Georgia Education is a Priority
Highest Levels of Education Earned (ages 25-34):
• 12% do not graduate from high school
• 48% earn a high school diploma or GED
• 8% earn an Associate’s Degree
• 22% hold a Bachelor’s Degree
• 10% receive a Graduate Degree
How Coastal Georgia Council Addresses This Need:
Of youth involved in Scouting for five or more years,
• 92% graduate from high school, compared to 88% not involved in Scouting
• 35% earn a college degree, compared to 22% not involved in Scouting
• Earn an average household income of $80,000 per year, compared to $61,000 for those not in Scouting
• 74% own their homes, compared to 65% not involved in Scouting
18% of Youth in Southeast Georgia Live in a Single-Parent Family
How Coastal Georgia Council Addresses This Need:
Caring, nurturing relationships with parents, other caring adults, and peers. Scouting offers a caring environment where boys can develop stronger relationships with parents and other adults. Scouting provides structure that encourages family support and open lines of communication. Parents and guardians cite positive role models and family togetherness as important reasons to join the Scouting program.
30.6% of Georgia Children are Living in Poverty
How Coastal Georgia Council Addresses This Need:
A Scout is Thrifty, Helpful, and Kind! Scouts agree that Scouting teaches them to prepare for the future. Youth who become Scouts report that Scouting helped them save and plan for the future. More than eight out of 10 Scouts (82%) say saving money for the future is a priority. Scouts also address community needs through Eagle Scout service projects for non-profits and collect food for agencies during our annual Scouting for Food drive.

How Scouting Meets the Needs of the Community

Georgia Data from Kids Count and U.S. Census.
Values of Americans - A Study of Ethics and Character by Harris Interactive 2005.

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

The Scout Law
A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.
• **Comprehensive Youth Development** – The Coastal Georgia Council (CGC) annually serves youth and volunteer adults in Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Learning for Life Exploring across 22 Southeastern Georgia Counties.

• **Membership Growth** – The Coastal Georgia Council enjoyed another successful year in 2019 with a 1.1 percent growth in membership for a total of 4,935 youth in 156 scouting units. CGC’s growth trend has now reached 17 consecutive months dating back to 2018 and for the past three years. CGC is ranked in the top 25 of all Southern Region BSA Councils and welcomed over 1,400 new families who joined Scouting during the fall recruiting campaign. This reaffirms the relevant need for the timeless values found in the Scout Oath and Law and the trust young parents have in the Boy Scouts to deliver a safe and important program.

• **Scouting Is For All Youth** – Coastal Georgia Council served 3.4% of the total available youth in a diverse population including families from farm, rural, military, resort and inner-city communities. Scoutreach provides financial assistance to financially challenged families to ensure all youth receive a complete Scouting experience. This assistance is provided by our United Way partners, private and public foundations, grants and special event fundraisers and project sales.

• **Community Centered** – CGC partners with over 100 different community organizations, schools, churches and civic clubs to offer Scouting programs. Our goal is to increase participation and ensure that every community and neighborhood school has a sustainable and growing Scouting program. CGC’s general membership is composed of nearly 48% minority youth and adult leaders.

• **Learning Achievement** – In 2019, 90 Scouts earned the prestigious Eagle Scout Award, Scouts earned 2,978 career exploration and educational merit badges. Also, in 2019, 2,178 Scouts at all levels advanced at least one rank using the BSA advancement methods.

• **Adult Mentors** – Our registered adult volunteer members are the epitome of positive role models as unit leaders. Most importantly, each of these adults must complete training in two areas: (1) Youth Protection — Child Abuse Prevention, and (2) Position Specific for the age appropriate youth they lead. In 2019, 1,377 adult volunteers served our youth and adult training was again above the national standard at 55%.

• **To Help Other People At All Times** – In 2019, 20,680 hours of community service and projects were performed at an estimated value of $310,000. Local units joined in school, community enhancement, building and conservation projects, along with Scouting for Food and health care education initiatives, to name a few.

• **Duty To God** – 48 Religious Faith Awards were administered through – the P.R.A.Y. organization. Our goal is to increase awareness and be recognized as one of the leading councils in America for the “Duty to God” initiative that allows religious leaders the opportunity to mentor directly to Scouts from all walks of life.

• **Fiscal Responsibility** – Coastal Georgia Council ended 2019 under budget in expenses with successful Direct Support campaigns like Golf Tournaments and Holiday Auction, Product and Camp Card Sales and with aggressive stewardship in relation to expenses. The Council finished the year with a total of $1,545,800 in Total Support and Revenue against $1,522,000 in expenses. The 2018 independent audit, delivered in 2019, was unqualified and no auditor adjusted entries or significant findings of recommendations were made.

