



Adopt-a-School Program

Proposal to School Administrators



Scouting America[™]

Del-Mar-Va Council

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM



About

Scouting America Del-Mar-Va Council Adopt-a-School program is an exciting and comprehensive undertaking that will connect our Scouting programs located across the peninsula with schools in their communities. Participating Scouting units partner with school administrations and offer volunteer services that will most effectively meet their school's needs with clearly-defined guidelines. Each unit will offer a minimum one-year commitment to the school. Our intent is to create a mutual and meaningful community relationship that will bring significant positive changes within the schools.



Project Scope

The Adopt-a-School program of Scouting America Del-Mar-Va Council (DMVC) was established to build strong, sustaining relationships with our local schools, creating lasting community partnerships across the peninsula. Through committed volunteer efforts — from school cleanup and landscaping to Scouts' active participation in school events throughout the year — the DMVC intends to provide a defined and helpful presence in our schools.



These cooperative efforts are aimed at helping schools meet their goals for student achievement and success while proactively addressing the local school's need for volunteer service and community outreach.



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Volunteer Ideas

- Grounds beautification
- Building improvement
- Giving Tree Coordination
- Helpers for family events
- Book drive coordination
- Food drive coordination
- Outdoor program
- Run games at events
- Teacher Appreciation
- Set-up / clean up after school events



Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the time commitment?**
 - We request a one-year commitment, but our hope is to build strong sustained relationships.
- **How much time is expected to be given?**
 - At least 1 service project each school year.
- **What is expected from the school?**
 - The school will work together with the Scouting Unit leadership to identify project(s) that satisfy the needs of the school and that are within the capabilities of the Scouting Unit.
 - The school administrator will enable appropriate access to various school activities for the Scouting unit to engage in member recruitment.
- **Can the Unit or School opt out if the commitment is not working?**
 - Yes, but we hope both parties will do everything possible to honor the one-year pledge.



4,283 youth served in the peninsula in 2024



Grades K-5

Cub Scouting encourages boys and girls to make friends, be helpful to others, and do their very best no matter what the outcome. The program involves the whole family as parents pitch in to plan and deliver activities. Cub Scouting helps form a foundation of character in ways that are affirmative and fun.



Grades 6-12

In Scouting, leadership is learned through adventure, both in the great outdoors and in our communities. Scouts BSA learn leadership by putting the principles of Scouting into practice every day. In this time-tested program, youth lead their own activities and work their way toward earning Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout.



Ages 14-20

Venturing is a coed program that focuses on adventure, leadership, personal growth, and service. Venturing crews are youth-led and adult-advised. Crews can have specialty interests, and youth can work on Venturing awards while also continuing to work toward Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout.



Ages 14-20

Sea Scouting is adventure in, on, around, and underwater. Sea Scout ships are high adventures on oceans, rivers, and lakes. They provide limitless opportunities and exciting challenges while providing a place to grow and learn, find adventure, and build long-lasting friendships.



Ages 10-20

Exploring is a worksite based career program for young men and women that provides hands-on career experiences in a real world setting.



Ages 8-18

STEM Scouts reimagines creative ways to learn about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in hands-on meetings.

PENINSULA COMMUNITY IMPACT

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

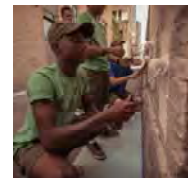


Scouting for Food is Scouting America Del-Mar-Va Council's largest annual community service project to help feed families in need by collecting non-perishable food and distributing it to local food pantries and food banks. In 2023, **537,225** pounds of food collected in support of our local communities.



SERVICE

In 2024, Del-Mar-Va Council Scouts provided over 35,000 service hours at more than \$855,000 in economic benefits to our communities. This number includes numerous Eagle Scout projects that provide our youth with the opportunity to demonstrate leadership while serving their community.





DOES SCOUTING WORK?

We all know Scouting's goal is to prepare young people for life, but does it work?

Scouting was put to the test over the course of three years, when a research team from Tufts University worked with Scouting America's Cradle of Liberty Council to measure the character attributes of both Scouts and non-Scouts — all with a goal of better understanding the character development of youth as it was happening.

