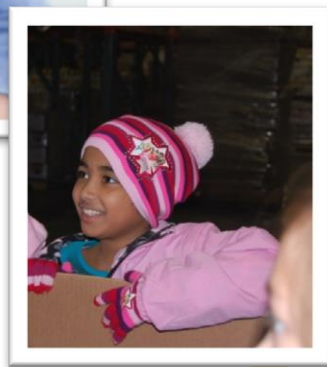




Jolly Patro

Olathe, Kansas



STEM Kits for Kids

Jolly Patro has been a Girl Scout for 11 years and is in Troop 107 in Service Unit 679. She is currently a junior at Olathe North High School.

Jolly's Gold Award project addressed the issue of a lack of STEM education for child patients at Children's Mercy Hospitals. The students were best inspired by hands-on activities, so Jolly found a way to incorporate easy to use, refillable STEM kits to get the kids thinking. Her kits use very common materials, so they can easily be reused in the future with patients at Children's Mercy. Not only does the project inspire these patients to learn more about STEM, but keeps them active and engaged on something other than their illness.

Jolly worked with Children's Mercy Hospital, her high school service club, and a local elementary school to create and distribute her kits. Utilizing YouTube and instruction cards, Jolly has made the instructions globally accessible through YouTube videos. By creating these kits and equipping a hospital to use them, Jolly has helped educators at Children's Mercy engage the STEM curiosity of their child patients for years to come. This project will also be presented at the national hospital-based teaching conference in Spring 2018.

Because of Girl Scouts... I have gotten the opportunity to work on projects that combine all that I love to do. I have met some of my best friends and have gotten the opportunity to serve my community with them. In general, I have been able to help others in a way that I love.