



Girl Scouts

www.girlscoutshcc.org

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 existing shake cabins were in need of major renovation. Additionally, 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 staff cabins at Camp Menzies for the last two years. Additionally, Tomboy Tools and various 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. They built a 16 foot by 20 foot staff cabin, identical to the one built in 2006. The two weeks were spent learning new techniques, discovering the many tools in construction, and the importance of safety on the work site.

Future

In 2008, Girl Scouts Heart of Central California's Under Construction program will build its first sleeping cabin for campers. These cabins have a simpler plan, but will give the girls more experience in the total creation of the cabin including roofing and the construction of an adjoining deck. Additionally, the girls will work on other projects for Camp Menzies including bird and bat houses, tool boxes and information kiosks complete with maps of camp.

There are plans to build one more staff cabin and three more camper sleeping cabins at future Under Construction programs. In addition, Girl Scouts hopes to expand upon their relationship with construction volunteers and vendors to build a new office, camp director quarters, and bathrooms.

GIRL SCOUTS HEART OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

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