

Plan a community sunscreen drive.

A starter guide for Girl Scouts, troop leaders, and community organizations. Created for Samantha McCloud's Girl Scout Gold Award project.

1. Start with a local partner.

Ask a community organization whether sunscreen would help the people it serves. Agree on bottle sizes, expiration dates, quantities, storage, and a delivery date before collecting donations.

2. Set a manageable goal.

Choose your collection dates and a goal your group can meet. Confirm any donation and fundraising rules with your Girl Scout council or organization. Assign people to outreach, collection, inventory, and delivery.

3. Make a clear request.

Ask for new, unopened sunscreen. Broad-spectrum, water-resistant SPF 30 or higher is a useful starting point. For a SunSafe Together-style drive, prioritize bottles of 3 ounces or more and at least six months before expiration; confirm your recipient partner's requirements.

Collect. Share. Continue.

4. Collect and check.

Use a labeled collection box or another agreed drop-off method. Record the product, size, expiration date, quantity, and donor where known. Check packages for leaks, damage, or expired products. Store according to the label, away from heat and direct sunlight.

5. Share sun-safety information.

Include a short, sourced sun-safety handout or a QR code to reliable resources. Emphasize sunscreen, shade, and protective clothing together. Check that QR codes work on a phone and that linked pages are accessible to recipients.

6. Deliver, thank, and continue.

Arrange delivery with your partner and confirm the final bottle count. Thank donors and volunteers. Record your work and partner feedback. Ask whether someone can repeat the drive or keep sharing the resources.

Keep the record clear

Track bottles, ounces, and individual packets separately. Count website visits, PDF downloads, and survey responses as separate activities. A download does not show that a person organized a drive.

Reliable learning resources

Melanoma Research Foundation: melanoma.org/melanoma-education/prevention/
American Academy of Dermatology: Practice Safe Sun (aad.org)