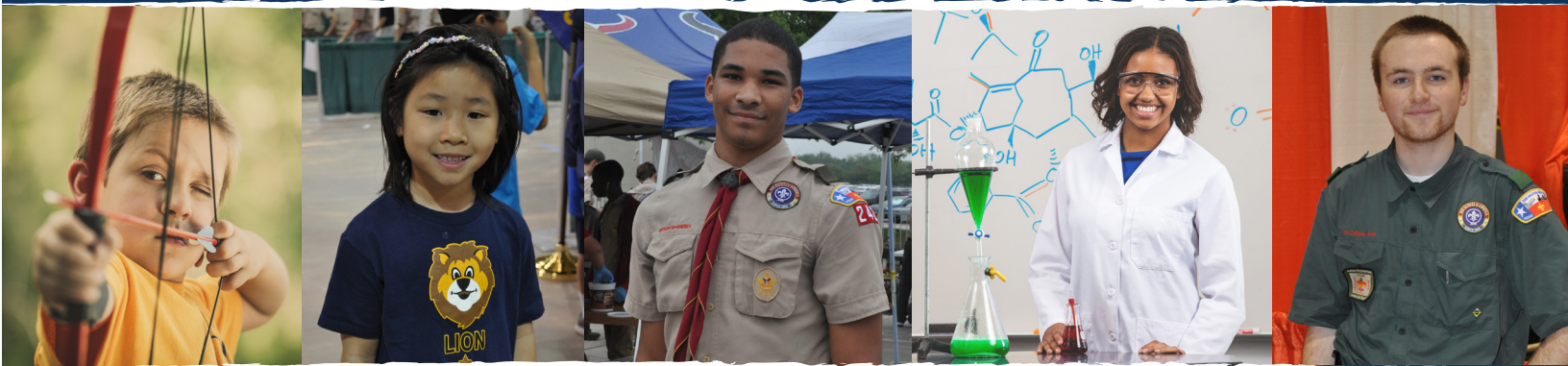


BUILDING STRONGER

SCHOOLS
LEADERS
COMMUNITIES
YOUTH
CITIZENS
FAMILIES
PARTNERSHIPS

TOGETHER



ANNUAL REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2019

LEADING YOUTH TO LIFELONG VALUES,
SERVICE AND ACHIEVEMENT



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
SAM HOUSTON AREA COUNCIL

DEAR FRIENDS

Thanks to you, 2019 was an exciting year for Scouting in Southeast Texas. The Sam Houston Area Council served approximately 47,000 youth during 2019 through traditional Scouting and career-based Exploring programs.

Over 12,000 new families joined our program, resulting in membership growth in traditional Scouting. This helped the Sam Houston Area Council achieve the BSA's Journey to Excellence Gold Level, which is the standard for quality and excellence in a local council. The programs of Scouting continue to offer varied opportunities to teach youth to be strong in character, have self-confidence, and grow in their leadership abilities.

Fostering these talents, along with service projects and citizenship activities, is how we are **Building Stronger Youth**.

Community service and Scouting go hand in hand. Our Scouts and volunteers participated in over 425,000 hours of community service projects in 2019. These hours accounted for a total economic impact of \$10,807,750 according to the volunteer service organization *Independent Sector*. These service projects were highlighted by the collection and distribution of over 175,000 pounds of food during our annual Scouting for Food/Souper Bowl of Caring efforts in February.

Through service we are **Building Stronger Citizens**.

Experiencing the outdoors is one of the foundations of Scouting. We are uniquely positioned for the future with a \$65 million construction project, our new Camp Strake. Opening in May 2020, Camp Strake will be a world-class facility designed to unleash the potential of our Scouting programs to best serve the needs of our families with the financial security of a dedicated endowment.

The outdoor program is how we are **Building Stronger Leaders**.

As a key measure of our community service and financial health, the Sam Houston Area Council was awarded the designation as an accredited charity by the Better Business Bureau, earned the Seal of Transparency Gold Level by GuideStar, and achieved a 4-star rating by Charity Navigator, the highest possible rating for the 7th consecutive year.

All these successes were made possible through the generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure of thousands of volunteers and donors. Thanks to your support and commitment to Scouting, we continue to lead youth to lifelong values, service, and achievement.

We hope you are proud to be part of the Sam Houston Area Council.

Together, we are **Building Stronger Communities**.



L. E. Simmons
Chair of the Board



Forrest J. Bjerkaas
Council Commissioner



Thomas O. Varnell
CEO/Scout Executive

Please visit www.samhoustonbsa.org/annual-reports to view the expanded 2019 annual report.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

The value of serving others was on display by Scouts of the Sam Houston Area Council when they participated in the service project Souper Bowl of Caring. Partnering with the Souper Bowl of Caring and area food banks, over **9,000** Scouts and leaders collected over **175,000** pounds of food. The food was then distributed to those in need in our area.



SCOUT FAIR

In April, Scout Fair was held at NRG Park. Thanks to our partnership with the Houston Dynamo, Scouts were able to "Score a Goal with Scouting" by visiting hundreds of booths with fun activities and crafts, learning Scout skills, meeting new friends and tasting the delicious outdoor cooking.



2019 HIGHLIGHTS



47,340 total youth served in **1,381** units

 **31,801** Cub Scouts in **518** packs

 **13,798** Scouts in **474** troops

 **664** Venturers and Sea Scouts in **91** crews and ships

 **1,077** Explorers in **55** posts

14,930 Registered volunteer adult leaders

425,349 Community service hours performed by Scouts, Explorers and leaders

*statistics reflected as of 12-31-2019

PROGRAM

22,588

Cub Scout ranks earned

8,762

Scout ranks earned

1,227

Scouts attaining the rank of Eagle Scout

OPERATING FINANCIAL SUMMARY*

INCOME

Community Support	\$4,304,666
United Way	\$1,117,869
Council Generated	\$5,943,439
	\$11,365,973

EXPENSE

Program Services	\$9,655,906
<i>Direct Service (ScoutReach)</i>	\$1,871,377
Administration	\$480,275
Fundraising	\$800,157
	\$10,936,338

*2019 Unaudited financials.
Fully audited financials are available online at www.samhoustonbsa.org/annual-reports

CAMPING

Outdoor adventure is the promise made to Scouts when they join Scouting. Scouts yearn for outdoor programs that stir their imaginations and interest. Through the initiatives of the Leaders of Tomorrow campaign, the Sam Houston Area Council strives to have camp properties that best serve the needs of Scouting in the 21st century.



- District Day Camps – **2,931** total campers
- Cub Scout Resident camp – **278** total campers
- Scouts attending long term camp at Tellepsen Scout Camp – **823**
- Scouts attending long term camp outside of Sam Houston Area Council – **5,757**
- Scouts attending High Adventure Camp – **1,605**
- Cub Scouts participating in a camping experience – **14,736**
- Scouts and Venturers participating in a camping experience – **8,688**

THANK YOU!

Annually, the Sam Houston Area Council invests over \$250 in each of our Scouts through programs and services. Thank you to the following Leadership Level supporters that are helping to Build Stronger Families.

\$500,000+

David Weekley Family Foundation

\$100,000-\$499,999

Virginia & L.E. Simmons Family Foundation
Stephanie & Frank D. Tsuru

\$50,000-\$99,999

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\$5,000-\$9,999

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CEO/Scout Executive Thomas O. Varnell

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