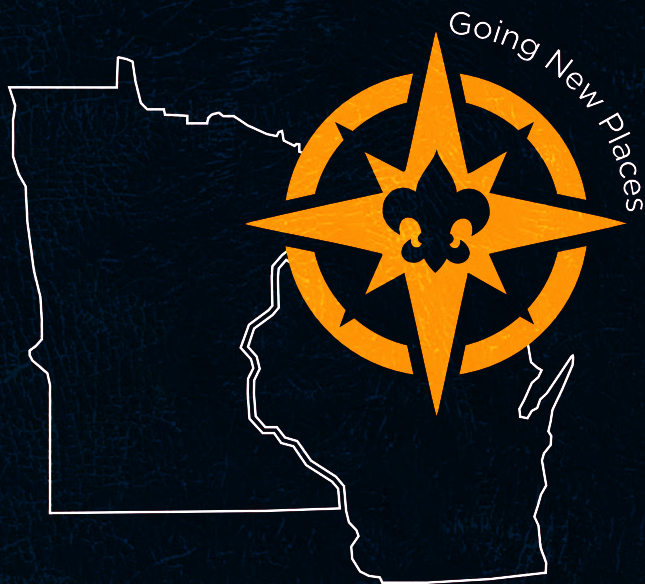


PASSPORT



Northern Star Scouting 2023 Annual Report

SCOUTS ARE GOING NEW PLACES



Don't worry.

Scouting will still be where we've always been, helping youth prepare for life - for 114 years, and counting!

But with the expansion to all youth. By taking flight to new community engagements that impact more lives than ever. With innovative learning experiences that mold young minds for the better. And making improvements to the world (little and big) seen almost everywhere.

Thanks to your support,
Scouts **are** going new places.



RIISING TO NEW LEVELS OF COMMUNITY SCOUTING

More community members than ever got to experience the Adventure and Discovery of Scouting programs **for the first time**, with attendance at our community day camps **growing by 29%**. This included **201 kids** participating in the new STEM-based Camp Invention.



"I DIDN'T REALIZE IT AT THE TIME,
BUT IT REVOLVES AROUND HOW A TROOP IS MADE UP...
IT'S AVAILABLE TO ANYONE."

- GEORGIE W., TROOP #9248

GOING ON NEW EXPLORATIONS AROUND THE WORLD



For the first time ever, the World Scout Jamboree took place in Saemangeum, South Korea - providing a truly unique worldview for those who made the trek. From culinary excursions to cultural submersions, it was a camping experience that opened eyes to a completely new way of seeing and exploring.



Photos by Nikolas Liepins

"I LEFT THE JAMBOREE WITH A MUCH GREATER
KNOWLEDGE OF THE PERSPECTIVES, IDEOLOGIES,
CUSTOMS, AND DAILY LIFE FROM DIFFERENT PARTS
OF THE WORLD."

- JACK, TROOP #3062

SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS OF REPRESENTATION

Last year, a record number of female youth were able to take advantage of the BSA Scouting experience. With 700 female Scouts attending Many Point and Tomahawk, and girls encompassing 16% of Cub dens and 13% of Scouts BSA membership - gender inclusivity exists like never before.

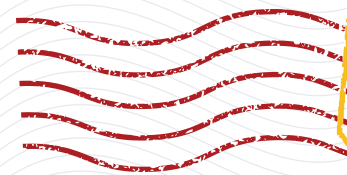
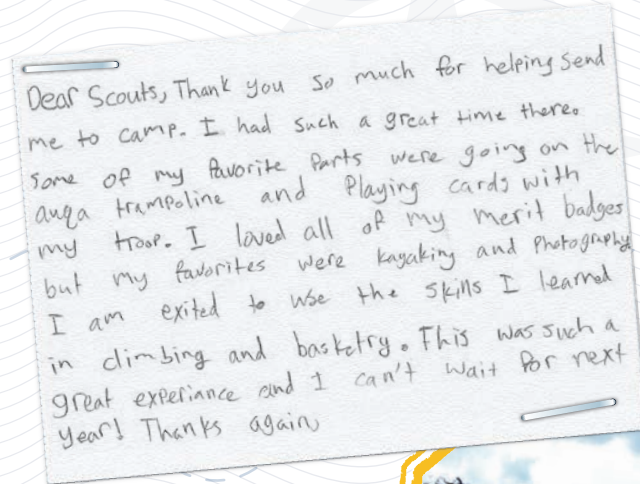


