

## Fact Sheet

### Volunteer Outcomes Study

- Mission** The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.
- Background** The Boy Scouts of America relies on dedicated volunteers to carry out its mission. More than 1.2 million adult volunteers provide leadership and mentoring to Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, and Venturing crews.
- Previous outcomes research focuses on the elements of healthy youth development provided through Scouting. From these studies, we know that Scouting helps youth build strong personal values, a positive sense of self-worth, and caring and nurturing relationships with adults and peers. It sparks a desire to learn and helps youth use their time creatively and gain social skills. But, what do Scout volunteers gain from their involvement in the program?
- To help answer this question, an independent research firm, Harris Interactive, conducted a study with Boy Scout adult volunteers. The study examined some key areas where Scouting affects the lives of volunteers:
- Personal values and traits
  - Communication skills
  - Relationship skills
  - Survival and outdoor skills
  - Management and leadership skills
- Outcome and Use** The findings have been published in a document titled *Volunteer Outcomes Study*. This publication illustrates the findings through tables and charts. In addition, brochures and presentation materials have been made available to local Boy Scout councils.
- Overall, the findings suggest that volunteering for the Boy Scouts of America has helped people become better citizens, better parents, better managers/supervisors, and better employees.
- Additional information is available from your local Boy Scouts of America council, listed in the white pages of most major telephone directories.