



**June 29, 2023**

## **Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee Awarded Nissan Foundation Grant to Fund Unique Cultural and Racial Diversity Programming in Middle Tennessee**

*Nissan Foundation grant to fund GSMIDTN's "Reaching Underserved Girls: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiative"*

**Nashville** – The Nissan Foundation has named Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee as a 2023 grant recipient. The Nissan Foundation grant will help fund a variety of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, including training for staff and volunteers, additional support for underserved communities, and DEI programming for Girl Scouts.

“We are so grateful for the Nissan Foundation’s support and are eager to put that support into action in our community,” said Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee President and CEO Agenia Clark. “These funds will help us enhance ongoing efforts to deliver culturally relevant experiences to girls of all ages throughout Middle Tennessee, promote diversity and inclusion, and strengthen the sense of belonging throughout our organization. These values have always been part of our core programming, and we’re excited to have additional resources to expand our DEI platforms.”

The Nissan Foundation was created in 1992 as a thoughtful response to the three weeks of violent civil unrest that occurred near Nissan North America’s then U.S. sales and marketing operations in Southern California following the Rodney King trial verdict. Nissan established a \$5 million endowment to promote cultural diversity within southern Los Angeles neighborhoods.

In the more than 30 years since, the Nissan Foundation has awarded nearly \$16 million to more than 150 nonprofit organizations to support innovative programs that break down societal barriers and build inclusive communities through education and outreach. Grant recipients promote cultural diversity across a variety of arts, education, social and public programs in seven U.S. communities where Nissan operates.

“It’s an honor to award Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee a grant for the work it’s doing to promote, share and sustain cultural awareness and understanding in communities throughout our world,” said Chandra Vasser President of the Nissan Foundation and Nissan’s first Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer.

With a mission to develop young women of courage, confidence, and character, Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee has long been committed to an inclusive environment valuing diversity. In 1942, the non-profit officially recognized Josephine Holloway as America’s first Black troop leader, then opened the first Girl Scout camp for girls of color in 1955. Currently, girls of all backgrounds enjoy adventures at Camp Holloway, Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee’s property in Millersville.

Working with the Nissan Foundation, Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee will continue to make sure all girls are empowered to know their worth, pursue greatness, create sustainable change, and transform the world around them. Learn more at [www.gsmidtn.org](http://www.gsmidtn.org).

The Nissan Foundation is awarding a total of \$1.2 million in grants to 39 nonprofit organizations for its 2023 grant cycle. Learn more about the 2023 Nissan Foundation grantees and the grant process at [www.NissanFoundation.com](http://www.NissanFoundation.com).

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