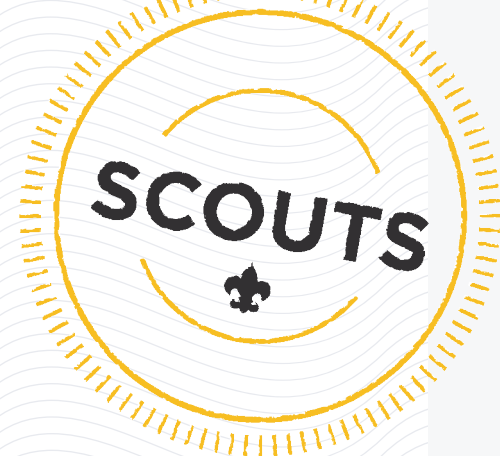
"I THINK SCOUTING IS, HONESTLY, A WAY OF LIFE... IT ESTABLISHES MORALS ABOUT HOW YOU SHOULD LIVE."

- ELLIE F., TROOP #5399

CLIMBING TO NEW ALTITUDES OF EQUITABLE ACCESS

Zero youth members or families were turned away due to the inability to pay. Scouting is for everyone, not a luxury. With your help, last year's donations helped bridge the financial gaps with **\$450,000 in registration fee assistance**. In addition, **over \$143,000 was given out in camping scholarships** - delivering outdoor adventure to a whole new generation of kids.





VISION



All youth have the character, confidence, and experience to improve the world.



VISION



Scan to hear directly from our youth

MISSION

Northern Star Scouting prepares youth in a safe and inclusive environment to be leaders and individuals of strong character.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPACT

Northern Star Scouting's strategic planning process has historically been leading-edge and proactive regarding market-driven change. The plan is centered on (1) exceptional programming and delivery, (2) sustainability, and (3) brand and engagement.

In 2023, we continued going new places by serving 35,151 total youth -

a 4.9% gain over 2022.



PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE



BSA SCOUTING PROGRAMS

Members and families experience a wide range of social activities and award requirements that develop their sense of responsibility, confidence and a spirit of service.



Increased responsibility, leadership experiences, outdoor activities, service projects and a challenging advancement program mentored by adult volunteers, and older youth.



Teens explore a range of activities from rock climbing to scuba diving to high-tech programs like GPS orienteering.



Scoutreach/Huron

Boys and girls grade K - age 21

Reaching disadvantaged/underserved youth populations in Twin Cities, Kandiyohi and Rice counties - as well as providing on-site programs at area schools, shelters and community education facilities.

Polaris (Special Needs) District

Boys, girls, men, and women of all ages and abilities

Creating opportunities for youth and young adults with special needs to experience Scouting and career exploration.

Juvenile Diversion

Boys and girls ages 10 - 17

Giving first-time juvenile offenders a positive alternative to the court system. Teens are referred by local law enforcement, then participate in a 10-hour course and 12 hours of community service. Those who successfully complete this innovative program and do not re-offend maintain a clean record.

Exploring

Boys, girls, and young adults ages 14 - 21

A **Learning for Life** hands-on program that takes members outside the classroom and into the business and vocational worlds.