The project, which was funded by the John Templeton Foundation and led by Dr. Richard M. Lerner, surveyed nearly 1,800 Cub Scouts and nearly 400 non-Scouts under age 12 using both interviews and survey data. In the beginning, there were no significant differences in character attributes between the two groups. By the end, however, the differences were striking in several areas:



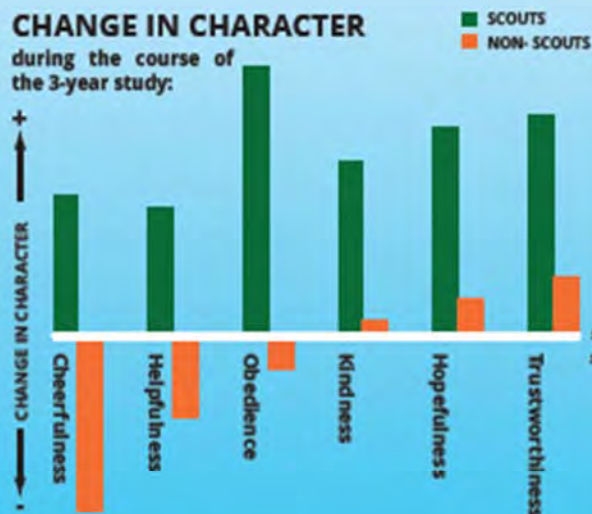
2,000+
Scouts and non-Scouts
aged 6-12 from across the
Philadelphia area were
measured in 6 key areas:



*Hopeful Future Expectations

CHANGE IN CHARACTER

during the course of
the 3-year study:



KEY FINDINGS:



The more time kids spend in Scouting, the better the outcomes in character development



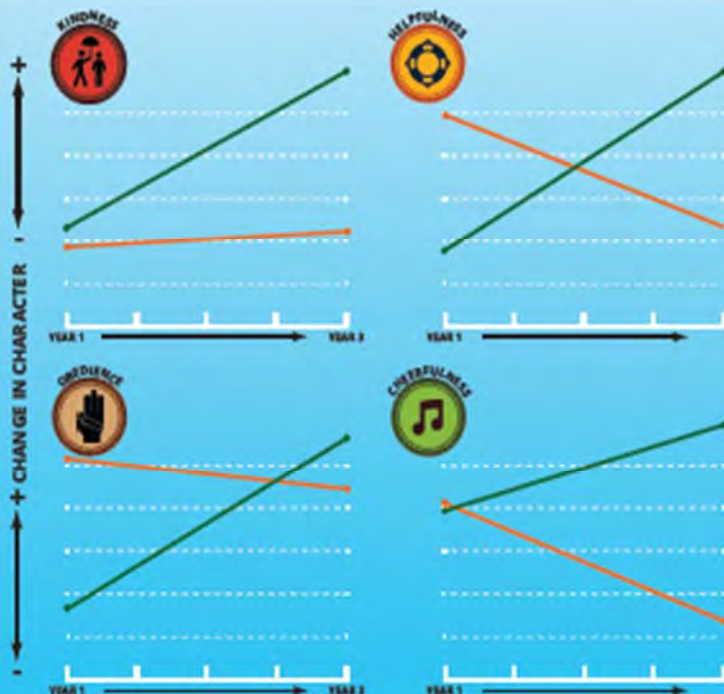
Those who attend meetings regularly report higher outcomes virtually across the board when compared to Scouts with lower attendance



Scouts are more likely to embrace positive social values than non-Scouts



Scouts who are more engaged in the program report higher outcomes in nearly every category



With fun and discovery at every turn, Scouting makes the most of right now. But what's more, it builds positive character and provides young people a foundation they can stand on to embrace opportunity, overcome obstacles, and make new discoveries.

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Adopt-a-School Program Pledge Letter

We, _____ (unit name/number), pledge to adopt _____ (name of school) for a period of one school year, beginning _____. We will fulfill our commitment by completing a minimum of one volunteer service project by spring break through the time and talent of our Scouts and Scouters. We look forward to working with the principal and staff to identify the school's needs and establish a plan that will bring meaningful progress.

We are honored to serve in this way, and through volunteer service we hope to contribute to the advancement of this school and to the spirit of community between our scouts and our adopted school. At the end of the year, the unit and school will receive a certificate recognizing completed projects and the year's overall success.

Our Project(s):

To Be Completed By:

Unit Type & Number

Unit Leader Name

Unit Leader Signature

Unit Leader email address

School

Principal Name

Principal Signature

Principal Email Address

Del-Mar-Va Council Office

Received Date: _____

Please scan form and email to Helen Kendall - hkendall@dmvc.org

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