

## Celebrate Gold



## **Em Hamer**

Lenexa, KS



Em Hamer was a Girl Scout for 13 years in Troop 514 in Service Unit 671. She recently graduated from De Soto High School with plans to attend Kansas State University in the fall, studying Regional and Community Planning.

Em's Gold Award project gave older members of her community the chance to live their Girl Scouting dreams by creating their own troop at Aberdeen Village! She named the troops "Silver" and "Gold" troops as a nod to the song Make New Friends. During troop meetings, the members got to participate in community service projects, crafts and similar Girl Scout activities. For many of the residents, they either missed their Girl Scouting experience, or never got to experience Girl Scouts as a young person, so these troops gave them a social outlet and a way to connect with the world of Girl Scouting.

The Silver and Gold troops can continue at Aberdeen Village and any other independent living community through the resources Em created – including a guide with step-by-step instructions on creating and running a troop in these communities. What a way to spread the Girl Scout experience!

Because of Girl Scouts...I have has so many opportunities and experiences that have improved my confidence and ability to be a good leader in various aspects other of my life.