Chartered Organizations and the Boy Scouts of America

**Purpose**

That the purpose of this corporation shall be to promote, through organization and cooperation with other agencies, the ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in Scoutcraft, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred virtues, using the methods which are now in common use by Boy Scouts.

Sec. 3, federal charter, Boy Scouts of America
June 15, 1916, by the United States Congress

**Charters**

Two kinds of charters are issued by the Boy Scouts of America: one to community organizations and the other to BSA local councils. The first enables community groups to use the Scouting program under their own leadership as a service to their children, youth, and families. The other empowers local councils to help chartered organizations effectively use the Scouting program and to expand the use of the program to other community groups.

**How Community Organizations Use the Scouting Program**

Schools and community and religious organizations, with the help of the BSA, organize Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, Varsity Scout teams, Venturing crews, and Sea Scout ships for boys and young men and women. They manage these units and control the program of activities to support the goals and objectives of the chartered organizations. When community organizations establish a new unit, they must take these two important actions to ensure a quality Scouting program:

1. **Selecting leadership.** The head of the chartered organization appoints a chartered organization representative to provide leadership in the selection of a committee of adults that will provide overall supervision for the unit's program. The committee selects the adult unit leaders who will work with the youth. The chartered organization representative is also a voting member of the local council and may serve as a member of the district committee.

2. **Providing a meeting place and promoting a good program.** The chartered organization arranges for adequate meeting facilities for the unit and promotes through its committee the full use of the program, including outdoor experiences, advancement, recognitions, and, in particular, Scouting's values.

**How the BSA Supports the Community Organization**

To support approximately 124,000 Scouting units owned and operated by chartered organizations, more than 300 BSA councils provide professional counseling and administration, commissioner service, training for leaders, camping and outdoor facilities, program materials and literature, planning tools, and other program aids. Councils also maintain records on units and their membership, provide rank certificates and merit badge cards, and maintain service centers where badges, insignia, literature, and other helps can be obtained.

In addition, council representatives conduct annual charter review conferences with chartered organization personnel to evaluate how effectively the Scouting program is being delivered and how it might be improved.
A Sampling of Organizations That Support Children, Youth, and Families and the Program of the Boy Scouts of America

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
American Express
AT&T
AT&T Wireless
BellSouth Corporation
Best Buy
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation
Centex
Clear Channel Worldwide
Dillard’s Inc.
Dole Food Company, Inc.
Eastman Kodak Company
Exxon Mobil Corporation
Fannie Mae
Fidelity National Financial
General Electric Company
Goodrich Corporation
H.J. Heinz Company
J.C. Penny Company, Inc.
Kmart Corporation
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Nike, Inc.
Radio Shack Corporation
Reebok
SBC Communications
Sherwin Williams
Southwest Airlines Co.
Sprint
The Kroger Company
UPS
Verizon
Weyerhaeuser
Whirlpool

COMMUNITY
Alpha Phi Alpha
Alpha Phi Omega
American Bar Association
American Legion, The
American National Red Cross
AMVETS
Boys and Girls Clubs of America
Civil Air Patrol
Civitan International
Community Centers
Conservation Clubs
DAV (Disabled American Veterans)
Eagles, Fraternal Order of (F.O.E.)
Economic Opportunity Council
Elks, Benevolent and Protective Order of (B.P.O.E.)
Engineering Societies
Farm Bureau Federation, American
Fire Chiefs, International Association of (I.A.F.C.)
4-H
Grange
Hospitals, Medical and Professional
Tenant Housing Associations
Indian Affairs, Association on American
Indian Tribal Councils
Izaak Walton League of America
Jaycees, United States
Kiwanis International
Knights of Pythias, Fraternal Order of
Lions Clubs International
Marine Corps League
Masonic Order of the Eastern Star, Universal
Military Order of the World Wars
Moose International Inc.
National Exchange Club
National Future Farmers of America Organization
Neighborhood Associations
Odd Fellows, Independent Order of Optimist International
Parents Without Partners
Power Squadrons
Rotary International
Roundtable International
Ruritan National
Sertoma International
Sons of the American Revolution
Steuben Society of America
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce
VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States)
Women’s Clubs
YMCA (Young Men’s Christian Association)
YMHA (Young Men’s Hebrew Association)
YWCA (Young Women’s Christian Association)
Zeta Psi

EDUCATION
Christian Schools
Home School Associations
Independent Schools, National Association of
Jewish Day Schools
Masjids
Parochial Schools
Private Schools

LABOR
AFL-CIO affiliates (American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations)
Education Association, National Fire Fighters, International Association of
Letter Carriers of the U.S.A., National Association of
Postal Workers Union, American
Teachers, American Federation of
United Auto Workers
United Mine Workers
RELIGIOUS

African Methodist Episcopal Church
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
Anglican Church
Armenian Apostolic Church of North America
Assemblies of God Church
Baha’i Faith
Baptist Churches
  American Baptist Association
  American Baptist Churches in the USA
  General Association of General Baptists
  Primitive Baptist
Baptist Conventions
  American Baptist Churches in the USA
  National Association of Free Will Baptists
  National Baptist Convention of America
  National Baptist Convention USA Inc.
  Original Free Will Baptists
  Progressive National Baptist Convention Inc.
  Southern Baptist Convention
B’nai B’rith
Buddhist Churches of America
Byzantine Rite Catholic Church
Catholic Church, Roman
Catholic Organizations
  Catholic Parent Organization, National
  Forum of Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A.
  Holy Name Society, National Association of the (Roman Catholic)
  Knights of Columbus
  National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc.
  Serra International
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Christian and Missionary Alliance
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Church of Christ
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, The
Church of God
Community of Christ
Congregational Church
Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Episcopal Church
Evangelical Churches
  Federation of Islamic Associations in the U.S. and Canada
  First Church of Christ, Scientist
  Greek Orthodox
  Islamic Centers
  Islamic Society of North America
  Jewish Synagogues and Centers
  Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.
Lutheran Churches
  Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
  Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Mennonite Church
Methodist Church, United
Moravian Church in North America
Nazarene, Church of the
Orthodox Churches
Pentecostal Churches
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Reformed Church in America
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Salvation Army, The
Seventh Day Adventists
United Church of Christ