

Denver Area Council | ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The Denver Area Council provides kids with some of the most adventurous outdoor camps, unique camping programs, and imaginative day camp opportunities in the state of Colorado.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA® denver area council

DenverBoyScouts.org

Letter from the Denver Area Council President & Scout Executive



MATHEW N. STAVA COUNCIL PRESIDENT



CHARLES W. BRASFEILD, III SCOUT EXECUTIVE/CEO

We are pleased to share with you the 2020 Council Annual Report. In 2020, the Denver Area Council met the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to the thousands of committed volunteers, parents, donors, and staff, the Denver Area Council prevailed with new and innovative ways to keep Scouting going.

Keeping Scouts engaged in the program during the pandemic was a top priority for the Council's leadership. Scouts were able to continue Scouting with their units through virtual meetings and roundtables. Units found creative ways to recruit by using social media and socially distanced peer-to-peer meetings. A "Re-Start Scouting" guide was created as a tool to help units navigate how to safely and effectively meet.

One of the most significant challenges faced, was how to get Scouts to summer camp. DAC offered a variety of options at McNeil Scout Ranch at Peaceful Valley such as virtual camping, individual unit camping, and free family camping. Colorado Adventure Point offered virtual merit badge courses to keep Scouts advancing and to remain on track with their achievements.

The Council newsletter, website and social media platforms were also a critical component of keeping our volunteers up to date with the continuously changing guidelines. Engagement on our social media accounts increased by 22% with an average of 320 engagements per day. The revamped newsletter increased the open rate and click throughs by 50%.

As we look back on the triumphs and tribulations of 2020, we can celebrate the adventure and look to brighter days ahead. If it were not for the passion of our 11,500 youth and volunteers, the Denver Area Council would not be able to spread the mission of Scouting. We are committed to overcoming the challenges at hand and will continue to offer one of the best youth serving programs in the country. Thank you to all our Scouts, volunteers, donors, parents, and staff for your unwavering support and belief in this program.

Mathew N. Stava Council President

WB

Charles W. Brasfeild, III Scout Executive/CEO

Denver Area Council Funding

Outside influences and life experiences contribute to the values and beliefs we carry with us throughout our lives. Today, there are more opportunities for youth to make the wrong choices or follow someone who will lead them astray. While Scouting can't remove the obstacles in life, it teaches youth people to face challenges, manage risks, and overcome barriers - to grow up strong, resilient, and wise. Today's youth need Scouting and Scouting needs you.

Operating expenses to maintain Scouting programs for the DAC's 11,337 youth include facility costs for our camps and Scout Headquarters, as well as program supplies, training resources, insurance, printing, and equipment, to name a few. Gifts, grants, and donations to the DAC, as well as

sponsorships for fundraising events, help provide Scouting programs to youth who would not otherwise be able to join due to financial limitations. Donations also help the Council develop new specialty day camp programs such as Makers Camp. In addition, funding allows the Council to help youth and families purchase uniforms, handbooks, membership fees, and camperships to attend summer camp.

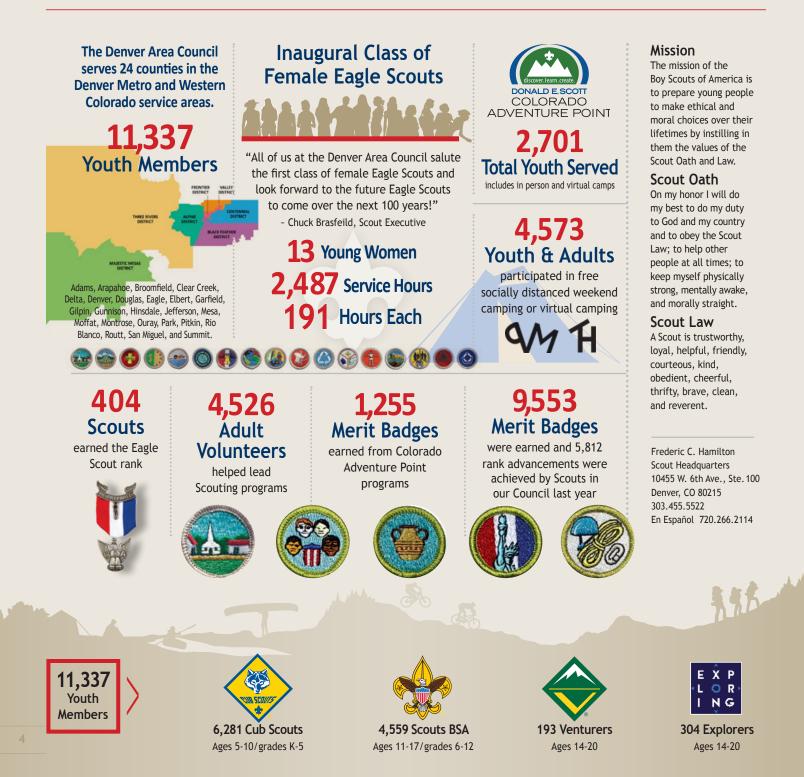
Your continued gifts to Scouting enable us to provide programs and services to youth in the Denver Metro and western Colorado services areas. To support Scouting and continue to meet the needs of youth in our communities, please visit DenverBoyScouts.org/Donate.



