



# Celebrate Gold

**Isabella Vaz**  
Overland Park, KS



## Expanding Youth Clothing Access

Isabella Vaz has been a Girl Scout for 9 years as an Indy Girl Scout in Service Unit 694. She is a senior at Blue Valley High School. She plans to pursue biology on the pre-medicine pathway for her undergraduate degree.

For her Gold Award project, Isabella wanted to focus on youth impacted by limited resources. Isabella created an accessible place in the community for kids ages K-12 to obtain free clothing at the Village Church Clothes Closet. Her drive raised over 165 lbs. of clothing.

Ensuring this new space was set up appropriately, Isabella built a custom wooden shelving unit for display. She also taught community members about local poverty by speaking at her church and distributing informational flyers to more than 100 of her neighbors. Isabella also engaged with seven schools in the Blue Valley, Shawnee Mission, and KCMO school districts to spread the word about the Clothes Closet resources to those in need.

**“Because of Girl Scouts... I survived a backpacking trip through the pouring rain in Arkansas’ Devil’s Den National Park. Though I unfortunately learned my tent was not waterproof, I gained lasting memories and friendships of the kind only camping can give. Because of Girl Scouts I have learned the power of leadership starting in 8th grade as the youngest member of the Teen Leadership Circle.”**