



May 23, 2018
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This letter is sent in support of Laura Higgins for consideration and selection as a 2018 Women of Influence.

In addition to her incredible contributions in her professional life, Laura has an amazing impact on the community.

Laura has been a beacon for supporting and empowering girls and women. As a Girl Scout troop leader, Laura has redefined the entire role. As CEO of Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa, I have had the pleasure of coming across nearly 45,000 girls and leaders in my tenure. *Never* have I seen a troop leader accomplish what Laura has.

This spring she celebrated with nine Girl Scouts who were graduating high school and had made it entirely through the Girl Scouts program. *Never* have I seen one troop of nine girls make it this far. This is a direct reflection of the amazing and life changing experiences Laura has provided these girls. All nine are college bound and openly credit Laura for much of their success.

Despite Laura's own daughter exiting the Girl Scouts program several years ago, Laura remained committed to giving generously of her time and talents and providing these girls life-changing experiences. From treks through the Boundary Waters to hiking Glacier National Forest, there wasn't an adventure too large. They've been honored state-wide for their incredible community service projects, and earned Gold Awards, the highest honor a Girl Scout can receive.

The examples are too numerous to mention, but Laura has truly written the book on how to show up for other people to make their lives better. I can think of no better candidate for this honor.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Beth Shelton".
Beth Shelton



**Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character,
who make the world a better place.**