



THREE FIRES COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



2019 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THREE FIRES COUNCIL KEY 3



DAVID GROOMS
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Scouting Friends,

Three Fires Council, Boy Scouts of America is privileged to serve our communities through Scouting. 2019 saw the launch of Scouts BSA (formerly Boy Scouts) and as a result we welcomed 171 girls, in 16 new girl-only troops. Our Scouts BSA troops recognized 299 Scouts with the rank of Eagle Scout. At the same time, the number of Cub Scout packs serving the whole family nearly doubled.

We completed construction and renovation of The Lodge at Camp Big Timber in Elgin. An incredible resource which will enable great programs for generations to come. We encourage families to explore the property, sleep under the stars and make lasting memories.

We launched a new district structure to better position Council services to unit leaders. While the transition hasn't been without hiccups we believe that moving from ten districts to three and staffing each district with multiple staff and combining various committees will allow us to leverage resources, technology and volunteer time to better serve units and members.

This past year, more than 1,400 Scouts attended Merit Badge University, the largest merit badge single day program in the country. Camp Big Timber had more campers than ever before. 1,060 Cub Scouts participated in our local day camps throughout the community and more than 900 youth attended the premier patrol method Scouts BSA summer camp at Camp Freeland Leslie in Oxford, WI. This patrol method camp gives Scouts the opportunity to axe throw, learn archery, boating, Scoutcraft, lifesaving, log rolling and much more, all while being surrounded by their friends, troop leaders and the beautiful Wisconsin wilderness and night sky. All this and more because of your gifts of time, talent and treasure – we thank you.

We hope that you continue the adventure with us at Three Fires Council for years to come.



ANNA TUOHY
COUNCIL COMMISSIONER



CLINT SCHARFF
SCOUT EXECUTIVE/CEO



299 Scouts
earned the rank of
Eagle Scout



11,926
Merit Badges
earned



2,259 attended
our summer
camps



111,177 hours of
service provided to
our communities



7,142 adults are
trained in youth
protection

A SCOUT IS TRUSTWORTHY * LOYAL * HELPFUL

Council Reflects on Opening its Doors to Both Boys and Girls

More than 2,000 boys and girls from across DeKalb, DuPage, Kane, Kendall and portions of Cook and Will counties joined Cub Scout packs in 2019, a program renowned for character building, fun and adventure.

Families signed-up their sons and daughters for Cub Scouts. Cub Scout dens (boys or girls the same age) are single gender. Cub Scout packs (made of multiple dens) include a combination of all-boy and all-girl dens. This unique approach allows the organization to maintain the integrity of the single-gender model while also meeting the needs of today's families.

Boy Scouts of America made a historic decision in February 2019 and opened the Boy Scout program, now called Scouts BSA, to both boys and girls ages 11-17.

Madeline Obora, a sister to an Eagle Scout and with a twin brother in a local Naperville troop, is very enthusiastic. *"Even though I am super busy between sports and school, I am really excited to be a part of Scouts BSA. I've watched my brothers have a lot of fun going up the ranks, doing a bunch of different activities, and making great friends that they stay connected with. I can't wait to catch up to my twin brother!"*

Since the launch of Scouts BSA, more than 170 girls (in 16 troops) registered for Scouts BSA within DuPage, Dekalb, Kane and Kendall counties. Each Scouts BSA troop is single-gender and meets independently.

Boys and girls continue to be involved in Venturing and Exploring. Families who are interested in learning more about the programs offered by the Three Fires Council, BSA or would like to test out their Scouting skills are encouraged to call us at (630) 584-9250 or visit the Three Fires Council Office in St. Charles, IL.