Year in Review 2020

The Denver Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, is a leading advocate for youth and the foremost provider of character development and value-based leadership training.

CHARACTER LEADERSHIP CITIZENSHIP FITNESS



Denver Area Council Youth Programs & Camps

BSA was founded in 1910, and since that time, more than 110 million Americans have been participants in its programs. BSA's goal is to train youth in responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities, educational programs, and, at older age levels, career-orientated programs in partnership with community organizations. Locally, the Denver Area Council is supported by more than 4,500 adult volunteers who help provide education programs to nearly 11,500 young people that help build character, develop leadership skill, encourage the responsibilities of active citizenship, and promote personal fitness.



Denver Area Council Programs

The DAC offers the following programs for youth of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, including:

- Cub Scouts boys and girls, ages 5-10 or grades K-5
- Scouts BSA boys and girls, ages 11-17 or grades 6-12
- Venturing young men and women, ages 14-20
- STEM Scouts (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) - boys and girls, grades 3-12
- Exploring (Employment Mentorship) - young men and women, ages 14-20
- Sea Scouting young men and women, ages 14-20

Denver Area Council Camps

McNeil Scout Ranch at Peaceful Valley (MSR)

MSR is the larger of the DAC's two camp properties. McNeil Scout Ranch is located on the edge of the Black Forest, 65 miles southeast of Denver, near the town of Elbert. The property includes 3,316 acres of mountain park terrain and sits at 7,000 feet in elevation along the Palmer Divide. In addition to summer opportunities, there are numerous opportunities for weekend camping during the off-season, including unit use of the shooting ranges, rock climbing, and the ATV safety program. MPV is home to the following camps:

Camp Cris Dobbins

- Camp Dietler
- Magness Adventure Camp

Tahosa High Adventure Base (TH)

TH is nestled in the Rocky Mountains, near the town of Ward. At an elevation of nearly 9,000 feet, Tahosa is considered one of the highest Scout camps in the United States. Tahosa consists of 320 acres, which includes several high alpine meadows, a large lake stocked with trout, and access to adjacent national forest lands. Year-round program options at Tahosa include winter camping, climbing, mountain biking, backpacking, mountaineering, fishing, and teambuilding activities on the high ropes.



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Charles W. Brasfeild, III Scout Executive/CEO Denver Area Council

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John & Marjorie Madden Merit Scholarship Program

Many youth who spent their summers attending DAC camps have become adult leaders and John & Marjorie Madden Merit Award Scholars. The John & Marjorie Madden scholarship program as we know it today was created in 2000 to ensure the highest quality of continuity of camp staff members for DAC camps. Scholarships are annually award to selected camp staff who are registered members of the BSA, and who meet all requirements of the scholarship program.

The scholarship process is competitive, and requires a written application, an interview, 20 hours of community

service annually, and a minimum of 2.85 GPA, which must be maintained throughout the entire scholarship period. Recipients of the scholarship may attend an accredited college or trade school of their choice, and they must return each summer as camp staff at either McNeil Scout Ranch at Peaceful Valley or Tahosa High Adventure Base.

In 2020, 35 camp staff scholars participated in the John & Marjorie Madden Scholarship program, with \$120,000 in tuition costs provided. To date nearly 290 camp staff have received college scholarships totaling just over 3 million dollars.

2020 Madden Merit Scholars

Dylan Armstrong, Bradley Baker, Jacob Bechtel, Monty Christo, Brett Closson, Travis Deane, Heather Diviness, Matthew Field, Marston Garber, Nathan Harris, Joshua Harris, Piper Hunt, Mason Huyge, Lauren Kelso, Quinn Krause,

James Kuemmerle, Nathan Lane, Thomas Larson, Kaitlyn Mearing, Robert Meikle,

Alexia Merrill, Sasha Newby, Amanda Potter, Rudy Reynolds, Corey Schroeder,

James Schryver, Zachary Smeton, Joslyn Stallman, Michel Swanson, Jordan Trcka,

Michael Vestal, Caitlin Wagner, Susanna Walsh, Megan Yost

Mission The mission of the boy scouts of 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. VISION THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA WILL PREPARE EVERY ELIGIBLE YOUTH IN AMERICA TO BECOME A RESPONSIBLE, PARTICIPATING CITIZEN AND LEADER WHO IS GUIDED BY 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, AND REVERENT.

Scout Slogan do a good turn daily. Scout Motto be prepared.

Inaugural Class of Female Eagle Scouts

Since the Boy Scouts transitioned to Scouts BSA and welcomed girls into traditional Boy Scout programs, over 30,000 young ladies across the country have joined the ranks. From that 2019 starting point, the women included in the inaugural class have transitioned from Tenderfoot to Second Class, to First Class, to Star and Life Scout, and finally, to the coveted distinction of Eagle Scout. All in a two-year period!

