
Scouting America
Northeast Illinois Council

Annual Report

2025





Scout Executive Message

The past year has reminded us why Scouting continues to matter. In a world that changes quickly and often feels uncertain, Scouting remains a steady force for good. It offers young people something timeless. Purpose, belonging, and the chance to grow into leaders of character who are prepared to serve others.

Across our council, Scouts have been busy doing what Scouts do best. They have led in their units, served in their communities, challenged themselves outdoors, and stepped forward when leadership was needed. In the process, they have gained confidence, resilience, and a deeper understanding that leadership is not about a title. It is about responsibility, integrity, and a willingness to put others first.

This annual report reflects a year of progress and momentum. It highlights strong programs, dedicated volunteers, and generous supporters who believe in the power of Scouting to change lives. Together, we are expanding access, strengthening unit support, and investing in facilities, training, and resources that ensure today's Scouts and tomorrow's Scouts have every opportunity to thrive.

We have also continued to navigate real challenges. But Scouting has always been built by people who are willing to do the hard work, make thoughtful decisions, and keep their eyes on the long view. Because of that shared commitment, our council is well positioned for the future, with a clear focus on growth, sustainability, and delivering the highest-quality experiences for young people and families.

As you read these pages, I hope you feel encouraged and confident about the impact of your support. Confident in the direction we are heading and encouraged by what is possible when dedicated volunteers, donors, and families work together. Thank you for believing in Scouting, for investing in young people, and for helping ensure that this movement continues to shape leaders of character for generations to come.



Nick Roberts

Scout Executive/CEO

Key Three Leadership Team



Rick Gallagher
President



Tony Steenkolk
Commissioner



Nick Roberts
Scout Executive/CEO



Our Mission

The mission of Scouting America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.



Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is...

Trustworthy

Loyal

Helpful

Friendly

Courteous

Kind

Obedient

Cheerful

Thrifty

Brave

Clean

Reverent



Our Impact

In 2025, the Northeast Illinois Council positively impacted youth across our community, fostering growth, leadership, and a strong sense of belonging through diverse programs focused on character development, community service, and outdoor adventure.

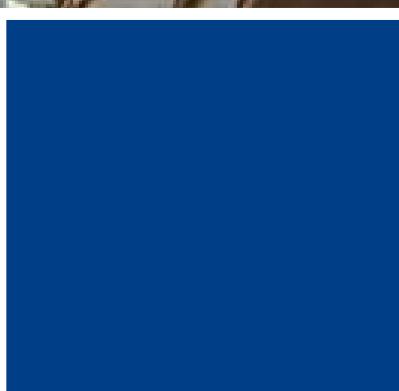
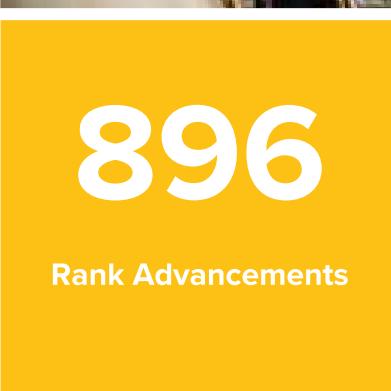
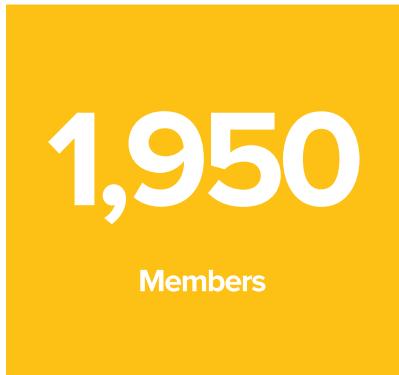
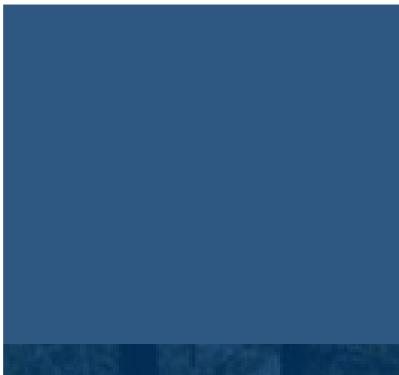
4,774
Total Youth Served



1,890
Total Volunteers

Cub Scouts

The Cub Scouts program provides boys and girls grades K–5 with a fun and engaging way to develop character, leadership, and teamwork skills along with a variety of hands-on activities and community involvement.



