

2025 Annual Report

LEADERSHIP BEGINS HERE



Scouting  **America**[™]
National Capital Area Council

Letter from the Council Key 3

Leadership Begins Here: With this report we celebrate the achievements that are possible because of your support. Our theme this year was Leadership Begins Here and this theme came to life in countless ways across our Council.

In 2025 Scouting America and our Council showed strong leadership by making far-reaching decisions to best serve our youth.

- Nationally, the organization **rebranded to Scouting America** to continue to adapt to meet the evolving needs of young people, ensuring that future generations will have the opportunity to benefit from this transformative program that provides unique opportunities focused on character development, leadership formation, skill building, and outdoor exploration.
- Locally, the Scouting America National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Executive Board voted to **transfer service for the U.S. Virgin Islands and Direct Service Scouts to the South Florida Council** who are geographically better able to serve these Scouts. Our Council stepped up to ensure Scouting continued in these areas ten years ago and again took action to further Scouting in these regions with this decision.
- With Scouting America eliminating the STEM Scout program and incorporating STEM activities and merit badges into its standard programs, NCAC aligned with this change by **discontinuing the STEM Scout program and maintaining STEM opportunities** for our Scouts.

Strategic Investments: This year marked the largest property investment in four years. We invested \$350,000 in 26 major maintenance projects at Goshen Scout Reservation and Camp William B. Snyder and approved a \$1 million enhancement plan for Goshen to elevate the camper experience. With these actions, our Council leadership strongly committed to delivering exceptional outdoor programs for generations to come.

As we launch our **2026–2028 Strategic Plan**, we are excited for the future and the ways we will work together to further the heart of our mission – to teach the core values that prepare our Scouts to make ethical decisions and serve others throughout their lives.

Thank you for standing with us as we prepare young people to lead with character and integrity. Your support makes these achievements possible—and together, we will continue to shape the future of Scouting in our community.

Louis Molinini
President



Mark Longworth
Council Commissioner



Mario A. Pérez
Scout Executive/CEO



Highlights

A Life Saved. Scouting America develops future leaders equipped with real-world skills and the confidence to use them when it matters most. When a dad suffered a heart attack during a Troop 1916 bike trip, Scouts who had recently completed the First Aid Merit Badge and a leader newly trained in Basic CPR/AED for an upcoming high-adventure trek, acted quickly and knew exactly what to do. Their decisive actions saved his life. Beyond administering CPR, these Scouts demonstrated their ability to stay calm under pressure, care for others, and act with courage. Their response exemplifies the lifesaving impact of Scouting's training and values.



MEMBERSHIP

- 27,048 Year-end Membership as of December 31, 2025
- 13,286 Cub Scouts in 354 Packs including 1,957 female Scouts
- 13,176 Scouts BSA in 481 Troops including 1,882 female Scouts
- 230 Venturers in 62 Crews
- 43 Sea Scouts in 9 Ships
- 313 Explorers in 19 Posts
- 375 Youth in 9 Scouting C.A.R.E.S. units
- 68.5% Retention Rate
- 925 Total Units including 38 New Units
- 35,523 Total Youth Served in 2025
- 5,650 Cub Scouts Advanced
- 9,816 Scouts BSA Advanced
- 45,369 Merit Badges Earned
- 1,113 Eagle Scout Ranks Attained
- 3 Venturing Summits
- 241 National Youth Leadership Trained
- 29 Meritorious Awards
- 19 Supernova Awards



SERVICE

- 332,248 Total Community Service Hours
- \$11,557,516 Value of Community Service Hours
- 156,657 Hours of Community Service During Eagle Projects
- 42,585 Hours of Service by Order of the Arrow and Units
- 39,223 Hours of Community Service During Scouting For Food
- 753,745 pounds of food Collected for Scouting for Food



OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

- 6,111 Total Youth & Adult Summer Adventurers
- 2,517 Youth & 961 Adult Summer Campers at Goshen Scout Reservation
- 738 Youth & 402 Adult Summer Campers at Camp William B. Snyder
- 1,010 Youth & 388 Adults at District Day Camps
- 84 Youth & 11 Adult Summer Campers at Camp Catoctin



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

- 13,654 Volunteer Leaders
- 2 Youth to 1 Volunteer Ratio
- 2,124 Direct Contact Leaders Trained
- 70 Adults Wood Badge Trained
- 271 Unit Commissioners
- 3 Unit to 1 Commissioner Ratio

IMPACTFUL LEADERSHIP

Watch the video:



In July NCAC Scouts and their leaders had the honor of representing Scouting America during the annual Scouting the Hill event. Scouts led the effort by designing their presentations and directly demonstrating their skills to Congressmen, Senators, and their staff.



