



Emma Cunningham

Lee's Summit, Missouri



## Freshman Outreach “Bridging the Gap”

Emma Cunningham has been a Girl Scout for 11 years and is a member of Troop 1721 in Service Unit 640. She is a freshman at William Woods University studying theatre performance and American Sign Language interpreting.

**Emma’s Gold Award project focused on closing the gap between freshmen students and their respective high schools.** Emma realized there was a disconnect between the transition into high school for freshmen. Her project allows students to create a more stable environment for them going into high school. By having a shared connection with the high school, it allows students to feel safe enough to take on the obstacles in their life. By creating this Freshman Outreach in “Bridging the Gap”, Emma has encouraged more freshmen to be in clubs and sport teams.

Emma worked with The Jag, Wildcat TV and Jag TV receiving air time to promote her project. With the help of a family in the district, who lost a child suicide, she organized an Out of Darkness walk to honor him. As the gap closes, Emma hopes to decrease the number of freshmen suicides making environments more inclusive and open for people of all ages..

**Because of Girl Scouts...** I feel much more aware of others and how I can use my position and skills to make the world a better place, just like the promise says.