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TRANSGENDER (/TRANSGENDER)

Girl Scouts Return \$100K When Donor Demands It 'Not Be Used' For Trans Girls



'Girl Scouts is for every girl,' says a troop leader, who's looking for new donations to recoup the lost funds.

BY MITCH KELLAWAY (/AUTHORS/MITCH-KELLAWAY)

JUNE 30 2015 6:00 AM EDT

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UPDATE: An Indiegogo campaign set up by the Girl Scouts of Western Washington has raised more than \$103,000 in 24 hours. Get the details here (<http://www.advocate.com/politics/transgender/2015/06/30/girl-scouts-raise-100000-one-day-after-dropping-transphobic-donor>).

The Girl Scouts of Western Washington were overjoyed last month when they learned they'd received a \$100,000 donation that could send 500 girls to camp. But the celebratory mood soon changed when the donor sent a follow-up note, according to the *Seattle Met* (<http://www.seattlemet.com/articles/2015/6/29/donor-says-girl-scouts-can-t-use-100k-gift-for-transgender-girls>):

"Please guarantee that our gift will not be used to support transgender girls. If you can't, please return the money."

Council CEO Megan Ferland told the newspaper her decision wasn't hard after that, though she was "very sad" to see discrimination possibly deny her troop resources. She wrote a note back to the donor, who she was careful not to name, saying she would not be accepting their money.

"Girl Scouts is for every girl," she said of her decision. "And every girl should have the opportunity to be a Girl Scout if she wants to."

The Girl Scouts of Western Washington started an Indiegogo fundraiser (<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/girl-scouts-is-foreverygirl#/story>) dubbed #ForEVERYGirl, asking the public to help the troop recoup the donation lost because of the organization's trans-inclusive stance. Within one day (<http://www.advocate.com/politics/transgender/2015/06/30/girl-scouts-raise-100000-one-day-after-dropping-transphobic-donor>), the troop raised more than \$103,000, with donations still pouring in.

"\$100,000 is a lot of money," the troop explained on their fundraising page. "In fact, it's almost a third of our entire financial assistance program for this year — and girls need this support now. That's why losing the gift is such a big deal." The money is

intended to aid families who cannot afford to pay for Girl Scouts programming, which the troop says can be life-changing and empowering for all kinds of girls.

Girls Scouts of the USA has long welcomed (<http://blog.girlscouts.org/2015/05/the-meaning-of-serving-all-girls.html>) transgender girls in its troops on a "case by case" basis, first making headlines in 2011 (<http://www.advocate.com/news/daily-news/2011/12/19/girl-scouts-troops-trans-panic-mode>) when a Colorado troop faced conservative outrage (<http://www.advocate.com/news/daily-news/2012/01/17/watch-video-killed-girl-scout-boycott>) over welcoming a 7-year-old trans girl. Last month the organization reaffirmed their trans-inclusive stance (<http://www.advocate.com/politics/transgender/2015/05/22/girl-scouts-reject-hate-group-welcome-trans-girls>) when the anti-LGBT American Family Association targeted the organization, gathering tens of thousands of signatures on a petition demanding the Girl Scouts rescind its trans-inclusive policy.

In a statement (<http://blog.girlscouts.org/2015/05/the-meaning-of-serving-all-girls.html>) at the time, Girls Scouts USA Chief Girl Expert Andrea Bastani Archibald made it clear that the nonprofit would continue its mission of "serving all girls":

"There is not one type of girl. Every girl's sense of self, path to it, and how she is supported is unique," Archibald wrote, later adding, "If a girl is recognized by her family, school and community as a girl and lives culturally as a girl, Girl Scouts is an organization that can serve her in a setting that is both emotionally and physically safe."

Hear more from the Girl Scouts in the video below.

Girl Scouts is for EVERY girl!



TAGS: TRANSGENDER (/TRANSGENDER), BUSINESS (/BUSINESS), YOUTH (/YOUTH), GIRL SCOUTS (/GIRL-SCOUTS), WASHINGTON (/WASHINGTON)

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David Carltock · Ocean View High

What I like most is the almost matter-of-fact way that the Girl Scouts handled this. There were no machinations, no deferring their reasons for the rejection of the donation. Plain and simple is how things, and you don't get more plain and simple than ' Girl Scouts is for every girl '! We're talking about children here, so when addressing gender, 'sex' is not part of the equation. What the Girl Scouts did is the morally correct thing to do. The opponents to their actions seem to be the same people who want trans people to use the gender-appropriate restrooms.

It seems almost childish, but it comes down to ' if it looks like a duck, and quacks like a duck, I'm going to assume that it's a duck '.

Like · Reply · 113 · Jun 30, 2015 9:29am



Robert Manders · University of South Alabama

I wished I had \$200,000 to give the Girl Scouts. My only demand would be to notify the bigoted dc the Girl Scouts doubled their money in support of anti-bigotry.

Like · Reply · 47 · Jun 30, 2015 8:48am



Pat Coulston · University of Washington

Great idea! Check out the Indiegogo page - they did double the money 196% in one day.

Like · Reply · 8 · Jun 30, 2015 7:05pm



Ilia Bauer · Editor, Scheduler, Designer at Retail Hell Underground

Who the hell is this twit and why do they think they have any say?

If you donate money to a group, cause, or even an individual, you are giving them money to do w they wish. What they plan to do with the money is USUALLY stated right up front before you even money. YOU do NOT get to choose how they use the money or who in the cause gets to benefit f This is not a conditional offer.

If I were to donate a million dollars to a hospital's fund to update their equipment, who am I to say you can have this money to help you perform heart surgery, but I want you to swear... See More

Like · Reply · 24 · Jun 30, 2015 8:42am



Lis Bokt · Executive Director at The Geek Group

In the world of non-profits it is relatively common for their to be stipulations before, during the donation. How it is dealt with varies from organisation to organisation.