Scouts brought a canoe, tent, ropes, robots, a rocket, Pinewood Derby track, and team building activities into the Rayburn Building as part of 2025's Scouting the Hill themed "Camp Capitol Hill." Our Scouts were living proof of Scouting's impact on building citizens who lead with integrity and purpose.

Leading the Conversation



When given the opportunity to interview individual members of Congress and question a panel of influential leaders from government and industry, Scouts stepped up with confidence and curiosity. Their thoughtful questions and meaningful dialogue demonstrated the leadership, civic engagement, and initiative that Scouting instills in every young person.

Leading through Career Exploration



Explorers serving alongside law enforcement also participated. Their presence and conversations highlighted their leadership and the career development opportunities Scouting provides, reinforcing how Scouting shapes future public servants.

STEM Leadership



Explorer Post 1010 chartered by the Rockville Science Center had participants from both their award winning robotics and rocketry teams interacting with Congress.

- This year, Blu Cru Team 6417, one of the two teams from the Post entered in the 2025 FIRST Tech Challenge competition, successfully went to the World Championship in Houston and ended up 49th out of over 7,000 teams worldwide.
- Two teams from the Post also competed against almost 1,000 teams in the 2025 American Rocketry Challenge. One of the teams qualified for the national finals in May and was ranked 58th out of the top 100 teams.



Scouting encourages Scouts to think outside the box, design solutions, and innovate which are skills essential for leaders who must adapt in a changing world. Resilience is developed by analyzing challenges, testing ideas, and persevering, a cornerstone of effective leadership. Scouts practice leading groups and communicating complex concepts clearly, preparing them for roles in any field.

LEADING THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICE

TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

\$11,557,516

VALUE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Our Scouts make tremendous positive impacts on the community by leading service projects which instill a sense of lifelong responsibility to the community.

Leadership Begins in Service

The journey to Eagle Scout is defined by service and, this year, those projects became catalysts for renewal in neighborhoods throughout the region. With 156,657 hours dedicated to improving lives and landscapes, our Scouts proved that leadership begins with giving back.

Inspired by a visit to Pearl Harbor, Ethan M. built a memorial in Bladensburg, Maryland as his Eagle project, honoring those who sacrificed during World War II. "I did not walk out of this learning how to put an anchor in the ground. I actually had a very small part in that. What I learned is how to communicate not just with people but between people making sure that ideas are standardized and concepts that disagreements are all resolved so that we can put together this project here."



Jaiden R. transformed her personal love of reading into a gift for her community through her Eagle Scout project. She built three Little Free Libraries for her synagogue near a path to the elementary school, "I thought a lot of people could benefit from that." Her fundraising was so successful that she needed to reach out to government organizations to find more beneficiaries. After one year of Scouting, she rose to leadership positions and became a Senior Patrol Leader. Because of Scouting, Jaiden's leadership and public speaking skills have grown significantly.



Scouting for Food

Scouting for Food, our largest annual community service project, collected non-perishable food and distributed the donations to local food pantries and food banks throughout the Washington, D.C. region to help the significant number of residents in our region facing food insecurity.

In November our Scouts, their families, and our leaders dedicated 39,223 hours of community service during our Council-wide Scouting For Food service project that delivered 753,745 pounds of food to 121 community organizations. The project not only helps to feed families, this collection supports our mission to inspire young Scouts to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes and to do a "Good Turn Daily."



LEADERSHIP OUTDOORS

6,111
TOTAL SUMMER ADVENTURES
1,010
YOUTH AT DISTRICT DAY CAMPS

Leadership Roots Take Hold in Camp



Scouting isn't just about learning skills, it's about building leaders. Nowhere is that more evident than in the camping experience, where Scouts step up, take responsibility, and guide their peers through challenges in the outdoors that fall outside their typical everyday experiences at home.

Breck, an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader from Troop 460, shared how leading at Goshen Scout Reservation tested and strengthened his leadership abilities. For Breck, the greatest challenge was "getting my Troop to do what they needed to do, even if they didn't want to."