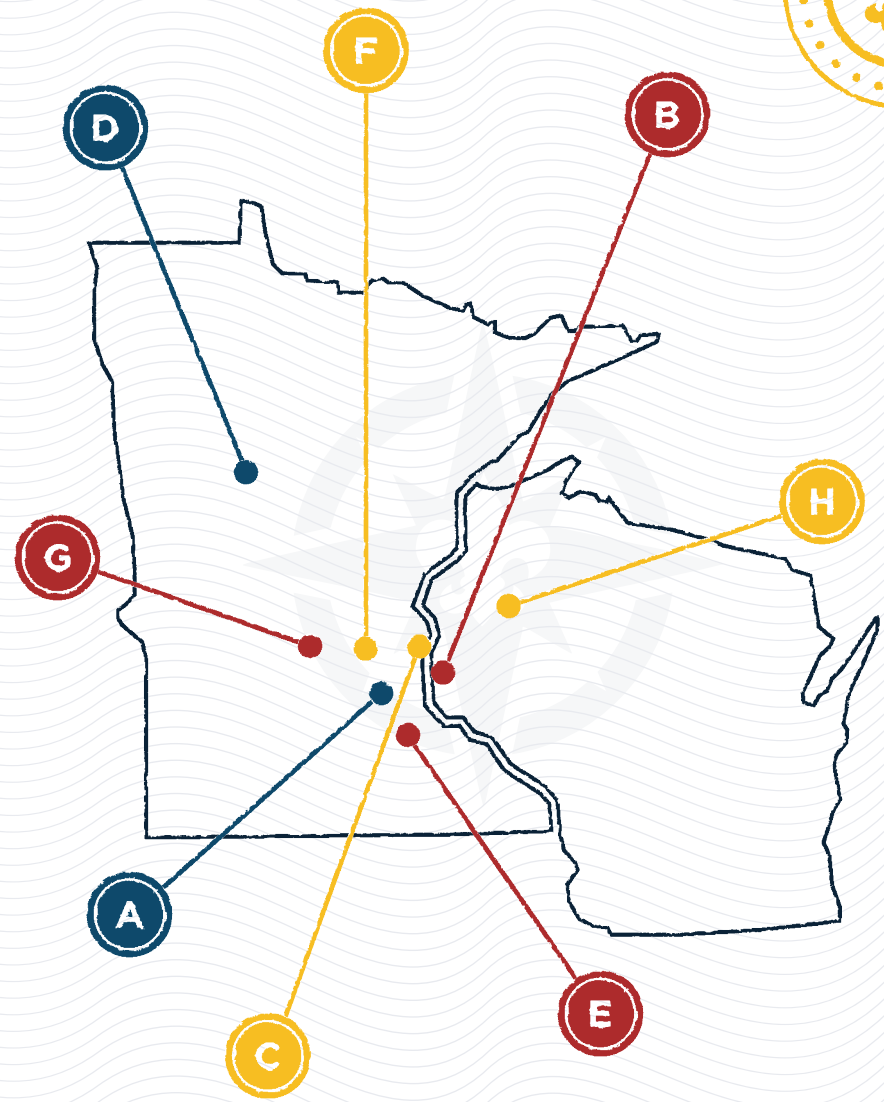
TERRITORIES SERVED

Northern Star Scouting serves 25 counties: four western Wisconsin counties (Pierce, St. Croix, Polk and Burnett) and 21 counties across central Minnesota (Anoka, Carver, Chippewa, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Le Sueur, McLeod, Meeker, Ramsey, Renville, Rice, Scott, Washington, Wright, Yellow Medicine, and portions of Stearns and Swift).

Camps // One of Scouting’s primary tools for fostering healthy youth development continues to be the outdoors. In 2023, Northern Star Scouting youth members and community partners had access to eight outstanding camps.

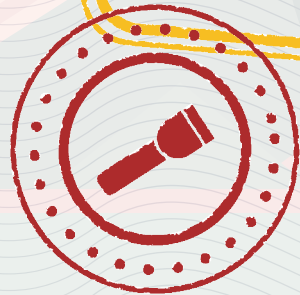
- A. Northern Star Base Camp**
Fort Snelling, MN
- B. Fred C Andersen Scout Camp**
Houlton, WI
- C. Kiwanis Scout Camp**
Marine on St. Croix, MN
- D. Many Point Scout Camp**
Ponsford, MN
- E. Phillippo Scout Camp**
Cannon Falls, MN
- F. Rum River Scout Camp**
Ramsey, MN
- G. Stearns Scout Camp**
South Haven, MN
- H. Tomahawk Scout Camp**
Birchwood, WI

Districts // To provide coaching and recruitment/membership support to our Scouting units (packs, troops, crews, and posts), our territory is divided into 13 geographic service areas or districts following school district boundaries, identified by the letters “E” through “Q”. In addition, there are four non-geographic service areas based on serving members with special needs with in-school programming, Juvenile Diversion, and Exploring programs.