Like · Reply · 11 · Jun 30, 2015 11:23am



Karen Taylor

Sorry, but that's not the way it works, especially as the size of the donation gets larger. I l least one instance where the donor demanded a sizeable donation be returned because receiving group had not met the terms that accompanied the donation. Ordinarily, the pul sees a small portion of the terms and conditions of the donation: "The John Q. Doe Canc Research Center today dedicated the new Joan Smith wing in ceremonies honoring the c the new cancer treatment center." Behind that may reside a large number of conditions n revealed to the public. This condition just happened to be revealed.

Like · Reply · 4 · Jun 30, 2015 1:20pm



Allison Sullivan

Yep, this. It's very common for donations and bequests to have conditions attached to the organizations are often required to keep accounts and report back on their use.


Like · Reply · 2 · Jun 30, 2015 1:23pm

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Danita Browne

That was the fastest donation I made in a while. And a big BIG double bird to the bigot "donor". N for you EVER, jerk. I hope they get well more than their original \$100k funded, and it's looking pos

Like · Reply ·  18 · Jun 30, 2015 10:55am



Helena Cornet · Brugge, Belgium


Their Indiegogo is currently at 326 thousand dollars. More than three times the amount t
to this jerk.

Like · Reply · Jul 6, 2015 5:20am



Diane Miller


As of about 30 seconds ago, they're up to \$81,555 in one day. Looking good.

Like · Reply ·  16 · Jun 30, 2015 10:50am



Marisa Mockery · Queen of the Tooth Fairy and Guardian of the memories at Rise of the
Guardians


Where do you go to donate? There's no link on this article.

Like · Reply ·  2 · Jun 30, 2015 12:05pm



Gloria Weier-Linke · Editor at Freelance Editing


Marisa Mockery <https://www.indiegogo.com/.../girl-scouts-is-foreverygirl...>

Like · Reply ·  2 · Jun 30, 2015 12:25pm



Joe Benten · Buffalo State


\$244,013 as of July 1, 2015 at 1:20 AM. Awesome!

Like · Reply ·  2 · Jul 1, 2015 3:21am



Nathan James ·


So who is the dick who asked that the money not be used for trans grils? I would like to know who
shouldn't support.

Like · Reply ·  51 · Jun 30, 2015 8:17am



Crystal Apato Escalante · Layton, Utah


Exactly my thoughts!

Like · Reply ·  2 · Jun 30, 2015 6:06pm



Isaac Rabinovitch · Portland, Oregon


The Girl Scouts chose to respect his privacy, as should you. Harassment is always wrong
matter what you think of the person you're harassing.

Like · Reply ·  16 · Jun 30, 2015 7:05pm



Patrick Gerace ·

Isaac Rabinovitch - "as should you"?!? Says who? If that business wants respect, let then
Supporting or not supporting a business based on their practices is my right.

Like · Reply ·  6 · Jun 30, 2015 9:44pm


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Kristal Magiere · Customer Service Representative at TeleTech



What is wrong with these people, seriously? You go, Girl Scouts!

Like · Reply ·  8 · Jun 30, 2015 9:06am



Danita Browne

And they have already blown past the original \$100k goal. GOOD HUMANS.

Like · Reply ·  7 · Jun 30, 2015 11:54am



Marisa Mockery · Queen of the Tooth Fairy and Guardian of the memories at Rise of the Guardians

Where do you donate?

Like · Reply · Jun 30, 2015 12:21pm



Danita Browne


Marisa Mockery If you google Indiegogo Girl Scouts, you should find it quite quickly. That found it.

Like · Reply · Jun 30, 2015 12:22pm



Nancy Kline · Works at Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation

The Indegogo (Girl Scouts is #ForEVERYGirl | Indiegogo) site has currently "crashed" / tr later: <https://www.indiegogo.com/pro.../girl-scouts-is-foreverygirl>

Like · Reply ·  1 · Jun 30, 2015 12:44pm



TheMissus Bell · Works at Self-Employed

It's odd that Girl Scouts started out as a Christian organization--like so many organizations that for good of human beings. In general, the Girl Scout Council has COMPLETELY abandoned the principle which it was first founded. But that does not mean that the day-to-day application of God's principle truth can not be applied.

Like · Reply ·  2 · Jun 30, 2015 8:35pm



Timothy Jenkins

Very good point. The YM and YWCA was founded that way also. It is sad that we are so offending someone or a group that we would abandon our Christian Principles and Moral Standings just to make Society a happier place for Satan to live in.

Like · Reply ·  2 · Jun 30, 2015 11:14pm



Rob Farquhar · Clarion University of Pennsylvania

They're not the ones who abandoned Christian principles. That would be you two hypocri

Like · Reply ·  1 · Jul 1, 2015 8:02am



TheMissus Bell · Works at Self-Employed

Rob Farquhar Please know that I see the insult in your comment, but as a Christian I choose to respond in kind. That would be rude, and the Christ was gentle, not rude.

Instead, let's assume you're right. Tell me how I'm being hypocritical, but be very specific. Reference any scripture in its complete context as pronounced by the Christ, or feel free to even use a Judaic principle as what is recorded in the Levitical law. Let's get a very beneficial conversation going.


Like · Reply · Jul 1, 2015 9:56am

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Mary Bacon · Sales and Recruiting Rockstar at Steeped Tea with Mary Bacon

I love that the Girl Scouts are brave and willing to stand against discrimination -- It takes real cour character to stand up for what is right, even before it's mainstream & "cool" . Thank you Girl Scou being the leaders on this.

Like · Reply ·  1 · Jun 30, 2015 11:36am

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