DEVELOPING YOUNG LEADERS TOGETHER

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA IS A LOT LIKE KIWANIS. IT’S A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION ROOTED IN COMMUNITIES, WITH A BELIEF IN SERVICE AS A FORM OF PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT. AS PARTNERS, WE BOTH GROW STRONGER—AND INCREASE OUR POSITIVE IMPACT ON YOUNG PEOPLE’S LIVES IN COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE U.S.

WHO ARE THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA?

Founded in 1910, the Boy Scouts of America has established itself as one of the nation’s largest and most prominent values-based organizations for youth. The program builds character, training its members in the responsibilities of participatory citizenship, and it helps them develop personal fitness.

In fact, the Boy Scouts of America has helped build the future leaders of this country for more than a century. That history has shown the effectiveness of combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. Through it all, the Boy Scouts of America has confirmed its belief that helping youth is key to a more conscientious, responsible and productive society.
WHY IS KIWANIS PARTNERING WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA?

The Boy Scouts of America’s mission is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices by instilling in them the value of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. That mission is highly compatible with ours: Both organizations provide service opportunities that teach leadership skills to young people. Thanks to our partnership, Kiwanis clubs gain:

• **Energy and passion.** The Boy Scouts of America can be a huge asset to clubs that need high-energy partners. Consider the passion Boy Scouts could bring to flag projects, playground builds, park landscaping and clean-up or even school refurbishment.

• **Outreach.** Even the best-connected Kiwanis club benefits from local partnership. Many Boy Scout troops provide that access—they’re active community partners with schools and businesses that could also be useful to your club.

• **Future leaders.** As Boy Scouts experience the joy of service—and the value of Kiwanis partnership—they become more likely to engage with Kiwanis in the future. And their Scout service makes them quality leaders for your club.

• **Membership potential.** With their service and leadership experience, Scout youth make natural Kiwanis club members when they become adults. The adult Scout volunteers make excellent Kiwanians too—with a proven heart for service to youth and their community.

“The relationship between Troop 985 and the Tierrasanta Kiwanis Club is outstanding! These young men and their families are the reason we can keep our community flag program alive and well.”

—Michael George, Tierrasanta Kiwanis Club, San Diego, CA

KIWANIS-BSA COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION AWARD

Thanks to this new award, Kiwanis clubs can recognize members who are Boy Scouts of America volunteers—or recognize Boy Scouts of America-registered adults in a Scout unit chartered by a Kiwanis club. The nominee must be endorsed by a Kiwanis club officer and a Boy Scouts of America Scouting professional. Go to kiwanis.org/kiwanis/partners/preferred to learn more.
WHY IS THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA PARTNERING WITH KIWANIS?

Scouting gives young people the training they need to lead. Working with your club, Boy Scouts will further their development, even taking on leadership roles in joint projects and fundraisers. Our partnership gives them access to:

- **Hands-on service.** Like many young people, Boy Scouts enjoy active engagement and direct experience. Your projects offer them exactly that—along with ways to see their effort make an impact in their communities.

- **Financial support.** Kiwanians know how to raise money. As Boy Scouts lend their hands-on service to projects, they’ll also learn about fundraising by working alongside Kiwanis family members.

- **Proven partners.** Kiwanis has a proven process for selecting partners. Now they’ll all get stronger, and strengthen us in turn, by working with and learning from each other. See more at [kiwanis.org/partners](http://kiwanis.org/partners).

- **Continued service opportunities.** Like Key Club or CKI members, Boy Scouts eventually age out of the program. And like the members of Kiwanis programs, their experience makes Kiwanis club membership a good fit for them down the road. This partnership makes it more likely—by keeping their love of service alive.

CONSIDER THIS!

Want a service idea that mutually benefits your club and the Boy Scouts? Try a flag subscription project! It’s a chance to work with future leaders—and to help teach them about our flag and our national history.

Atlas Flags can make it easy. Like the Boy Scouts of America, they’re a Kiwanis partner: They provide high-quality, American-made flag kits. Go to [kiwanis.atlasflags.com](http://kiwanis.atlasflags.com) to learn more and get started.
STARTING THE CONVERSATION

There are many ways to connect with your local Boy Scout troop. Here are a few simple ideas:

• **Meet.** Once you’ve reached out, ask to meet with troop leaders to discuss how you can work together. Keep it casual—meet for coffee or in some other low-key way.

• **Get social.** Invite troop leaders to a social event that your club is hosting. Make sure it’s one where people mingle. And consider assigning specific Kiwanis members to your guests so they’ll feel welcome.

• **Invite them to serve with you.** If you have an upcoming project, invite the local Boy Scout troop to join you. Or volunteer to help the troop with an upcoming project of theirs. What better way to get familiar with each other than by doing what you love together?

• **Invite them to a Kiwanis club meeting.** In fact, ask troop leaders to speak so your club understands what they do and how you can help. It’s a great opportunity, even if they can’t attend the whole meeting. Be sure to offer to do the same for them.

• **Get connected.** Check out the troop’s website, and connect on social media. Then let your club know what they’re up to and ask for suggestions on how you might help. After all, people are more likely to engage if you show that you’re interested in them as well.

HOW CAN YOU FIND A LOCAL SCOUTING UNIT OR EXPLORING POST?

**scoutingwire.org/find-contact-information**
Enter your ZIP code to find scouting units in your area. The Scouting program is divided into three main sections, according to age.

**exploring.org/get-involved/**
Exploring provides exciting activities and one-on-one mentorship for youth looking to discover their future. To make sure we place you with the right program, fill out the form on the webpage. We’ll make sure to get in touch!