or award to which she wishes to apply it. Apply each hour only to one recognition; no double-dipping, of course.

The troop leader purchases the appropriate segments from the council stores, just as she would purchase pins and other recognition items.

Service Record Sheet

Name _____ Troop # _____

Leader's name _____ Leader's phone number _____

Date of Service	Activity	What I did	Agency or Individual Helped	Hours – includes planning/ prep time	Award for which this service applies