"It takes effort, commitment and grit to become an Eagle Scout," said Denver Area Council Scout Executive/CEO Chuck Brasfeild. "I'm proud of these trailblazers, this first class of female Eagle Scouts. All of us at Denver Area Council salute the first class of female Eagle Scouts and look forward to the future Eagle Scouts to come over our next 100 years!"

The typical Scout takes several years to begin working from the starting point, Tenderfoot (which is typically at 10 years old), to reach Eagle by the age of 18. However, the opportunity to be members of this initial group has motivated over a dozen girls from the Denver Area Council to expedite their journeys. Only 7% of Scouts reach the rank of Eagle, but the young women of this class have exceeded the norm.



Charlotte Beatson
Troop 114
Black Feather District
Designed and built
a greenhouse that doubles
as a learning lab at St. Mary's
Catholic School in Littleton
212 service hours

Roselynn Blea

Troop 1920 Black Feather District Renovated Mountain Valley High School's golf practice area 261 service hours

Cassidy Christian Troop 444 Black Feather District Renovated a garden at Mountain Vista High School 158 service hours

Elizabeth Germain Troop 262 Frontier District

Created the "500 Masks Project", in which she made and donated 500 masks to the Volunteers of America during the pandemic 232 service hours

Karolyn Hilquist Troop 818 Alpine District

Addition to Bear
 Creek Pavilion
 145 service hours

Aida Hughes

Troop 444 Black Feather District • "Kids on Bikes" 109 service hours Emilie Johnson Troop 444 Black Feather District Gate expansion for emergency aid 161 service hours

Savannah Letson

Troop 444 Black Feather District

 Created recognition plaques for her local church 133 service hours

Madison Major

Troop 2176 Alpine District • "Family Promise Day Camp" 446 service hours

Leah Jo Maloney Troop 114 Black Feather District

 Created mile markers at Waterton Canyon
 287 service hours

Allison O'Brien Troop 444 Black Feather District

Renovated the garden at a local First Presbyterian Church.
 35 service hours

Finley Selzer

Troop 1920 Black Feather District

Renovated the training yard at the Humane Society of the South Platte Valley, replaced ground cover and built new equipment. 210 service hours

Carissa Sigler Troop 1920

Black Feather District

Created a website called "Project Never Alone" to help raise awareness for mental health issues and provide free training on how to recognize and respond to mental health crises. 98 service hours

Denver Area Council Eagle Scouts 2020

404 Scouts earned the Eagle Scout rank in 2020 398 Eagle Scout Projects in 2020

64,404 Volunteer Hours given to Council service projects

\$1,636,506 Value of Volunteer Hours plus materials



2020 Activity and Event Timeline

Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet

FEBRUARY 12, 2020

- Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel
- Recognized: Class of 2019 Silver Beaver award recipients
- Journey to Excellence District recognition

Eagle Banquet

MARCH 6, 2020

- Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel
- 2019 Class of 678 Eagle Scouts
- Outstanding Eagle Scouts: John Cabeza, Andrew Graham, George Nash Smith
- Distinguished Commissioner Award: Joy Hawkins

Colorado Adventure Point

JUNE - JULY, 2020

- 2,700 youth served
- 145 activity days (virtual and in-person)
- 1,100 youth participated in virtual Merit Badge programming







FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

IUN

JULY





Report to State

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

- Old Supreme Court Room State Capitol
- 6 youth delegates reported on Scouting
- in Colorado to State legislatures

McNeil Scout Ranch at Peaceful Valley

JUNE - JULY, 2020

- 100 youth attended 4 weeks of Dobbins virtual summer programing and earned 360 Merit Badges
- "Open Scouting at Magness" (OSM) a socially distant in-person program that allowed 150 Scouts and parents to get outside and do some scouting

Popcorn Fundraiser

- AUGUST OCTOBER, 2020
- \$598,375 raised, 61% kept local for Scouts
- Top popcorn sales: \$9,000, Aiden B, Troop 199, Frontier District
- Top selling unit: \$27,337, Pack 221, Three Rivers District

13th Annual "Drive a Scout to Camp" Golf Classic

SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Sanctuary Golf Course

Presented by: RE/MAX

Scouting For Food

NOVEMBER 21, 2020

- Partnered with: Arvada Food Bank, Grace Baptist Church, Vail Salvation Army, Northwest Family Assistance, Open Arms Food Bank, Deliverance Tabernacle, Metro Ministries, Inc., Calvary South Denver, Community Ministry Southwest, Jewish Family Service of CO, SECOR Cares, FISH, Good Shepard, Harvest Baptist Church
- 10,700lbs of food donated









44th Annual Sports Breakfast

AUGUST 26, 2020

- Virtual Format
- Presented by: U.S. Bank
- Keynote Speaker: Steve Atwater, Hall of Famer, former Denver Broncos safety
- 2,500 viewers

Fall Sporting Clays

SEPTEMBER 25, 2020

- McNeil Scout Ranch at Peaceful Valley & Travis Family Sporting Clays Facility
- Presented by: BOK Financial and Merrick

Colorado Gives Day

DECEMBER 8, 2020 • \$104,654 raised • 171 donors



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DenverBoyScouts.org



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA® denver area council

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