He quickly learned that leadership isn't about giving orders, it's about listening and finding common ground, "Not everyone agrees and they are going to want to do separate things and they are going to not want to do what you think is best, so you have to listen to the people in your Troop and try to make everyone happier."

By the end of the week, Breck saw the transformation in himself: "I feel much better and much more confident. I've learned a lot of things."

Training Ground for Tomorrow's Leaders

- **District Day Camps** were held at 12 locations and enjoyed by 1,010 Cub Scouts offering a combination of archery, sling shots, arts and crafts, nature, field sports, fishing, and aquatics.
- **Goshen Scout Reservation**, located in the wilderness of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia with the beautiful, 450-acre Lake Merriweather at its center, welcomed 2,517 youth & 961 adults to its Resident Webelos Camp Ross; Scouts BSA Camps: Bowman, Marriott, & Olmsted; and Lenhok'sin High Adventure.
- **Camp William B. Snyder** encompasses 350 acres including a managed wetland lake, air-conditioned dining hall, waterslide pool, and climbing tower in Haymarket, VA, Prince William County. The Camp had 738 youth & 402 adults at summer day/resident camps.
- **Camp Catoctin** is a volunteer led Scouts BSA week-long camp held in a state park in Frederick County, MD which had 84 youth & 11 adults participate.

This is the power of Scouting in the outdoors: real-world leadership, forged through teamwork, resilience, and responsibility.



LEADING FOR LIFE

13,654
ADULT VOLUNTEERS

A Legacy of Leadership: 50 Years at Goshen

Francis “Drac” Peyton’s story is a testament to the power of Scouting to change lives. Growing up in inner-city Washington, D.C., Drac discovered the outdoors through his first visit to Goshen Scout Reservation in 1968. That experience sparked a passion that would define his life, “The experience here at Goshen, especially with the brotherhood that I had with the staff really paid off. As a result, this is what you see now! And you see that all over the Reservation. It’s not just me but others.”



What began as a love for camping turned into a 50-year commitment to sharing the beauty and lessons of the outdoors with generations of youth. From camper to counselor to Assistant Reservation Director, Drac has worked in every camp ensuring that every Scout, regardless of background, has the same opportunity to experience adventure, leadership, and growth.

His journey proves that Scouting opens doors and builds leaders who give back for a lifetime. Drac’s legacy is not just measured in years, but in the thousands of young lives he has inspired to dream bigger and reach higher.



“If you don’t have a good team of people to push you forward, you gonna have a hard time reaching that goal because your team is the one that makes the difference. So as a leader, you train your people properly. What happens after that? All the sudden, you trust the people behind you. With that comes personal growth, energy, positive thinking. Because we as leaders know, you can’t do it by yourself. It takes all of us, especially on the leadership side, to do what we need to do.”

Outstanding Eagle Scouts for Life

The National Eagle Scout Association established the Outstanding Eagle Scout Award (NOESA) for Eagle Scouts who demonstrate remarkable achievements well beyond their Scouting endeavors by excelling in their careers/vocations at local, regional, or national levels. Recipients inspire others through their positive actions, demonstrating excellence in their chosen professions, hobbies, community service, and adherence to religious beliefs.



In 2025 James Mendelsohn, founder and managing director of Proximo Capital, received the NOESA. Up until 2010, he worked at Capital One as a vice president and was part of the team who built Capital One into the largest independent card issuer in the United States. He also launched the “What’s in Your Wallet” marketing campaign, which won many awards. As a Scout, he was in Troop 240 from Bethesda, Maryland.

Earning his Eagle still holds a special place in his heart, “If I were to list out the things I have done that I am the most proud of, Eagle has always been one of them, and it was the first significant thing that I did.” The Scouting values have stuck with him throughout his life and are reflected in his company, “It sort of really struck that Eagle is about who you are, and that early definition of character just carries through and is how I run my company, how I am with people, and it has really defined me as an adult.”

LEADERSHIP THROUGH FUNDING

\$58,775
RAISED FOR ENDOWMENT FUND
\$981,908
FOR FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

Event Sponsors Lead the Way

Special event sponsors show dedication to our Scouts. In 2025 our special events raised \$1,070,678 (net). For ten years since the first Prepared. For Life. Gala, LAI Video has been at the forefront sponsoring through the donation of a professional video series entitled “A Day in the Life of a Scout.” Our 2025 video echoed the theme: Leadership Begins Here.



