**Why support the FRIENDS OF SCOUTING CAMPAIGN in LDS UNITS?**

Funds from Friends of Scouting provide financial support to help volunteers with administration of the unit, develops district and council activities, training for adults and youth leaders, and maintain camps for year-round use.

8.0 Church Policy 8.13 Funding Scouting

**The church supports the BSA’s annual Friends of Scouting drive. These funds provide financial support for the BSA local council. Stake Presidents and Bishops oversee the drive in their units.**

Friends of Scouting donations are allocated as follows:

• 100% of the donations go directly to Greater Yosemite Council

• **98% supports Programs, Training, Camp Events, Facilities & Membership Services.**

• 1% of council revenues support fundraising expenses.

• 1% supports administrative requirements (Audit and Accounting Services)

Families & Leaders do not pay for registration. (Church Policies 8.2)

The LDS Church headquarters pay for youth and adult registration annually. The average registration cost over the lifetime of Scouting age 8-14 is approximately $198.00 ($33.00 x 6)

8.0 Church Policies 8.2 Registration of Youth and Adults

Throughout the year, each ward ensures that all youth and adults who participate in BSA are properly registered. Any youth who joins BSA for the first time must complete a BSA youth application. If a registered youth joins a Scout unit in the ward after being a member of another Scout unit, the ward notifies the BSA local council by sending the youth’s name, birthdate, and mailing address, along with a phone number for a parent or guardian. This notification must be signed by a member of the bishopric.

Each adult leader must complete a BSA adult application. All adult Scouting leaders must be properly registered and complete Youth Protection training before beginning their service (see 8.6 and 8.8)

**All registration fees for youth and adults, including those of other faiths who join Latter-day Saint units, are paid directly from Church headquarters to the BSA National Council. (Church Policies 8.2)**

A small percentage of each ward’s tithing is allocated towards the budget for youth programs. These funds are used to purchase merit badges, patches for rank advancement and some activities. (Church Policies 8.13)

**8.13 Funding Scouting**

Leaders should follow the budget allowance guidelines in Handbook 2; 7.10.4 which refers to 13.2.8 (also see 8.12.7, 11.8.7, 13.2.9, 13.5, 13.6.8) **Ward budgets should be used to purchase Scouting awards and materials**, as determined by local leaders. Commercially produced or packaged goods or services should not be sold. Scouting units may participate in Scouting shows, camporees, and other BSA activities involving the sale of tickets by boys or young men, as long as all other budget allowance guidelines are met.

Early bird Scout Camp costs start at $395.00 per Scout. Families are sometimes asked to pay the difference after fundraising. A fundraiser is held once annually to help pay for Scout camp. All monies go to the camp chosen by the Unit leader, approved by the stake presidency or bishopric. (Church Policies 13.2.8)

**13.2.8 Funding for Activities**

Leaders ensure that expenses for activities are in accordance with the current budget and finance policies of the Church. The following principles apply. Most activities should be simple and have little or no cost. **Expenditures must be approved by the stake presidency or bishopric before they are incurred.** Stake and ward budget funds should be used to pay for all activities, programs, and supplies. Members should not pay fees to participate. Nor should they provide materials, supplies, rental or admission fees, or long-distance transportation at their own expense. Activities in which members provide food may be held if doing so does not place undue burdens on them. Possible exceptions to the funding policy in the preceding paragraph are listed below. **If the ward budget does not have sufficient funds to pay for the following activities, leaders may ask participants to pay for part or all of them: 1. One annual extended Scout camp or similar activity for young men.** 2. One annual young women camp or similar activity. 3. One annual day camp or similar activity for Primary children ages 8 through 11. 4. Optional activities as outlined in 13.5. If funds from participants are not sufficient, the bishop may authorize one group fund-raising activity annually that complies with the guidelines in 13.6.8. In no case should the expenses or travel for an annual camp or similar activity be excessive. Nor should the lack of personal funds prohibit a member from participating. For a possible exception in funding large multi-stake or area events for young single adults, see 16.3.7. For guidelines about funding travel that is associated with activities, see 13.6.24.

BSA, GYC needs the financial support of their Scouting Families and friends. We need your support to continue to deliver this high value program to your youth.

The monies raised by families and friends of Scoutingsupport our local, Greater Yosemite council. A minimum donation for each unit would cover the costs for administration of units, training, activities, and year-round use of campgrounds and facilities.

The annual cost to support one Scout is $250.00.

How many Scouts (Cubs and Boys) are registered in your Unit?

$250.00 x \_\_\_\_=$\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ would be the ideal goal.

$250.00 breaks down to $20.83 each month.

Annual cost to support and train one Leader is $60.00

$60.00 x \_\_\_\_= $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ would be the ideal goal.

There are additional opportunities to give more when possible:

One-time donations in memory of a Scout or in honor of a Scout.

Sponsoring a Campership; providing an opportunity to help a Scout participate in camp unable to go due to cost. $395.00 Campership $32.91 monthly.

Supporting high priority maintenance of facilities. (Approx. $28,500. this year) A $200.00 Maintenance contribution per unit would be ideal. ($16.66 monthly)

**An example of a ward goal:**

10 active Scouts x $250.00 = $2,500.00

10 active Cubs x $250.00 = $2,500.00

5 leaders x $60.00 $ 300.00

$5,300.00

Plus one Campership $395.00

Plus Maintenance Contribution $200.00

Total $5,895.00

**Values of Scouting Program Participation rewards**:

**Recognition**  **Eligibility**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Appreciation Ribbon for your Flag  Recognition at the annual Stake Court of Honor  Unit Recognition displayed at Council Facilities  Morning Donut Delivery (Summer Camp or Camporee)  *Must contact your District Executive to notify*  One Free Cake at your Blue & Gold and/or a Court of Honor! *Must contact your District Executive to notify* | **Conduct an annual Values of Scouting Reflections Program with**  **Friends of Scouting Campaign Presentation** |
| Discount on Summer Camp Fees:  $5 off Cub Scout Day Camp  $10 off Webelos or Cub Adventure camp  $20 off Camp John Mensinger.  And,  **Free Rank Badges** – free cloth rank badges (except Eagle) through March 2020. | **100% giving participation of active Scouts** *(requires documention showing a unit maintained roster of confirmed donors compared against unit registration record)*  (camp discounts and free badges cannot exceed 50% total gifts) |

**How to participate?** BSA, the Greater Yosemite district would like each Scouting unit to hold a Reflection night showcasing “The Value(s) of Scouting!” to support the FOS campaign. A Night of Reflections: planning guide is available to guide the unit through the night. Contact your local District leaders for additional information and support.

Church Policies 13.6.8 Fund-Raising Activities

**The friends of Scouting fund drive in the USA will continue as** **a separate, voluntary solicitation.**