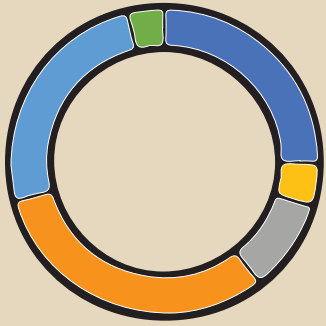
5,194 volunteers
played a significant
role in designing
and delivering BSA
programs



13,030
families served

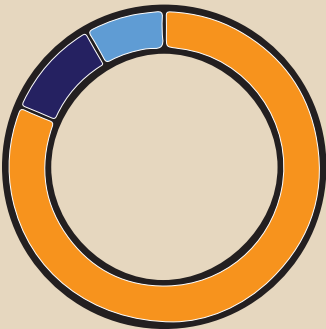
FRIENDLY * COURTEOUS * KIND * OBEDIANT

By the Numbers



2019 Support & Revenue \$3,317,828

- Total Direct Support \$1,032,198
- Investment \$25,090
- Scout Shop Sales \$173,468
- Camping & Activities \$925,381
- Net Product Sales \$907,417
- Other \$254,274



2019 Expenses \$3,587,938

- Program Services \$3,157,385
- Management & General \$197,337
- Fundraising \$233,216

2019 unaudited figures



Eagle Scout Brings Clean Water to Indonesian Community Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award

Winston Chen, Troop 81 from Naperville, spent his winter break doing something not many kids have done. As part of his Eagle Scout Service Project, he decided to bring clean water to a remote Indonesian community. This community has about 200 people. Residents used to walk miles to be able to reach the closest clean water source.

This project took one year to plan, get approved and execute. Since the project was taking place in Indonesia, materials and volunteers for the project were provided at the location. Altogether, there were about 20 volunteers who helped with the construction of the well. The project took more than one week to complete.



Winston joined the Scouting program at the end of his fifth-grade year after it was recommended to him many times by family members and his teachers. He quickly climbed the ranks of Scouting and ultimately attained Eagle Scout.

When asked what it means to be an Eagle Scout to him, Winston answered,

“Being an Eagle Scout means that I always have to be an example for everyone else because there are others who look up to me.”



The Lodge at Camp Big Timber

Our new Lodge opened its doors at Camp Big Timber in Elgin, IL. The Lodge was fully renovated in 2019, in order to meet the future needs of Scouting. With a full-size commercial kitchen, the Lodge dining hall entertains groups of up to 160. It opens up to the panoramic deck, overlooking the fire pit and is connected to the three-season porch and multipurpose meeting room.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in June dedicating various rooms in honor of Scouters who have made a significant difference in the lives of youth. Dedications of the Lodge included: Tom O'Malley Memorial Kitchen, Founders Rooms named after Daniel J. and Judith Zedan and the Veranda dedicated to the Lundsteen Legacy of Leadership.

In October, we welcomed several community members for our Distinguished Citizens Award Gala, where the Lodge was fully decked out and 'glamped' up! It was a night of fun, good food, great music, silent auction and celebration honoring our distinguished citizen, Ian Lamp from Lamp Incorporated.

The beautiful Lodge at Camp Big Timber will continue to serve the Scouting community for years to come, from unit gatherings to day camp and family hikes. Camp Big Timber is also a great location to host a wedding, family reunion, fundraiser, birthday party or business meeting at this rustic, but modern, facility.



**Awarded \$12,789
in campership
assistance funding
to 105 Scouts**



1,060 youth attended day camp



**Activities at our Day Camps
include: STEM, archery,
climbing tower, field sports and
conservation**



VOLUNTEER EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THREE FIRES COUNCIL

Brenda Adams
Jim Adams
Clinton Anderson
Ryan Anderson
Jason Ball
Dan Barreiro
*Jim Bartelson
John Binneboese
David Bruns
Jim Burner, Jr.
Matt Clark

James Dombek
Eric Essex
*Rob Ferrigan
Timothy Fortier
*David George
*David Grooms
*Jeff Gross
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*Jay Herzog
Brian Kilmer
Patrick Kronenwetter

*Mark McSweeney
*Keith Miller
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*Dave Nelson
Dr. Xavier Pombar
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Keith J. Rich
Jasper B. Sanfilippo Jr.
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Mario Spina
Linda Strohschein

Bob Tighe
*Anna Tuohy
*Dave VanBuren
Sean Walters
*Charles Wentworth
Robert Werderich
*Jeff Zavoral
*Daniel J. Zedan
*Executive Committee



STAY CONNECTED



Three Fires Council, BSA

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