REPORTS



COMMUNITY SCOUTING

Community Scouting offerings include indoor and outdoor school field trips, lock-ins, Mitzvah Celebrations, programs for other youth groups (e.g. church youth, 4-H, skateboarding, etc.), family camps, as well as Discovery Camps: Week-long sessions open to all. These program partnerships, as well as facility rentals to community groups, happen across all eight Northern Star Scouting properties.



Base Camp - Team Building and Leadership Center

Boys, girls, and young adults from pre-kindergarten - age 21, plus adults

Team building and leadership training are Base Camp's focus, also serving as Northern Star Scouting's headquarters. The two-building campus features indoor/outdoor climbing rock walls, a high ropes course, archery, meeting spaces and more. The Leadership Lab is a unique VR space to provide personal leadership skill-building for youth in middle school and older, all in a small group setting.



BSA SCOUTING IMPACT REPORT

Partnerships // Joining in partnership with Northern Star Scouting, 699 Scouting units are chartered by 423 community organizations representing educational, religious, non-profit, civic, and business organizations (251 Cub Scout packs, 348 Scouts BSA troops, 34 Venturing crews, and 66 Explorer posts).

Populations Served // We supported more than **6,393 volunteers** in BSA Scouting who developed and enriched the lives of **15,164 boys, girls, and young adults, ages 5 through 20** - in the program year ending August 31, 2023. Volunteers were provided with a wide range of youth and adult training opportunities, including online courses, training videos, and district and council events. (Community Scouting programs reached an additional 19,987 youth at Base Camp and other camps.)

BSA Programs // We served 7,141 Cub Scouts, 6,576 Scouts BSA, 513 Venturers/Sea Scouts, and 934 Explorers. In addition, 2023 saw the Webelos to Scouts BSA crossover remain high at 77% of eligible 5th graders joining a Scouts BSA troop.

A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion // We create positive and welcoming environments for all people to get involved in Scouting - regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status, religion, physical ability, and/or political beliefs. Our efforts are paying off, serving within two percentage points (max), equal percentages of youth across four major ethnic groups in BSA Scouting, and more youth of color than Caucasian youth in Community Scouting.



IMPACT



Across both BSA Scouting and Community Scouting programs, we served more youth of color than Caucasian youth as a percentage of population.



IMPACT



After our 2019 expansion to include girls in all programs, we ended 2023 with 16% of our Cubs in girl dens. Girls made up 13% of our Scouts BSA youth, 42% of Venturing, and 42% of Exploring membership. More than 700 female Scouts BSA youth attended Many Point and Tomahawk, a significant increase over 2022.

The Juvenile Diversion program saw 362 youth referred by its program partners. 364 individuals were served through 28 traditional and Exploring sites/classrooms, partnering with educational and community partners. The Scoutreach/Huron program served 1,286 youth, an 83.5% increase over 2022.



FINANCIAL IMPACT

With your help, last year's donations helped bridge the financial gaps with **\$450,000 in registration fee assistance**. In addition, **over \$143,000 was given out in camping scholarships** - delivering outdoor adventure to a whole new generation of kids.

Popcorn purchases led local Scouting Units to the **#2 popcorn sale in the Nation**, at just over \$2.44 million. More than \$1.71 million went to support Scouting units and youth.

\$1,029,000 was spent on capital improvements at our camps to better serve all genders, families and community users.

The Distinguished Citizen Award Dinner recognized **Andrea Walsh** - President and CEO of HealthPartners - for her civic involvement, vision and leadership that has empowered thousands in the community to be better citizens, leaders and employees.

The dinner raised nearly **\$445,000 to support Scouting's urban outreach programs**.

Support from volunteers and donors exceeded the Annual Fundraising Campaign budget goal of **\$2.475 million**.

