STRENGTHENING YOUR ORGANIZATION THROUGH SCOUTING

New-Unit Sales Kit
Does your organization provide a way to cultivate, develop, and sustain growth for families? Scouting does. There's nothing like Scouting.

Through time-tested programming, including character development and values-based leadership training, the Boy Scouts of America prepares young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Since its beginning, the Boy Scouts of America has helped build the future leaders of this country. Chartered by Congress in 1910, the BSA is composed of nearly 2.5 million youth members and approximately 960,000 volunteers in local councils throughout the United States and its territories. Our future leaders need today’s leaders to help prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow. They need you!

One hundred years after Arthur Eldred of New York earned the highest award in Scouting, the rank of Eagle Scout, Baylor University conducted a study called “Merit Beyond the Badges.” The 2012 study found that, among other traits, Eagle Scouts were more likely than men who have never been in Scouting to be in a leadership position at their place of employment or local community, to volunteer for religious and nonreligious organizations, and to have closer relationships with family and friends.

Becoming a Chartered Organization
The Scouting program is administered throughout the nation and the world with the help of nearly 290 local councils. These councils depend on community groups called chartered organizations to help build Scouting in their communities.

What is a chartered organization? One of many educational, faith-based, civic, or community groups that offer the Scouting program. In fact, more than 100,000 Scouting units are owned and operated by chartered organizations. Of these, approximately 70 percent are chartered to faith-based organizations, 22 percent to civic organizations, and nearly 8 percent to educational organizations.

Scouting’s Positive Impact on the Community
Scouting provides a unique opportunity for organizations like yours to bring stronger service to the community while offering fun and adventure to their own youth and families. By working together, your organization and Scouting can combine time and other resources that result in stronger, more confident children and more productive families and communities. A relationship with Scouting can also help your organization to fulfill its mission and strengthen its outreach efforts, reflecting positively on the chartered organization.

Full Family of Scouting (Who We Serve)
The Boy Scouts of America offers three main programs:

- Boys ages 6 to 10 join Cub Scouting and are members of a Cub Scout pack
- Boys ages 11 to 17 join Boy Scouting or Varsity Scouting and are members of a Boy Scout troop or Varsity Scout team
- Young men and women ages 14 to 20, or 13 with the completion of eighth grade, join Venturing and are members of a Venturing crew

Youth membership in the Boy Scouts of America is open to all youth who meet the specific membership requirements to join the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout, and Venturing programs. Membership in any
program of the Boy Scouts of America requires the youth member to (a) subscribe to and abide by the values expressed in the Scout Oath and Scout Law, (b) subscribe to and abide by the precepts of the Declaration of Religious Principle (duty to God), and (c) demonstrate behavior that exemplifies the highest level of good conduct and respect for others and is consistent at all times with the values expressed in the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Organizations are encouraged to offer the full family of Scouting in their group or organization. However, it is possible to start with Cub Scouting and grow the program.

Responsibilities of the Chartered Organization

- Use Scouting to further the Chartered Organization's aims and values for youth.
- Conduct the Scouting program consistent with BSA rules, regulations, and policies. They may be found on the My Scouting website and at the following location: http://www.scouting.org/Membership/Charter_Orgs/resources.aspx.
- Be represented in the Local Council and the local Scouting district by a Chartered Organization Representative (COR), who will be appointed by the Chartered Organization. The COR will be the point of contact between the Chartered Organization and the Local Council; will serve as a voting member of district and council committees on which the COR serves; and will, with the Chartered Organization, select and approve volunteer leaders for submission to the Local Council for its consideration. The COR will work with the unit committees sponsored by the Chartered Organization.
- Support unit committee(s) made up of at least three persons for each unit.
- Assure that adults selected as unit leaders are suitable by, at a minimum, having the appropriate leaders of the Chartered Organization review and sign each application.
- Ensure appropriate facilities for the unit for its regular meetings to facilitate the aims of the Chartered Organization and Scouting.
- Encourage adult leaders to receive additional applicable training made available by the council.

Responsibilities of the Council

- Respect the aims and objectives of the Chartered Organization and assist the Chartered Organization by making available Scouting resources.
- Make available to the Chartered Organization and its units and members program training, program resources, and other Scouting support services.
- Make available training and support for the Chartered Organization and for the COR, the primary link between the Chartered Organization, the Local Council, and the BSA. Track and require all unit leaders to attend BSA Youth Protection Training.
- Conduct criminal background checks on adult leaders approved by the Chartered Organization.
- Provide camping opportunities, administrative support, and professional staff to assist the Chartered Organization in developing a successful Scouting program.
- Provide primary general liability insurance to cover the Chartered Organization, its board, officers, COR, employees, and Scouting members and volunteers for authorized Scouting activities. Indemnify the Chartered Organization in accordance with the resolutions and policies of the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America.

Prepared. For Life.
How Scouting Builds Your Organization’s Future
With the Boy Scouts of America, young people are the future. This means
- Investing in new and relevant programs like STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics)
- Taking youth protection seriously by educating youth members and training volunteers and families about issues like cyberbullying and other abuses
- Teaching youth and adult volunteers positive life skills that can be used to help combat major societal concerns such as employability, child abuse, the global environmental crisis, lack of faith, obesity, the shifting economy, violence and youth crime, poverty, peer pressure, drug and alcohol abuse, single-parent households, and social isolation

How to Become a BSA Chartered Organization
Families today live hectic lives. Your organization can help parents understand that Scouting makes the most of the little time they have to impact the lives of their children. Scouting is a one-stop shop providing opportunities for personal leadership, physical fitness, mentoring, career exploration, outdoor adventure, positive life skills, fun activities, and values for a lifetime. We would like to help you fulfill your organization’s need to attract more families.

For more information about starting a Scouting program in your organization, contact the local council. To find a council in your area, visit www.scouting.org/localcouncillocator. Next, meet with your Scouting professional or volunteer who provides service to your area. Start building Scouting in your organization today!

Scout Oath
On my honor I will do my best to do my duty
To God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law
A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent

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 Scout Law.

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