

# SCOUTREACH

## THE SCOUTREACH STORY

Scoutreach is mainly an after-school program for at-risk and underserved boys in the first through sixth grade. The program develops a boy's character through Scouting values, fun and exciting activities. The Scoutreach program targets both urban and rural low-income areas where little or no history of Scouting exists. In these areas parental participation is difficult to obtain. The Scoutreach program targets ethnic diversity. The population is made up of approximately 54% Hispanic, 21% Asian, 8% African American, 13% White, 2% Indian and 2% other. The initial effort collaborates the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America with various organizations in the targeted areas. The program has been operating for four years. Twenty-one different locations have been established throughout Fresno in elementary schools and apartment complexes. Thirteen locations have been established in the South Valley. Currently there are over 1400 youth participating in the program. We plan to grow to 1900 by year-end.

The Scoutreach program forms Cub Scout packs and troops in largely Asian, Hispanic and African American neighborhoods. The youth meet for several hours each week through the guidance of paid program leaders. The challenges in providing this program are lack of parental support, adult leaders, finances and transportation.

Programs like Scoutreach are needed because of the lack of exposure to structure and accountability in the lives of the youth. Through Scouting, the youth learn to work together on projects as well as participate in weekly meetings and attend summer camp, pinewood derby races and other Scouting activities. The youth learn character skills such as responsibility, fairness, caring, honesty, trustworthiness and respect. They are exposed to numerous activities they otherwise would never experience. Scouting offers a safe environment and creates a "second family" for the youth. Youth who participate in the Scoutreach program will be mainstreamed into traditional Scouting programs in their area after completion of elementary school. They can continue with Scouting until they are 21 years of age. For more information please log into [www.scoutreachbsa.org](http://www.scoutreachbsa.org)

## SPRING RECRUITMENT

We will be working closely with the Heart Pro-Youth people in recruiting youth to their newly formed units. For the Fresno school sites, our Scoutreach program leaders will showcase the Scoutreach program with recruitment days filled with fun games and prizes for new Scouts.

### We would like to thank the following Organizations for their continued support of the Scoutreach Program

School	Sponsor
Aynesworth Elementary	SC Johnson
Balderas Elementary	Citibank
Calwa Elementary	Seal Rite Paving
Hidalgo Elementary	Educational Employees Credit Union
Jackson Elementary	Educational Employees Credit Union
Kirk Elementary	Fresno Bee
Martin Luther King Elementary	Lyles Diversified
Traver Elementary	Gale Bamford
Armona Elementary	Robinson Carpet One Floor & Home

### FRIENDS OF SCOUTREACH

An informative packet of the Scoutreach program has been developed for distribution.

This packet is being used in requesting \$2,500 or more sponsorships for our school sites.

We have three \$2,500 grants pending and have identified several excellent sponsorship prospects.

We plan is to reach our \$25,000 goal by June 30th.