

Denise Valz named CEO Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida

Jupiter, FL (7/11/08) --- Denise W. Valz has been selected as the Chief Executive Officer for the soon-to-be-formed Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida. The new Girl Scout Council is being formed as a result of the merger between Girl Scouts of Palm Glades Council and Girl Scouts of Broward County. Valz currently serves as CEO for the Girl Scouts of Palm Glades Council.

The new council, which is expected to begin operation on October 1, 2008 will serve almost 19,000 girls in Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee Counties. With more than 275,000 girls ages 5-17 living in those communities, delivering a quality leadership development experience for even more girls is a priority for the new council.

"The joining of volunteer, staff and financial resources will better position our organization to serve the diverse and changing needs of today's girls," said Valz.

Valz was selected following a national CEO search by Evergreen Executive Search. With 20 years of leadership in Girl Scouting, Valz is well prepared to take the reins of the new council. She has served as the CEO for Girl Scouts of Palm Glades Council since 2005, where under her leadership membership has grown more than 30 percent. Her Girl Scout career started in Virginia, where she served in various management positions over 17 years. Prior to joining Girl Scouts, Valz worked in Social Services in Virginia.

Valz is a graduate of James Madison University, where she earned a B.S. Degree in Public Health with a minor in Social Work. She is a graduate of the Leadership Palm Beach County Class of 2007, is an active member of the Executive Women of the Palm Beaches and serves on the Board of Directors for the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County. Valz serves on the Board of Directors for the national organization; Association of Girl Scouts Executive Staff where she has been active in leadership roles for more than 15 years. Valz resides in Jupiter with her husband, LTC Darwin K. Valz. She is the mother of 2 daughters, 2 step daughters and one granddaughter who have all been active in Girl Scouting.

"We are pleased to have found a person like Denise, whose experience and vision will help ensure a smooth transition," said Sergio Mariaca, co-chair of the CEO Search Committee.

Valz will lead a council with a \$7 million operating budget and a staff of 60 housed at two regional offices.