In this inspiring video produced by LAI Video, Theo leads fellow Scouts and adult volunteers in completing his Eagle Scout project, building handcrafted benches for Minnie’s Island Community Conservancy in the Potomac River. Watch as Theo demonstrates what it means to be a leader, planning, organizing, and guiding others to transport the materials by canoe to the island and build the benches to bring a meaningful vision to life.



Financial Highlights

Our Council maintained full compliance with GAAP and earned an unmodified audit with zero adjustments for the 2024 fiscal year, ensuring every dollar entrusted to us advances our mission. Thanks to strong financial management and community support, we are well-positioned for the future:

Why Our Donors Say They Give to NCAC

”I know of nothing better for our youth than Scouting!” - Steven

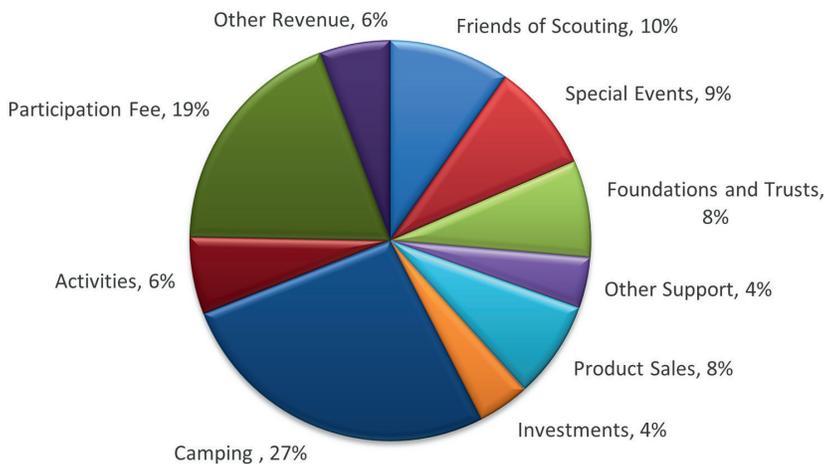
“Keep Up the Good Work NCAC!!!” - Craig

“Thanks for all you do for our youth” - Mary

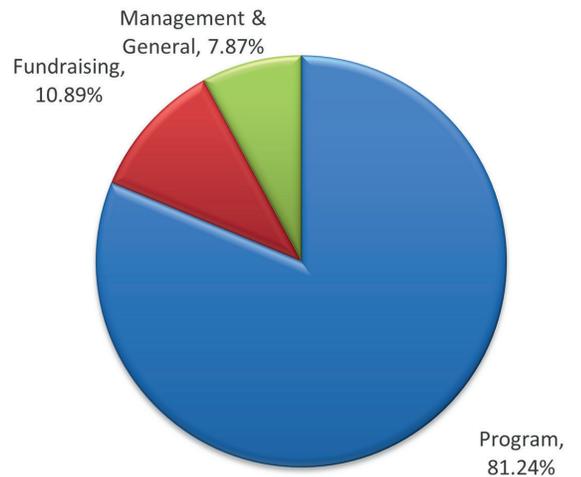
“Love Scouts, thanks for being great.” - Jack

“Thanks for the NCAC providing a vibrant Scouting Council!” - Norman

2025 SUPPORT AND REVENUE



2025 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

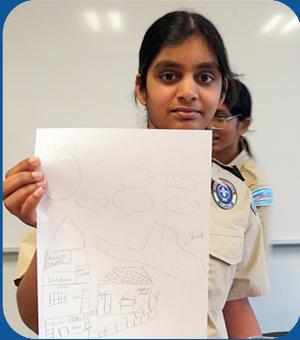


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|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|------------------------|
| ■ Friends of Scouting | ■ Special Events | ■ Foundations and Trusts | ■ Other Support | ■ Program | ■ Fundraising | ■ Management & General |
| ■ Participation Fee | ■ Investments | ■ Camping | ■ Activities | | | |

LEADING AND ACHIEVING

Earning merit badges helps Scouts BSA develop new skills, explore interests, and build confidence. Merit Badges provide the opportunity to learn about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers. There are more than 135 merit badges, and any Scout, or any qualified Venturer or Sea Scout may earn any of these at any time.

