

Report to the State

March 2, 2009

Minnesota is a strong Scouting state. At the end of 2009, 89,383 young people - 15.2% of eligible youth - were registered in programs offered through seven local Boy Scout councils. 93% of these young people were served by five councils headquartered in Minnesota with the remainder in the Dakotas:

- Twin Valley - Mankato
- Gamehaven - Rochester
- Central Minnesota - Sartell (St. Cloud)
- Voyageurs - Hermantown (Duluth)
- Northern Star - Saint Paul/Minneapolis
- Northern Lights - Fargo, ND
- Sioux - Sioux Falls, SD

PROGRAMS

Cub Scouting and **Boy Scouting** provide opportunities for boys, ages 6 to 18, to develop life skills such as confidence, teamwork, responsibility, and a spirit of service. **Venturing**, gives young women and men, ages 14 - 21, the chance to develop leadership and life skills by exploring special interests such as high adventure activities, sports, and youth ministry while developing leadership and life skills.

Learning for Life offers two distinct programs for boys and girls - **Exploring** provides hands-on, on-site vocational investigation and career mentoring for young adults, ages 14 to 21; **In-School Learning For Life** helps K-12 students form positive values and develop social/academic skills through a curriculum based approach working with teachers.

MEMBERSHIP

Youth:

Cubs.....	36,354	Packs.....	1,014
Scouts.....	18,808	Troops.....	852
Venturers.....	4,289	Crews.....	345
LFL/Explorers.....	29,942	Groups/Posts.....	387
TOTAL	89,383	TOTAL	2,598

ACHIEVEMENT

Youth member awards earned:

- Cub Scout Advancements (Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelos) - 28,780
- Boy Scout Advancements (Tenderfoot, First Class, Second Class, Star, Life, Eagle) - 10,107
- Merit Badges - 54,228
- Eagle Scouts - 1,042

SERVICE

Pounds of food collected in the 2008 "Scouting For Food" drives: 586,232

DIRECT COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Contributions through the annual "Friends of Scouting Campaign" \$3,743,008



Selected Highlights

- ★ A record 1,042 Minnesota Scouts earned the rank of Eagle, representing thousands of hours of service and leadership. – Minnesota
- ★ 641,000 youth hours of community service were reported as the council earned the National Good Turn for America Award. – Minneapolis/St Paul
- ★ Over 54,000 merit badges were earned, a nearly 30% increase over 2007. This was sparked by council/district Merit Badge Fairs and Workshops such as the one held in Rochester for 700 Scouts working with 200 volunteers. – Minnesota
- ★ Duluth Area Council experienced the first increase in total membership since 2004. – Duluth
- ★ Collected over 58,000 pounds of food for a new record Scouting for Food Drive. – Rochester
- ★ Strong family and community financial support increased Friends of Scouting Campaigns by 2.2% during tough economic times

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Area Director
Central Region BSA

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Report to State Chair
Northern Star Council