



ADVOCACY ACTION PLAN

2020/21 Girl Guides Victoria Youth Forum

GUIDING TEAM



welcome

WELCOME *from* GIRL GUIDES VICTORIA

As the peak organisation for girls aged 5-17, the Girl Guide mission is to empower all girls to become confident, engaged and responsible community members through a unique program that has been alive for over 100 years. Girls are encouraged to develop their sense of self, experience a sense of belonging and connection within their community, paving the way for a better world, *Girl-Led*.

Girl Guides are part of a bigger family, a global friendship, a worldwide movement, where girls contribute to our community through service. We value relationships to build understanding of others, to extend our knowledge of the world, to communicate on matters important to our cause and to provide opportunities for our members to grow.

When taking action, Girl Guides are informed, collaborative and engaged with their community and the world. Learning through action, learning through play, learning through teamwork, and learning by leading. Girls are mentored and gain skills to tackle life head on and express who they truly are. Treated as an individual, each and every girl is encouraged to do their personal best.

Girl Guides seek to contribute to the wider world around them to improve it for their friends, their family and community, whether at home or abroad. Girl Guides are alive to the issues of our times and want to have a say in their future, as global citizens. Through learning, our girls and young women create a foundation to harness their individual potential to make a difference. *Making sure that we are alive to the emerging needs of girls and young women is vital to our future.*



DELEGATES

With special thanks to mentor, Helen Reid



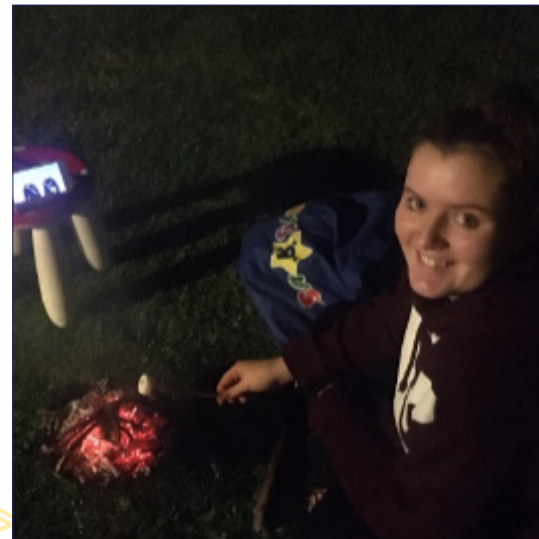
ZOE



TARA



LEE



JASMINE

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT ISSUES?

We are losing many Guides by the time they reach 12 years of age because they are beginning high school, have no older units in their area, have to move units, or don't feel the program is suited to their age. This is resulting in less Guides in the 14+ age group.

There is variety in the way Guiding is presented, and not all leaders are aware of all the Guiding resources available or not enough to assist them, meaning some units may lack exposure to parts of the Australian Guiding Program (AGP) in their Guiding program. 14+ Girls may have a more limited Guiding experience because of the lack of numbers in their age group.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES?

Guiding aims to:

Address all part of the AGP for a more well-rounded program by increasing the use of resources which address all parts of the AGP.

