

# WHO WE ARE

The Boy Scouts of America provides the nation's foremost youth program of character development, outdoor adventure, and values-based leadership training to its more than 2.1 million youth participants. With nearly 800,000 adult volunteers in approximately 261 local councils throughout the United States and its territories, Scouting teaches real-life skills and qualities that help young people become "**Prepared. For Life.**"

## WHO WE SERVE

- 1,176,119 boys and girls ages 5 to 10 in Cub Scouting
- 798,516 boys and girls ages 11 to 17 in Scouts BSA
- 42,571 young men and women ages 14 to 20 in Venturing and Sea Scouting
- 101,243 young men and women ages 10 to 20 in Exploring career-based programs
- 80,756 units, representing partnerships and collaborations with businesses, community and religious organizations, and agencies that support BSA programs
- In addition to our traditional programs, we serve 145,462 boys and girls in elementary through high school in Learning for Life character education programs.

## WHAT WE DO

For 109 years, Scouting has stood for adventure, excitement, and leadership. The following provides an overview of the impact of Scouting during the past year.

#### **Build Leaders**

The Boy Scouts of America made history in 2018 by welcoming girls into Cub Scouting for the first time. The BSA made history again in 2019 by welcoming young women into Scouts BSA. With this landmark move, girls now have the opportunity to benefit from the Scouts BSA program, to advance and earn Scouting's highest rank—Eagle Scout. At the close of 2019, the BSA was serving more than 150,000 young women in Cub Scouting and Scouts BSA.

In 2019, 61,353 young men earned the Eagle Scout rank. Reaching this pinnacle requires Scouts to conceive of, plan for, and complete a project that takes into account everything they've learned about leadership, service, outdoor skills, and values.

Garrett Johnson, from Tulsa, Oklahoma, exemplifies that spirit of leadership. Garrett created a "Stations of the Flag" display for the Folds of Honor Foundation, a nonprofit that provides scholarships to spouses and children of fallen and disabled military service members. This inspirational undertaking earned him the 2019 Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award.

#### Strengthen Communities

In communities throughout the nation, Scouting is administered through civic, faith-based, and educational organizations that deliver our programs to their youth members and adult volunteers.

During 2018, our members recorded more than 13.2 million hours of service to their communities, at a value of more than \$335 million (based on a national volunteer-hour value of \$25.43). Eagle Scout projects alone accounted for more than \$218 million (representing 8.6 million hours) in service to the nation.

#### Grow Interests and Understanding

Scouts earned more than 1.7 million merit badges during the year, introducing them to a spectrum of life skills topics. The most popular merit badges in 2019 included skills such as camping, cooking, and archery, as well as leadership skills that include citizenship in the community, nation, and world, which provide lifelong value for the Scouts as well as our society.

The Exploring career exploration program celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2019, marking decades of helping young people discover their potential. This year, the program surveyed more than 78,000 students in sixth through 12th grades to gauge their career interests and plans for the future. The survey generated a list of favored careers that ranged from in-demand medical positions to more aspirational pursuits, such as athletes and artists. Among the most popular jobs were career fields that include health care, engineering, and technology-related professions.

#### The 24th World Scout Jamboree Brought the World to West Virginia

From July 22 to August 2, 2019, Scouts from more than 150 nations gathered at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia for the 24th World Scout Jamboree. This was the first time in more than 50 years that the World Scout Jamboree had been held in North America. Hosted by Scouts Canada, Scouts Mexico, and the Boy Scouts of America, this global, 12-day Scouting event brought together more than 40,000 youth and adults in a universal celebration of cultures, adventure, and Scouting values.

#### The Merits of Adventure

Scouting prepares our youth for active lives full of adventure. Nearly 900,000 Scouts attended our day camps and summer camps across the country. At our high-adventure bases in New Mexico, Minnesota, Florida, and West Virginia, they camped, hiked, climbed, paddled, and sailed. In all, this added up to more than 5 million camping nights under the stars.

In 2018, the devastating Ute Park Fire ravaged almost 37,000 acres of wilderness on and around Scouting's iconic Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. In the wake of the fire, hundreds of Scouts, Venturers, and volunteers rallied to reforest mountainsides, stabilize slopes, and masticate forests so the trails could reopen. Thanks to their more than 71,000 hours of service, the high-adventure base reopened in 2019, welcoming more than 24,000 campers and making it Philmont's largest summer ever.

## Prepared. For Life.®

Today's participants in Scouting's many programs are following in the footsteps of millions of boys and girls who set off on great adventures. In doing so, they are serving their families, their communities, and their nation while learning skills and building friendships that will guide them throughout the course of their lives. They are becoming "Prepared. For Life.""

Roger C. Mosby

Kage C. Wholey Cleanor & Morrison

Eleanor S. Morrison

James S. Turley