Leading Your Family



At the 2nd annual Montgomery Merit Badge College Vinisha explained, “I took Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge today and we had to make a family plan and once I get home, I’m going to show my family because we don’t have one.” Vinisha thought through a meeting place outside her family residence which her family had never done previously. She made a map and took the lead in making sure the family has an emergency plan. For Vinisha leadership made her family more prepared.



Providing Leadership Opportunities to All: Scouting C.A.R.E.S.



Scouting C.A.R.E.S., which stands for character, achievement, respect, education, and STEM, is an important part of NCAC’s impact. The program served 375 Scouts in 2025 by creating Scouting programs where they might not otherwise thrive, making Scouting inclusive and available to all. Our partners in delivering this program were Suitland Elementary School, St. Francis Xavier Catholic School, E.W. Stokes Elementary School, Mary McLeod Bethune Day Academy, Riverdale Elementary, Brookfield Elementary Parent Teacher Association, Rolling Terrace Elementary, and Plummer Elementary School PTA.



Leading and Succeeding through the Popcorn Program



Our Scouts achieved 100% of our popcorn goal, raising \$2.5 million. The Popcorn program teaches Scouts the value of earning their own way, setting goals, and supporting their unit program budget.

We are especially grateful to NCAC for including us in their annual fall popcorn fundraiser through the Heroes and Helpers program. By choosing to recognize our officers in this way, you have not only provided a morale boost but also strengthened the bond between Scouting and public service.

In a profession that often requires long hours and unwavering dedication, moments of recognition and appreciation make a tremendous difference. Your generosity helps us foster camaraderie and encourage our officers to continue their work with pride and commitment.

Thank you for standing with us and for helping us recognize the men and women of the Metropolitan Police Department in such a thoughtful way.

The program includes a Heros and Helpers initiative, through which our Scouts live out the Scouting value of “helping other people at all times” as supporters have the option of donating popcorn to military bases, food banks, and first responder organizations serving police officers, firefighters, and more. The program is an essential part of the character development learned through Scouting.

2026-28 STRATEGIC PLAN

Vision

To be the premier youth leadership training movement in the National Capital Area recognized for character, service, and outdoor adventure that strengthens the diverse communities we serve through Scouting.

Mission

To prepare all young people of the National Capital Area for a lifetime of ethical, moral, and civic leadership by building life skills and instilling in youth the values of the Scout Oath and Law working in partnership with our communities.

JOIN

Strengthen NCAC Membership & Engagement

Strengthen and expand our Scouting community by actively recruiting new members from across our diverse communities, deepening engagement with current participants, and fostering meaningful connections through inclusive programs, leadership opportunities, and dynamic outdoor experiences.

DELIVER

Inspire Adventure Through Life Changing Programs

Continuously and critically evaluate, expand, and improve the quality and content of our programs and best in class facilities to consistently provide transformative opportunities that empower youth to explore, grow, and lead.

SUSTAIN

Secure the Resources to Sustain our Council's Future

Ensure the long-term success of the National Capital Area Council by building strong financial foundations, cultivating strategic partnerships, deepening our bench of trained volunteers and staff, and mobilizing community support to invest in youth development, program excellence, and lasting impact.

COLLABORATE

Partner with Stakeholders to Advance Scouting

Strategically enhance collaboration with community leaders, government officials, organizations, donors, and volunteers who share support for our mission to expand access to Scouting, enhance program quality, to improve our facilities, and create lasting impact for youth across our region.

AMPLIFY

Promote Awareness to Grow our Brand

Modernize our messaging, enhance visibility, and showcase the relevance of Scouting to youth and the broader community by refreshing our image to reflect the values, diversity, and energy of today's youth through inclusive storytelling and bold outreach.

Foundational Prerequisites

PEOPLE AND PROCESSES

STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION

S.A.F.E. SCOUTING



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.

SCOUTING PROGRAMS



Cub Scouting Grades K-5

Cub Scouting encourages boys and girls to make friends, be helpful to others, and do their very best no matter 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.



Scouts BSA Grades 6-12

Leadership is learned through adventure, both in the great outdoors and in our communities. Boys and girls in 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.



Venturing 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.



Sea Scouting Ages 14-20

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



Career Exploring Posts Ages 10-20

Exploring is a work-site based career program for boys and girls that provides hands-on career experiences in a real world setting. Exploring provides exciting activities and mentorship for youth looking to discover their future.

Scouting  **America**[™]
National Capital Area Council

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