

From: "Esposito, Rosa" <Resposito@girlscouts.org>

To: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 7, 2013 8:14 AM

Subject: RE: Women Deliver Conference

Thank you for your message to Girl Scouts of the USA. We appreciate your interest and concern.

The Girl Scout organization, including local Councils, does not take a position on abortion or birth control, nor do we endorse or provide funding to organizations such that advocate on these issues.

GSUSA does not provide any financial support to Planned Parenthood, nor do we have any national collaboration or relationship with that organization. We believe issues related to health and sexuality are private matters for girls and their families.

Last Friday, LifeNews.com ran a story with the headline "Girl Scouts Join Planned Parenthood at Huge Pro-Abortion Conference" accompanied by a photo of a GSUSA event involving members of Congress.

Here are the facts:

- Girl Scouts of the USA was not among the 2,500 organizations that participated in the conference covered in the story. WAGGGS attended with one staff member and three young women.
- GSUSA CEO Anna Maria Chávez did not attend the conference. The photo that accompanies the LifeNews.com article was taken from a bipartisan 2012 GSUSA 100th Anniversary celebration attended by legislators on both sides of social issues.
- GSUSA does not take a position on abortion or birth control, does not have a relationship with Planned Parenthood on a national level, and does not plan to have one.

As you may be aware, GSUSA is one of 145 WAGGGS member organizations. Each member organization creates its own programs and pursues advocacy efforts based on the needs and issues affecting girls in its individual country. GSUSA does not always take the same positions or endorse the same programs as WAGGGS. GSUSA's relationship with WAGGGS is akin to the United States' relationship with the United Nations (UN). The United States may not agree with every position the UN takes, but values having a seat at the table.

Please see our FAQs for more information http://www.girlscouts.org/program/qs_central/mpmf/faqs.asp

Thanks again for contacting Girl Scouts.

Information and Referral Center
Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.
1-800-478-7248