



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

FACT SHEET

History

In 1998, Under Construction began as a program at Camp Menzies, where six girls participated in building items needed for camp, such as a dock for the swimming lake, and tables and benches needed for the dining hall.

As Under Construction developed, thoughts of expanding the program were discussed as many of the camp's existing shake cabins were in need of major renovation. Additionally, the staff felt that they would be able to find adult volunteers to work alongside the girls and find contributors for materials. Through the program, girls would learn construction terms and skills, but also found confidence in themselves and what it means to work as a team.

In December 2005, the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC), became a partner of the Under Construction program. They have been active in the construction of the cabins at Camp Menzies since then. The first few being staff cabins. Additionally, Simpson Strong-Tie, White Cap Construction Supply, Rex Moore Electrical, Tomboy Tools, S.D. Deacon Corp. of California, DPR, Inc. and many more companies within the construction industry have partnered to provide a quality program. Although the program was originally designed for 10 girls, because of high interest it was expanded to 20 girls working in shifts, which has allowed girls to enjoy all that camp has to offer.

2007

In the summer of 2007, Under Construction welcomed 20 girls. Within this group were four girls who returned to the program at Camp Menzies and seven girls from the council's outreach program.

2008

During this year participants in the Girl Scout Under Construction program built their first camper sleep cabin. These cabins have a simpler plan but gave the girls more experience in total creation of the cabin including the roofing and the construction of an adjoining deck.

2009 and Future

In 2009 the girls built another sleep cabin as well as worked on other projects for Camp Menzies. Girls from the council outreach program also participated gaining confidence working in a team completing a major project and enjoying camp life.

There are plans to build one more staff cabin and two more camper sleep cabins. Future projects in the Under Construction program will include including bird and bat houses, tool boxes, information kiosks complete with maps of camp. Girl Scouts hopes to expand their relationship with construction volunteers and vendors to build new office, camp director quarters and bathrooms.