• **Outdoor Learning Experiences** – Thousands attended our Cub Scout family camping events, and our older Scouts participated in multiple summer camp stays, Order of the Arrow events, outdoor physical encounters, and various leadership trainings at Council-owned facilities – Camp Tolochee in Brunswick and Black Creek Scout Reservation in Sylvania. Concerns regarding the net cost to operating camp properties while delivering a first-class outdoor program were addressed in 2019 resulting in a $33,000 improvement to the net surplus/expense year-around camp deficit versus previous year.

• **Strategic Planning, Council Governance And Planning** – A new council strategic plan was drafted under the leadership of Mr. Steve Lewis and committees filled with many volunteers from across the council. Adopted by the Executive Board as the driving document for the Council’s immediate future, the Strategic Plan immediately created the impetus to improve customer service, technology, insurance coverage, communications and fiscal management and carries CGC through the year 2023.

• **Journey To Excellence** – Coastal Georgia Council achieved the Bronze Level in the Boy Scouts of America’s Journey to Excellence 18 item matrix for effective council administration. Specifically, Journey to Excellence is the BSA’s planning, performance and recognition program designed to encourage excellence in both performance and determined standards and based on three principles: Quality program, sustainability and growth.
THE PROMISE OF SCOUTING

Every week, millions of Scouts raise their hands and make a promise. It’s more than just a pledge to a movement. It represents a lifelong commitment to them and the community they share.

It takes another kind of promise – the one to themselves – to help them grow into productive adults. Our priority in Coastal Georgia is to help Scouts keep their promises based on ethical decision making.

Every day, Scouts and their families can participate in learning and activities centered on achieving three aims: character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

CUB SCOUTS: A family and neighborhood-centered program for boys and girls from first to fifth grade.

SCOUTS BSA: Provides boys and girls ages 11-18 with high adventure, hiking, camping, canoeing, merit badge advancement, and leadership opportunities.

LEARNING FOR LIFE: A co-ed K-12 classroom-based curriculum for ethical decision making and anti-bullying. The Champions program helps youth with special needs develop life skills.

EXPLORING: Co-ed vocational program that provides middle school club and high school youth real-world career exploration and job shadowing opportunities.

VENTURING: Young men and women ages 14-21 focus on high adventure, leadership, service, and personal growth.

OUR GOAL: To be the foremost respected local agency that helps young people build character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness.

COASTAL GEORGIA COUNCIL

11900 Abercorn Street, Savannah, Georgia 31419
Phone: 912-927-7272 • Fax: 912-920-4030
www.coastalgeorgia-bsa.org

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

COASTAL GEORGIA COUNCIL

Altamaha District: Liberty, Long, Tattnall and Wayne
Atlantic District: Chatham and South Bryan
Coastal District: Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Glynn, McIntosh, Pierce, and Ware
Satilla District: Appling, Bacon, Candler, Jeff Davis, and Toombs
Twin Rivers District: Bulloch, North Bryan, Effingham, Evans, and Screven
FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Expense = $1,522,000
Income = $1,545,800

WHO PAYS FOR SCOUTING?

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<th>Program Phase</th>
<th>Where Does the Money Come From?</th>
<th>Where Does the Money Go?</th>
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<td>• Popcorn Sales</td>
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<td>Money-Earning Projects</td>
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<td>• Meeting Room</td>
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<td>COASTAL GEORGIA COUNCIL</td>
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<td>• High Adventure Bases</td>
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<td>• Liability Insurance for Leaders</td>
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STEWARDSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

COASTAL GEORGIA COUNCIL’s annual operating budget and financial needs – including staff management – is determined and overseen by a volunteer finance committee and executive board composed of a diverse group of business, community and longtime Scout volunteers. Strong financial stewardship and accountability is of the utmost importance to ensure donated dollars are fully utilized and focused on the development and retention of quality sustainable units and programs.

DOES SCOUTING WORK?

We all know Scouting’s goal is to prepare young people for life, but does it work? Scouting was put to the test over the course of three years, when a research team from Tufts University worked with BSA to measure the character attributes of both Scouts and non-Scouts – all with a goal of better understanding the character development of youth as it was happening. The project surveyed nearly 1,800 Cub Scouts and nearly 400 non-Scouts under age 12, using both interviews and survey data. In the beginning, there were no significant differences between the two groups. By the end, however, the differences were striking:

With fun and discovery at every turn, Scouting makes the most of right now. But what’s more, it builds positive character and provides young people a foundation they can stand on to embrace opportunity, overcome obstacles, and make new discoveries. Scouting works!

KEY FINDINGS:

The more time kids spend in Scouting, the better the outcomes in character development.

Those who attend meetings regularly report higher outcomes virtually across the board when compared to Scouts with lower attendance.

Scouts are more likely to embrace positive social values than non-Scouts.

Scouts who are more engaged in the program report higher outcomes in nearly every category.