Your donations and endowed funds **invested \$789,607** in camp maintenance - including facility improvements, utility repairs and equipment replacement at all eight properties.

The annual Community Builder Celebration recognized **Dr. Eric Jolly** - President and CEO of the St. Paul and Minnesota Foundation - for his **commitment to making this community a better place to live**.

Five Outstanding Spurgeon Award Recipients were also honored: Darrel German, Regional President, MN, Huntington National Bank; Mark Henneman, Chairman & CEO, Mairs & Power; Chief Booker Hodges, Chief of Police, Bloomington Police Department; Sondra Samuels, President & CEO, Northside Achievement Zone; James Stuart, Retired Sheriff, Anoka County.

PROGRAM IMPACT

Attendance at our summer community day camps (serving all kids) **grew 29%** - to 1,132 kids. This includes 201 kids at the new STEM-based Camp Invention.

More than **1,200 Cub youth** and their families attended an introductory Fall Campout.

1,780 Cub Scouts and their families ventured into the cold while tubing, kick sledding, and learning the basics of winter camping at Polar Cubs Day Camp.

1,308 Scouts successfully spent a day or night outside in negative or near zero-degree conditions (and enjoyed it!) due to the expert training and equipment at our Snow Base camps.

Donors like you provided youth with **\$161,399** in academic scholarships and **\$143,323** in camping scholarships.

1,995 Cubs (or **30% of our Cub membership**) attended overnight summer camp, the third consecutive year of this percentage high.

Almost **5,500 Scouts BSA** youth (80% of all Scouts) attended an overnight summer camp.



Scan to hear firsthand stories of camping adventures

REPORT





300

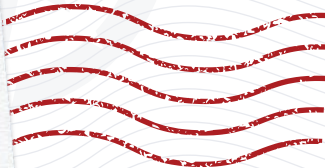
youth participated in one of four sessions of Grey Wolf, a week-long council-facilitated National Youth Leadership Training Course.



Scan to see the impact that Grey Wolf has had

561

Scouts and adult leaders participated in our two University of Scouting events, with classes ranging from leadership training to unit program planning to outdoor cooking.



40

Scouting volunteers attended Wood Badge, a multiple-weekend advanced leadership training course for volunteers.

ADVANCEMENT REPORT



3

youth earned the Summit Award, Venturing's highest rank and honor.

58

Scouts earned a STEM Award in 2023.

476

Scouts earned the Eagle Scout Rank, including 26 female Scout BSA youth.

791

fifth-graders earned the Arrow of Light, Cub Scouting's highest honor.

6,347

Cub Scout Ranks were earned overall.

4,565

Scouts BSA members earned overall rank advancements.

19,969

merit badges were earned.





PROGRAM EXCELLENCE

2023 saw Scouts travel to destinations both new and old. Check out some of the highlights.



77%

We saw the highest Webelos to Scouts BSA crossover rate in recent memory, with **77% of eligible 5th graders** joining a troop.

7,000

Our inflatable axe-throwing stand at the MN State Fair had **more than 7,000 youth participants** (2,000 more than the previous year).

1,884

Volunteer support provided by our commissioner staff logged details on **1,884 unit visits** into our online commissioner tools.

3.4M

Media coverage of positive Scouting stories resulted in **3.4 million impressions**.

1,244

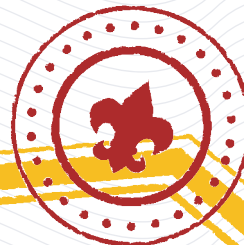
The Totanhan Nakaha Lodge of the Order of the Arrow coordinated two service projects for Fort Snelling National Cemetery, with **1,244 volunteers** totaling 742 total hours.





2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

Scan to see a detailed breakdown of our 2023 financials as of December 31, 2023.



SCOUTING IS
GOING NEW PLACES
THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT

2023-24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scan to see everyone who runs the show, and helps Scouting continually **go new places.**



CONTINUE YOUR ADVENTURE

Fill your page with new Scouting experiences.





NORTHERN STAR SCOUTING