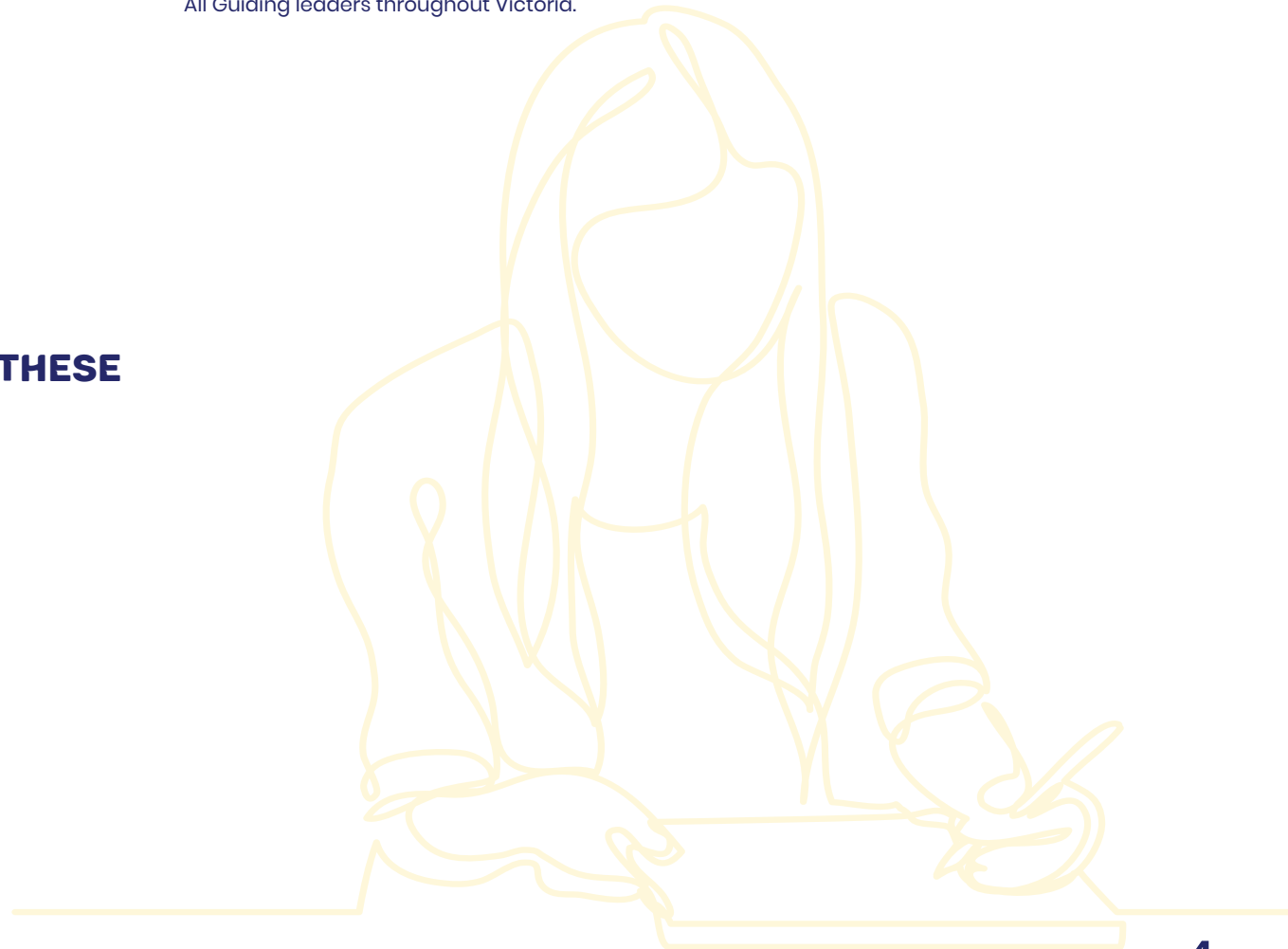
Maintain 14+ involvement through having appropriate program and activities for that age group, including ensuring it's *Girl Led*.

Promote Guiding to 14+ girls so more girls can become and stay involved.

WHO DO YOU NEED TO INFLUENCE TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS?

Leaders and managers at Girl Guides Victoria, including the State Team, program and Youth Patrol.

All Guiding leaders throughout Victoria.



WHAT ACTIVITIES WILL YOU UNDERTAKE TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE? WHAT RESOURCES ARE NEEDED?

Survey members of our Guiding community for their opinions. This should include: how leaders and units are presenting Guiding and if it's covering all aspects of the AGP. This would include questions relating to areas of the AGP which Guide leaders believe are lacking resources.

Surveying girls on what they want to see in Guiding; Survey of outgoing Guides - why did they leave?

Using the survey, identify existing resources which can help with areas lacking in the AGP and identify if more resources need to be created.

Creating a Youth Committee within Girl Guides Victoria to be able to hear the voices of our members and contribute to decision making so Guiding is relevant for the needs of our girls.

Creation of 14+ leader volunteer portfolio at Girl Guides Victoria to engage 14+ girls. This would include organising 14+ events, creating relevant program activities, working with the Girl Guides Victoria Youth Committee and campaigning for 14+ to join and stay in Guides.

Working alongside the media communications department could also allow for collaboration in creating advertising and marketing aimed at 14+ Guides.

Resources needed are survey software, and financial resources for marketing purposes.



WHAT IS YOUR TIMELINE TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS?

To have the Youth Committee developed within the next 4 months, following Girl Guides Victoria Youth Forum.

14+ GGV leaders within Youth Patrol created within the next 6 months following Girl Guides Victoria Youth Forum. This would include 3 months to develop the outline and expectations of the role and create advertising of the role for potential leaders, 2 months advertising and application time and 1 months for selection.

Survey created within the next 2 months following the Girl Guides Victoria Youth Forum, to be opened for approximately 3 months.

Following the closing of the survey, within the next 3 months identify areas lacking in the AGP and any new resources that could be created to help leaders address these areas, as well as existing resources that can be better promoted to leaders

Following data analysis of the survey, create new resources over the next 6 months.



OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS FOR GIRL GUIDES VICTORIA

More 14+ opportunities which would lead to a more engaged 14+ group and therefore more Guides wanting to continue into this age group. This could include schoolies alternatives, travel opportunities, age appropriate online programs (such as Friday Night Guides), Queen's Guide groups, Pen Pal programs, rural opportunities, 14+ Forum section of Girl Guides Victoria website and Duke of Edinburgh groups.

A more well-rounded program that addresses all areas of AGP will expose girls to more areas of Guiding and increase their skills in more areas.

A better use of existing resources that promote a well-rounded program and the identification of what areas of the AGP leaders require more resources for.



Once girls are within the 14+ range, they have surpassed the age where most girls drop out, meaning they are very dedicated to Guiding!

These girls are excited about more opportunities and a more well rounded program.

YOUR THOUGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS!

Contact Girl Guides Youth Forum at youthforum.guidesvic.org.au