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LOCAL GIRL SCOUT INSTRUCTS YOUNGER CLASSMATES IN SUSTAINABILITY, HELPS THEM RECYCLE THE UNRECYCLABLE

High Schooler Utilizes TerraCycle's Zero Waste Boxes for Gold Award Project

MARIETTA, Georgia (September 9, 2019) –Inspired by her AP Human Geography class and after learning about the traumatic effect that waste pollution has on impoverished nations, Hillgrove High School student Ainsley Ehlers implemented a comprehensive new recycling program at local schools for her Girl Scout Gold Award Project. In order to divert plastic waste from disadvantaged communities while simultaneously instilling sentiments of sustainability in future generations, Ehlers implemented TerraCycle's Pens, Pencils and Markers Zero Waste Box at seven schools in the Marietta City area. The collected packaging will be recycled into a variety of new consumer products such as park benches, bike racks, shipping pallets and recycling bins.

Ehlers developed her Go Green Project around the importance of recycling more than just plastic bottles and aluminum cans. To accomplish this while diverting plastic waste from landfills, wildlife habitats and shared waterways, Ehlers created receptacles for each school to collect conventionally unrecyclable material, like writing utensils commonly disposed of in schools. The Girl Scout engaged over 6,000 students through custom videos created to explain the recycling process which were then discussed over the morning announcements. To further involve students, Ehlers also ran a competition among the participating schools to see which could collect the most items by the end of the school year.

At the conclusion of the school year, Ehlers collected and weighed the material to determine the victor and will be presenting a plaque to the winning school in celebration of their efforts. After deeming the program a success, the participating schools, including A.L. Burrus Elementary, Belmont Hills Elementary, Cheatham Hill Elementary, King Springs Elementary, Still Elementary, St. Joe's Catholic School and Lovinggood Middle School, agreed to continue the project for years to come.

"The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reported that many of our landfills are full and some landfills are in danger of contaminating our drinking water due to the runoff" says Ehlers. "By collecting 7,000 items and keeping them from entering the landfill, my project will reduce trash islands and ensure drinking water is kept safe."

TerraCycle, the world's leader in the collection and repurposing of complex waste streams, created the Zero Waste Box to provide solutions for difficult-to-recycle waste that cannot be recycled through their other programs or standard municipal recycling. The Pens, Pencils and

Markers Zero Waste Box has allowed Ehlers to make recycling easy and accessible to Cobb County students.

“I believe that people don’t recycle because they lack the knowledge and convenience to do so” says Ehlers. “The collection of the items in the receptacles at each school proved that the project was working, and the students could make a difference with over 7,000 items being recycled and shipped to TerraCycle”.

About TerraCycle

TerraCycle is an innovative waste management company with a mission to eliminate the idea of waste®. Operating nationally across 21 countries, TerraCycle partners with leading consumer product companies, retailers, cities, and facilities to recycle products and packages, from dirty diapers to cigarette butts, that would otherwise end up being landfilled or incinerated. In addition, TerraCycle works with leading consumer product companies to integrate hard to recycle waste streams, such as ocean plastic, into their products and packaging. TerraCycle has won over 200 awards for sustainability and has donated over \$44 million to schools and charities since its founding 15 years ago. To learn more about TerraCycle or get involved in its recycling programs, please visit www.terracycle.com.

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