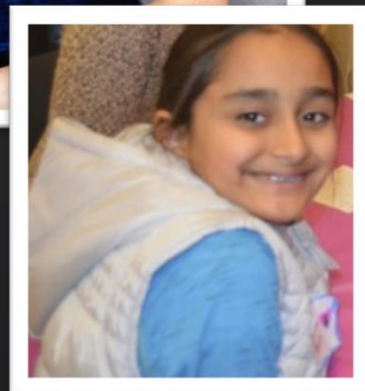




Annika Bhatt

Olathe, KS



Felt for Fido

Annika Bhatt has been a Girl Scout for seven years as a member of Troop 1207 in Service Unit 675. She is currently a Junior at Blue Valley West High School.

Annika's Gold Award project addressed the issue of limited resources for local animal shelters that receive new animals daily and are constantly in need of fresh items to enrich the lives of homeless pets. To provide resources for her local shelter, Annika worked with local organizations to raise money, purchase supplies, and create comfort items for animals to donate. Specifically, she purchased materials to create pet blankets and made over 200 blankets with the help of over 100 volunteers. In addition, she purchased various animal supplies to donate with funds raised by the project.

Annika worked with the Olathe Animal Shelter to find out what supplies were most needed, understand the need and implement a plan that would help her community. She also worked with the Blue Valley West L.E.O. club, YUVA and younger Girl Scout troops for their support in creating the blankets. Another aspect of her project was creating awareness of the need for new animal care items for shelters. When animal shelters have fresh, quality care items, they can provide a better quality of life for the animals waiting to find homes. Annika plans to keep her project going by having bi-monthly events where funds can be raised and additional items created for Olathe Animal Shelter and other various local shelters. Through this project, Annika learned to harness time management, budgeting and volunteer coordination to have a lasting impact on her community!

Because of Girl Scouts... I learned to foster higher self-worth and establish connections within the community to promote awareness about issues I care about.