Did you know?
A philanthropist is a person who helps others, giving time and/or money to good causes. Everyday people are philanthropists, as they donate money to a good cause, or donate their time as volunteer firefighter or making facemasks to donate. You can be a philanthropist!

Check out GSCB’s Emergency Relief Patch online. If you create 15 or more face masks to donate you can earn the patch! Now that is a great act!

The Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold awards are all about philanthropy too. These are the highest award you can earn as a Girl Scout, by completing a project to make a difference in your community, all about an issue you care about.

Becoming a Philanthropist:
We are going to look at a problem, and a the steps to try to help fix it! Don’t be afraid to ask a sibling, friend or family member for help. The more ideas the better!

1. Think about a problem or problems in your community. Write this down on the tree trunk. We have some examples.
   "Polluted neighborhood park" or "kids come to school without breakfast"

2. Think about some of the root causes of the problem, about why it happens. Write this down on the roots. You may come up with some ideas on your own, and you can do some research as well. Try contacting the experts to get their ideas!
   “No trash cans at the park.” or “The food pantry is empty.”

3. Now we want to think about what we can do to help fix the problem! Write these ideas down on the branches.
   “Write a letter to the town council asking for trash cans at the neighborhood park.” or “Plan a food drive at the local grocery store to restock the food pantry.”

Things you can do to help fix a problem could be big and involve a fundraiser and event. Or it could be simpler; writing letters to government officials, volunteer your time, or create items to donate. It all depends on what your problem is and how you want to solve it!
**Girl Scout Philanthropists!**
Juliette Gordon Low was a philanthropist! She saw a need in her community to support the young girls, and founded the Girl Scouts!

Taryn Marie, a Gold Award Girl Scouts from Chesapeake Bay saw that only a small percentage of Foster care youth transition from high school to college and wanted to provide additional support to help them reach their goals. She worked with the Child Placement Review Board in Delaware and created a website full of information and a tip sheet for foster youth that was adopted by Trunks of Love,. She even organized donations of college essentials to make dorm kits and distributing them to a dozen local teens who had been through the foster system! Wow!