



## CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS & FAMILY SCOUTING



It's an exciting time to be in Scouting!

With our move to serve the entire family — boys and girls alike — we have a chance to reach an entire new generation with our amazing programs.

While there are many things to consider, perhaps the most important are the relationships we forge with our chartered organizations. We simply cannot serve youth without your sponsorship and support.

It is our goal to meet with our chartered organizations to inform you of the changes facing BSA, and inspire you to join us on this journey. We want to remind you of the benefits of Scouting to your community and to your organization. Ultimately, we want to work with you to start new packs and dens, troops, crews, and ships to serve girls.

As a chartered organization representative, you are your organization's face of Scouting. Your relationships, your connections and your knowledge of your organization make Scouting possible for thousands of youth.

The information, articles, and resources in this packet are designed to help you be prepared as we move Scouting ahead.

# MOVING AHEAD WITH CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS

Chartered organizations are critical as we move to serve boys and girls in Scouting. To be successful in serving the whole family, we must meet with and ask each of our chartered organizations if they would like to expand their youth outreach. If the answer is yes, they can begin by starting dens, packs, troops, crews, and ships to serve girls — and boys — alike.

## 'Isn't Scouting Coed Now?'

One common misunderstanding with many is that Scouting is going "coed." While it's true that we are serving boys and girls, these changes don't make our dens and troops coed. With these modifications, you still have boys in dens and troops, and girls in their own dens and troops.

In Cub Scouting, you can have a separate pack for girls, or you can have separate dens for girls and dens for boys in the same pack. In the case of troops for older youth, you must have separate troops for boys and girls. A chartered organization may also have "linked troops," which means a chartered organization can have a shared troop committee with separate troop for boys and for girls.

What does all this mean? It means we need additional dens, packs, and troops to serve girls, as well as more female leaders. And that means new units! And that means talking to your chartered partners.

Remember: you can find all of the latest Family Scouting information on [scouting.org/familyscouting](https://scouting.org/familyscouting).

## REASONS TO BECOME A CHARTERED ORGANIZATION:

- **Scouting Meets Your Needs.** Scouting can provide a full youth development program for your organization — serving both boys and girls — in a way that meets your needs and the needs of your youth.
- **Outreach.** Scouting can help grow your outreach in the community, bringing new families into your organization.
- **Scouting Meets the Needs of Youth.** Scouting is foundational in many communities and has a program that has been proven to meet the needs of youth.
- **Scouting Meets the Needs of Your Community.** The ideals and principles behind the Scouting program are shared by many community organizations, clubs, and religious institutions. Through a program of fun, adventure, learning, service, and achievement, Scouting develops character and leadership in today's youth. Your organization can be the catalyst that makes that kind of success possible for youth in your community.

## RESOURCES:

***Available at [WWW.NCACBSA.ORG/FAMILY](https://www.ncacbsa.org/family)***



[Family Scouting  
Fact Sheet](#)



[Family Scouting  
FAQ](#)



[Chartered Organizations  
Resource Guide](#)



[Family Scouting  
Infographic](#)

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## THINGS EVERY CHARTERED ORGANIZATION SHOULD KNOW ABOUT FAMILY SCOUTING:

- 1. THERE HAVE BEEN YOUNG WOMEN IN SCOUTING PROGRAMS SINCE 1969.**

That's right. Starting with special-interest Exploring posts in 1969, there have been young women in the programs of the BSA. And they've been in Sea Scouting and in Venturing, too. In each of these programs, young women have learned leadership skills that have helped them excel in their personal lives and their careers. Now, through Cub Scouting and a program for older youth, they will have an opportunity to earn Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout. So young women in the BSA is not new. In fact, today there are more opportunities than ever.
- 2. CUB SCOUTING AND SCOUTS FOR OLDER YOUTH ARE NOT COED.**

One common misunderstanding with many is that Scouting is going "coed." While it's true that we are serving boys and girls, these changes don't make our dens and troops coed. With these modifications, you still have boys in dens and troops, and girls in their own dens and troops. In Cub Scouting, you can have a separate pack for girls, or you can have separate dens for girls and dens for boys in the same pack. In the case of troops for older youth, you must have separate troops for boys and girls. A chartered organization may also have "linked troops," which means a chartered organization can have a shared troop committee with separate troops for boys and for girls.
- 3. THERE IS TREMENDOUS EXCITEMENT FROM GIRLS AND THEIR FAMILIES ABOUT THESE CHANGES.**

For years, girls and their families have asked to join Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. Because those programs were strictly for boys only, they weren't allowed. As we make this change, we hear from girls and their families daily about how excited they are to be part of the adventures offered through Cub Scouts and our older youth program. They are eager for the fun, achievement, and success Scouting makes possible. Our leaders and chartered organization will be the catalyst that makes that kind of success possible for boys and girls in your community.
- 4. IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SERVE GIRLS IN YOUR EXISTING PACK, YOU DON'T HAVE TO.**

Whether or not to serve girls is up to the chartered organization. We believe giving young women the same opportunities as young men benefits youth, families, and our communities. Many chartered organizations have told us that serving girls through the programs of the Boy Scouts of America is a tremendous opportunity to bring more youth into their organizations and congregations. The choice is strictly up to the chartered organization.
- 5. SCOUTING LETS YOU SERVE THE ENTIRE FAMILY.**

The exciting thing for chartered organizations is now you can have one program that meets the need of boys and girls alike and for differing ages — from kindergarten through age 20, with no need to juggle separate programs. It's a proven, exciting program that's been positively affecting young people for decades, ready-made for today.

