

Council Patches

Local Heros **D B J C S A**

This program is designed to help girls explore careers in human services. For each field of service, arrange for someone in the field to speak to your troop about their job. Learn about the history of the profession, education requirements, the impact of technology, women's involvement in the profession and the challenges and rewards for female professionals. If possible, tour the workplace.

D B

Complete at least three activities.

J

Complete at least four activities.

C S A

Complete at least six activities.

Discover:

1. **Animal Care:** Find out how different facilities--such as a veterinarian's office, animal hospital or an animal shelter--care for animals. What are some of the basic needs for a healthy and happy pet? What are some of the negative effects of pet overpopulation, and how can pet owners prevent it?
2. **Crisis Intervention/Disaster Relief:** What are some of the challenges faced by those experiencing a crisis or disaster? Which of these challenges may be overcome in a short amount of time? Which of these challenges will require longer care? Use your local library, community pages in the telephone book or the internet to research the local organizations that could offer assistance in each of the following scenarios:
 - A family loses all of their possessions and clothing in a house fire.
 - A teenager thinks she might be pregnant.
 - A man is laid off from work and becomes homeless.
 - A grandmother becomes terminally ill with cancer.
 - A child is born with a mental or physical special needs.
3. **Education:** How do educators and school counselors serve children and their families? What are some of the challenges faced by the children and families that they serve? How do they have a positive impact on the children they work with and the community?
4. **Emergency Medicine:** Discover the difference in education and responsibilities between an EMT, a paramedic, a CNA, a RN and a MD. Which skills are common to all? How does technology affect each of these careers?
5. **Fire Control and Prevention:** What is the difference between a professional fire fighter and a volunteer fire fighter? Which do you have in your community?
6. **Law Enforcement:** What does "D.A.R.E." stand for? Find out about the history and purpose of the program. Learn about the duties of a K-9 unit. If your community has a K-9 unit, arrange a visit, if possible.
7. **United States Military:** Learn about responsibilities of the different branches of the military--Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, National Guard and Navy. Is there a military base near your community? Which branch does it serve? How do the base's activities support this branch? What challenges and opportunities do the family members of military personnel experience? Learn what it means to be a reservist. What types of educational and scholarship opportunities are available to military members? What benefits do Girl Scouts receive when they join the military?

Connect:

1. For two of the above categories, make thank-you cards or posters and send them to your local heros.

Take Action:

1. How can you become a local hero? Using what you've learned from your visits with other local heros, make and carry out an action plan designed to fill a need in your community.