A Campaign for Leadership Development

LEADERS. FOR LIFE.

LEADERSHIP CENTER AT CARGILL PARK & STEARNS CUB SCOUT CAMP
A Message From Our Campaign Leadership

At Northern Star Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the motto “Prepared. For Life.” guides our mission and our plans for the future.

Solving community challenges on the road ahead requires a new generation of leaders. Preparing these leaders for life is a key component of our long-term strategic plan, and the Leaders For Life. campaign is focused on helping us develop the facilities needed to achieve this objective.

Margaret A. Cargill Park and Robert S. Davis Base Camp, located next to historic Fort Snelling, have provided our organization with the foundation, and the location, for our next level of service. Our objective is to expand our leadership training at this campus to better serve youth and adults, members and non-members. The Leaders For Life. campaign includes three key initiatives focused on achieving these objectives.

BUILDING A LEADERSHIP CENTER AT MARGARET A. CARGILL PARK
This facility will provide Scouts, volunteers and our community with experiential leadership learning, while supporting Scouting volunteers and replacing the headquarters currently in St. Paul and Golden Valley.

BUILDING A CUB SCOUT CAMP AT STEARNS
This 1,200 acre facility in our western region lacks adequate camping, dining and shower facilities, and our campaign will secure the funds needed to make the necessary improvements to Stearns Scout Camp.

EXPANSION OF THE PROPERTY ENDOWMENT FUND
Supplementing this fund will help us preserve the capital improvements we make, as well as those made over many decades.

The Leaders For Life. campaign outlines the next stage of our action plan, and we need your help. Working together we can make a powerful impact, and better prepare both youth and adults to be leaders, for life.

Sincerely,

John Andrews
Northern Star Council CEO

Alan Bernick
Leaders. For Life. Co-Chair

Fritz Corrigan
Leaders. For Life. Co-Chair

Greg Page
Northern Star Council Volunteer President

Our Vision:
Northern Star Council is a positive influence in the lives of 100% of the youth in the communities we serve.

Our Challenge:
The world has changed – it is more complex, volatile and unpredictable. In addition, the skills needed for leadership have also changed – requiring wide-ranging and adaptive thinking abilities – skills that should begin to be acquired as a young person. A new era of innovation in leadership development is needed.
Supporting Scouting

every year we support 21,000+ volunteers who contribute over 5,000,000 hours of mentoring.

Serving the Community

in the first three years of operation, Base Camp has hosted more than 100,000 youth and adult visitors. 84% of those visitors are non-Scouts and 35% are adults.

Developing Leaders

Scouting’s experiential learning model is proven and successful, annually benefitting more than 87,000 youth, Scouts and non-Scouts alike.

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

The strategic plan for Northern Star Council is focused on developing new programs to strengthen our community. While our accomplishments to date are many, we know we can do more to develop leaders, support our changing community and create new efficiencies that will help us better serve Scouts, volunteers and families.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS

Now how will our region develop the leaders needed to solve the challenges of tomorrow? Our strategy is to adapt proven Scouting models to train both youth and adults in our community. Scouting’s experiential learning expertise will help participants learn about, visualize and test the skills needed to take on leadership roles and better interact with their peers and co-workers. It will also help youth develop into strong, capable adults.

Through the Leadership Center, we will expand our leadership training to annually serve an estimated 10,000 youth and adults, inside and outside of Scouting.

SERVING OUR CHANGING COMMUNITY

What can we do to better support our diverse community and at-risk youth? Scouting in our region has long been a supporter of at-risk youth; in fact, over 30% of Scouts served by Northern Star Council have two or more at-risk characteristics.

Schools, community groups and churches – many of whom serve a low-income population – have already benefited from the experiential learning opportunities at Base Camp and could benefit even more from participation in our proven leadership development programs. As we continue to support Scouting’s adult leaders, our goal is to also develop partnerships with a wider range of non-Scouting volunteers through civic, corporate and community groups.

While we have made great progress with the creation of Base Camp, focusing on team building for 35,000 participants annually, the new Leadership Center will move our support of individual adults and at-risk youth to an entirely new level.

1 Wilder research
The next stage in our successful development of the Fort Snelling campus is to build a Leadership Center that will support youth and adult leadership learning. It will operate and host leadership programs for Scouts, non-Scouts, youth leaders, and the broader community.

