

ScoutREACH Mentoring and Impact

Written by Administrator

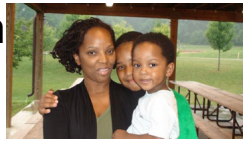
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To maintain a high quality program while also expanding the services offered and number of youth served, ScoutREACH is focused on two areas: 1) Connecting with highly capable collaborating school partners and 2) becoming part of a broad response from those in the community that feel that building morals and character education is an important part of academic success. By National BSA By-Laws, all Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops and Venture Crews are chartered to a community-based organization such as places of worship, schools and civic organizations.

We have 100+ partnering organizations in the ScoutREACH program; each of those results in program delivery. A few of our ScoutREACH partnering agencies include: Cincinnati Science Academy, Roll Hill, Reese Price, Rockdale Academy and Withrow High School. By uniting common providers around shared issues, goals, measurements and results, the Dan Beard Council is actively supporting and strengthening strategies that work.

Monitoring and Evaluation



We continually monitor and evaluate all of our ScoutREACH programs and participants on areas such as:

- grade advancement
- social competencies
- caring about others and their community
- youth will have positive caring relationships with at least three on-parent adults
- youth will demonstrate a commitment to learning
- youth will experience culturally diverse activities and have respect for others

The Dan Beard Council has constructed short-term, mid-term and long-term objectives and measurement tools to verify process. We utilize a variety of tools to complete such



measurements, including youth, leader and parent surveys. We also conduct a number of site-visits throughout the year, in which funding partners and volunteers alike can visit the

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programs and share observations. We continue to exceed our objectives in most of the outcome areas. 85% of our ScoutREACH Cub Scouts received a Rank Advancement Badge (goal 70%); 93% reported caring about others and their community (goal 75%); 91% reported relationships with at least three non-parent adults (goal 75%); and 90% reported a higher commitment to learning (goal 75%). The data we have collected helps demonstrate that the activities our youth participate in are producing meaningful results.

Furthermore, boys who are currently members of the ScoutREACH program indicate attitudes and behaviors distinct from those of non-scouts on a variety of issues:

- More likely to assume a leadership role in clubs or school organizations.
- More likely to put the needs of others before themselves.
- More likely to make the most honest, not easiest decisions.
- More likely to value education and the environment.

Similarly, Challenge Camp offers more than just a place to have fun. It also offers youth the opportunity to participate in physically and intellectually stimulating activities, introduces them to new and rewarding experiences and provides them with supportive relationships. Participating youth indicate they experienced the following at camp:

- Met new people 94%
- Tried something you had never tried 86%
- Listened to others opinions 84%
- Developed decision making skills 80%
- Learned a skill from an adult leader 81%
- Helped someone else accomplish something 73%
- Tested your mental/thinking ability 71%

We believe ScoutREACH provides a fresh approach to traditional 'youth diversion activities' in outreach communities. Rather than emphasizing the consequences of poor decision-making or 'wrong' behavior, Scouting creates an environment where youth are empowered and encouraged to make choices. We remain committed to finding even more adult volunteers to help guide youth toward the correct decisions. Due to the challenging socio-economic environment of many of the neighborhoods we serve, ScoutREACH is a costly program to operate. The Dan Beard Council will turn away no child because of financial limitations. Above all, the Dan Beard Council is focused on delivering a ScoutREACH program which ensures program quality and consistency.