

Girl Scouts in leadership drive

Community: Program aims to develop talent in low-income communities.

By Magnolia Howell, Staff writer
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LONG BEACH - The Girl Scouts Council of Greater Long Beach will try to reach underprivileged girls from low-income neighborhoods through a new program, Discover Girls Scouts.

The council will be joining the City of Long Beach's housing services Bureau and **Las Palmas Housing**.

"In Girl Scouts you develop leadership, courage and character. Helping guide young girls to become productive members of our society, that's all we want to do," said Myrna Pappas, director of development for the Girl Scout Council of Greater Long Beach.

The 12-week program for girls ages 5 to 17 will also train community members who are interested in becoming future Girl Scout adult volunteers. The kick-off for Discover Girl Scouts for **Northpointe** residents in North Long Beach is today.

The program will focus on teaching young girls positive decision making, safety, accepting and valuing individuality and cultural diversity, education, community service and more. Once Discover Girl Scouts is completed, Northpointe girls will be invited to join the traditional Girl Scouts troop.

"Girl Scouts can change the way you see the world. It teaches personal responsibility, goals and budgeting. We strive to be contemporary and relevant. Discover Girl Scouts will help pave that way for us," Pappas said.

Members of the City Council along with other community leaders will attend the Discover Girl Scout event, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 5441 Paramount Blvd., Long Beach.

For further information, contact Myrna Pappas at (562)421-8456 ext. 229 or mpappas@gscglb.org.