Scouts BSA

Scouts BSA is where older youth continue their journey of personal growth, leadership, and outdoor adventure. Through challenging activities, community service projects, and the pursuit of the prestigious Eagle Scout rank, Scouts develop the skills, character, and values that will serve them throughout their lives.



1,446

Members

1,082

Rank Advancements

4,356

Merit Badges



155

New Eagle Scouts

22,494

Service Hours



Exploring, Sea Scouts & Venturing

Exploring, Sea Scouts, and Venturing provide young adults with exciting opportunities to discover new interests, develop leadership skills, and embark on thrilling adventures, all while building a sense of community and responsibility.



5

Members

E X P
L O R
I N G

33

Members



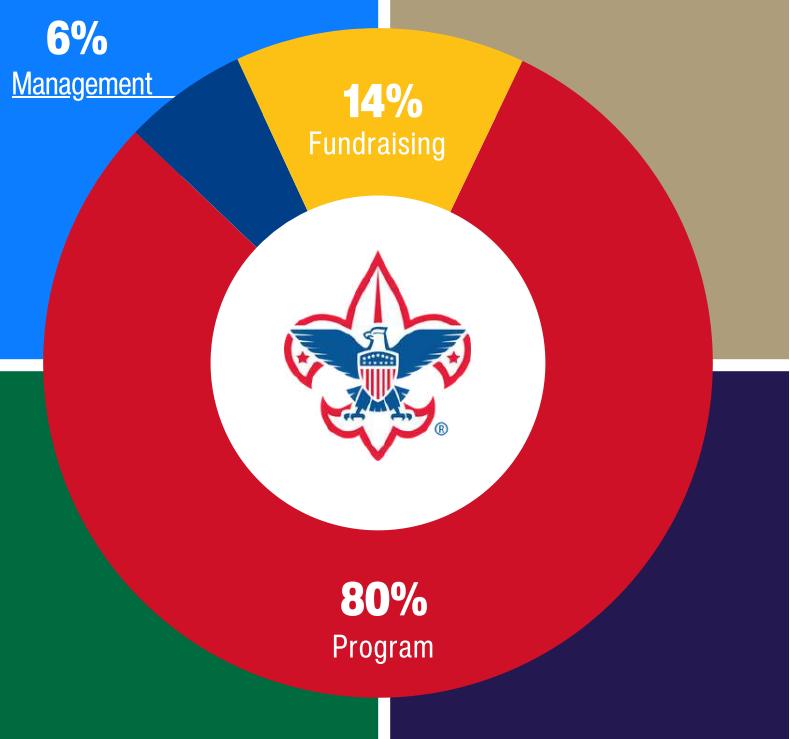
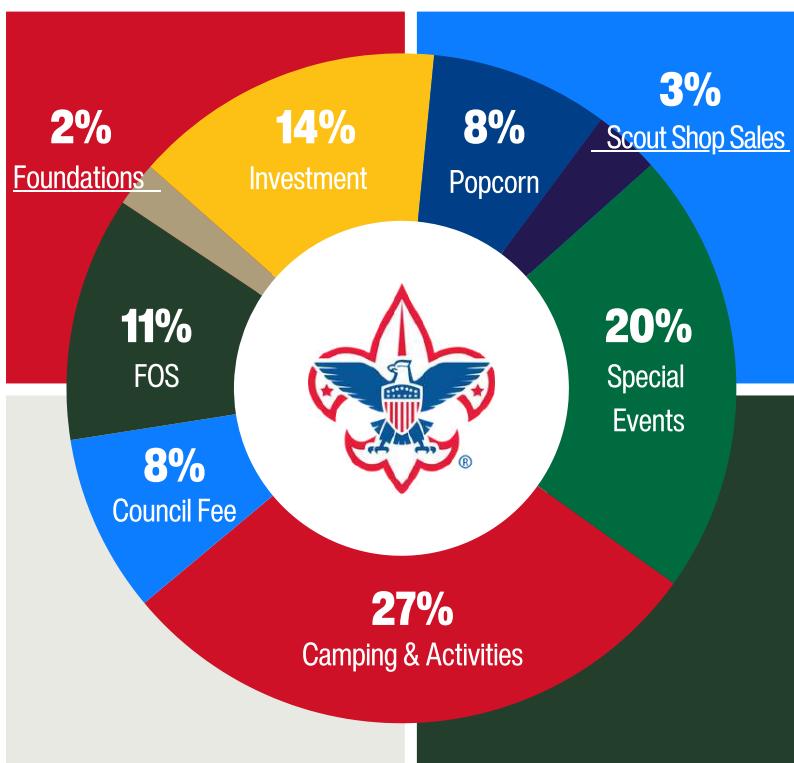
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Members