Three Key Functions of the Leadership Center

Leadership Development
An experiential leadership lab, conference center and flexible training spaces will provide participants with the opportunity to engage in best practice learning. New leadership curriculums will be developed to augment the time-tested leadership training currently provided by the Boy Scouts of America. Speakers and thought leaders will also engage in high profile forums.

Volunteer Support
The Leadership Center will provide our 21,000+ volunteers with programs and resources, including basic support services, meeting rooms and a Scout Shop to help them teach, guide and mentor youth. A new curriculum will help leaders learn best practices and develop new practices for both Scouting and a variety of youth-facing organizations.

Administrative Efficiency
The administrative section of this facility will combine the services of the two former headquarters in St. Paul and Golden Valley, resulting in a smaller footprint. Locating the Leadership Center at the Base Camp site creates many economies and synergies with an ideal central location.

Northern Star Council employs a conservative financial model, and Margaret A. Cargill Park follows this approach. Robert S. Davis Base Camp is a self-supporting operation funded by user fees. Once built, the Leadership Center operations will be covered by user fees and revenue from designated endowment funds, enhanced by the proceeds from the eventual sale of the existing St. Paul and Golden Valley facilities.

THE LEADERSHIP CENTER PROVIDES AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO:

• Create a new model for how Scouting supports leadership development
• Deploy new tools for leadership training beyond the Scouting family
• Complement the existing urban program center at Base Camp by providing meeting space, new technology and additional program resources
Stearns Scout Camp is used year-round by the western portion of Northern Star Council. Located 60 miles northwest of the Twin Cities near South Haven, Minnesota, the property consists of 1,200 acres, with shoreline on six lakes and a river. However, the camping facilities at Stearns Camp are inadequate compared to those at other Northern Star Council camps – lacking sufficient camping, shower, dining and program facilities. The percentage of western area Cub Scouts attending Stearns Camp is significantly lower than members attending camps in other parts of the Council and we believe this is directly related to the existing facilities.

**Development Plans**
The following improvements will help make Stearns Camp a more enjoyable and functional place for youth, adults and families:

- A multi-purpose lodge with kitchen/dining facilities, bunk space and showers
- New camper housing, including small cabins and platform tents
- New locations and equipment for naturalist and skills development programs
- Repairs and enhancements to water lines, latrines, service road access, parking, and main entrance

**Projected Outcomes**
Cub Scouts who attend Cub Camp with their parents are shown to stay in Scouting, leading to greater outcomes for youth development. With the improvements to Stearns Scout Camp, we anticipate 25% increased attendance annually for the first five years. The property will provide a higher quality, more engaging experience for up to 2,000 Cub Scouts and parents throughout the summer season. Most of the facilities will be constructed as multi-purpose buildings, benefiting an additional 10,000 Scouts and leaders who camp at Stearns throughout the year.
Stewardship and Sustainability

In the last decade, Northern Star Council established a $2.5 million property endowment fund designed to address the ongoing maintenance needs at the Council’s eight camps. The endowment fund allows us to maintain our expanded properties in safe and sound condition, preserving the capital investments made over many decades. With the addition of Margaret A. Cargill Park at Fort Snelling to our properties portfolio, a growing property endowment fund will ensure that this program resource also has adequate funds to support ongoing operation and upkeep.
We Need Your Leadership

Supporting the Leaders. For Life. campaign will foster youth who are better leaders and more resilient embodiments of the values of service and citizenship. The community will benefit from the expanded leadership skills of Scouts and non-Scouting youth and adults who participate in the proven leadership training of the Boy Scouts of America. The involvement of quality volunteers is at the core of the Scouting program or any leveraged youth development initiative. The Leadership Center will provide a forum for Northern Star Council to share best practices with others interested in volunteerism, working with youth, civic engagement, and leadership concepts.

Northern Star Council believes that the impact of these capital improvements will be greater than the programming that will occur on-site. The synergies built by the broad audience we reach, combined with the accessible and visible locations, will positively impact all young people and those interested in youth, volunteerism and good citizenship.

Please join us and help thousands of better leaders reach their goals.
Giving Opportunities

As a donor, you have several options for making a gift. We are also happy to share specific projects that connect to a naming opportunity. Northern Star Council can work with you to develop a gift plan that fits your particular needs and interests.

Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others.

—Jack Welch
NORTHERN STAR COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
PREPARED. FOR LIFE.