Financial Report

The financial report provides a transparent overview of the Northeast Illinois Council's fiscal year, detailing income, expenses, and investments made to support our mission. Through careful stewardship, we ensure that every dollar spent contributes to enriching the Scouting experience for youth in our community, while maintaining financial stability and growth for the future.

Total Revenue
→
\$3,320,783



Total Expenses
←
\$3,198,140

Leadership

Dedicated volunteers and professionals guide the Northeast Illinois Council and support Scouting at every level. Through strong governance, thoughtful decision making, and a shared commitment to our mission, council leadership helps ensure high-quality programs, sound oversight, and strategic direction. Their service strengthens our organization today while positioning Scouting for continued impact and growth in the years ahead.

Council Officers

President, Richard Gallagher
 Council Commissioner, Tony Steenkolk
 Treasurer, David McCall
 Immediate Past President, Bethany Micksch
 VP Communications, Allison Waggoner
 VP Development, John Bienko
 VP District Operations, Reed Snyder
 VP IDEA, Ken Morrison
 VP Legal, Steven Hunter
 VP Membership, Jack Troester
 VP Program, Robert Krause
 VP Safe Scouting, Lee Haak
 VP Member-at-Large, Daniel Peterson
 VP Member-at-Large, Ronald Peterson
 Scout Executive/CEO, Nick Roberts

Board of Directors

Michele Bauman
 Richard Benton
 John Bienko
 Jane Bryant-Klett
 Vince Dasta
 Robert Dold
 Mary Freeburg
 Richard Gallagher
 Armin Gerhardt
 Lee Haak
 Andrew Hopkins
 Steven Hunter
 Dan Kempf
 Patrick Klemens
 Robert Krause
 Thomas Macfadden
 David McCall
 Amy McJoynt
 Russell McNeilly
 Bethany Micksch
 Brian Montgomery
 Matt Morgan
 Kenneth P. Morrison
 Curt Nerenberg
 Chauncey Niziol
 Jeffrey Pandolfini
 Daniel Peterson
 Ronald Peterson
 Gregory Pinter
 Andy Plasz
 Leon Rockingham
 S. Michael Rummel
 Kevin Rupprecht
 Alpana Sahu
 Paul Schmidt
 Steve Sesterhenn
 Ayal Sharvit
 Matan Sharvit
 Reed Snyder
 Tony Steenkolk
 Jack Troester
 Allison Waggoner
 Leanna Walther
 John Wolfson

District Chairs

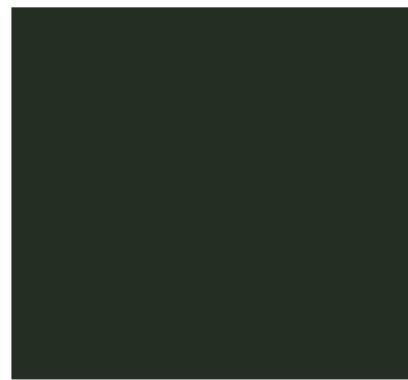
Aptakisic, Steven Chodash
 North Star, Ian Hopkins
 Potawatomi, Kary Brown

Advisory Council

LeRoy Bair
 Kevin Baldwin
 Mark Dahlen
 J Andrew Langan
 Dale Message
 Stephen Murrill
 Chuck Pint
 John Ropiequet
 Keith Ross
 William Sholten
 Albert Tucker, Jr.

Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation

Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation remains a cornerstone of the Northeast Illinois Council's outdoor program, providing generations of Scouts with life-changing experiences in leadership, adventure, and service. As we approach the reservation's 100th anniversary in 2029, the council is investing in facilities, program enhancements, and long-term planning to ensure Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan continues to deliver exceptional outdoor experiences for future generations. These efforts honor a proud legacy while preparing the reservation to serve Scouts and families for the next century.



2,216 Campers

Scouts BSA, Cub Scouts, Volunteers

