

CELEBRATING A YEAR OF  
LEADERSHIP, SERVICE,  
AND ADVENTURE



Scouting  America  
Greater Tampa Bay Area Council

# 2024 GTBAC ANNUAL REPORT

TampaBayScouting.org



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



Message from the Council Key 3 01

Mission & Vision Statement 02

Highlights of 2024 03

Membership and Growth 04

Program Impact 05

Scout Reach Success 06

Scout Recognition 07

Volunteer Appreciation 08

A Year of Impactful Events 09

Thank You to our Donors and Partners 10

2025 and Beyond 11

2025 Impact Graphic

# MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL KEY 3



**Mike Butler**  
Scout Executive



**Benson Porter**  
Council President



**Matt Cordani**  
Council Commissioner

As we reflect on 2024, we are thrilled to share that the Greater Tampa Bay Area Council has not only met but exceeded the ambitious goals set by the Council Executive Board. The year was one of growth and achievement, made possible by your unwavering support. Here are a few highlights:

- **Membership Growth:** For the third straight year, we increased youth membership, proudly serving over 13,000 Scouts.
- **Financial Stability:** The Council achieved a balanced operating budget, ensuring sustainability.
- **Fundraising Success:** We surpassed goals for Friends of Scouting, special events, and popcorn sales.
- **Record Attendance:** Camp and program participation reached unprecedented levels, providing life-changing experiences.
- **Facility Enhancements:** Major improvements to our camp facilities were completed, with more underway.
- **Community Engagement:** Through special events, we strengthened our network and introduced Scouting to key leaders.

These achievements are a testament to the dedicated leadership of our Executive Board, the countless hours of service from our incredible volunteers, and the tireless efforts of our staff. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to making Scouting thrive in the Tampa Bay area

As we look to 2025, we aim even higher:

- **Expand our reach to serve more youth and form new Scouting units.**
- **Elevate the Scout brand to gain broader community support.**
- **Invest in camp properties to create state-of-the-art facilities for future generations.**
- **Enhance program offerings to provide unforgettable Scouting experiences.**

Achieving these goals requires us to come together with renewed energy and dedication. Your engagement will be critical in making 2025 a transformative year for Scouting in the Tampa Bay region. Together, we can ensure Scouting continues to inspire and empower youth to become tomorrow's leaders. Thank you for believing in the power of Scouting and for being an integral part of this journey.

# MISSION & VISION STATEMENT



## Vision

Scouting 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.



## We believe in

Preparing today's youth to Do Their Best Without Fear of Failure And Become Men and Women Who Live, Lead, and Serve with Integrity, Confidence, and Purpose - While having Fun as Kids, Friends, and Families





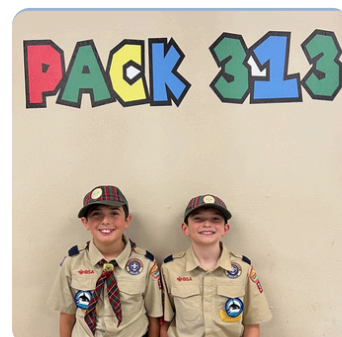
## Scouting for Food History!

Our Scouting for Food campaign has made history! Thanks to the incredible dedication and generosity of our Scouts, leaders, and community, we collected **51,939.2 pounds** of food—the largest donation in our Council's history! Every can, box, and bag contributed helps stock local food banks and support families in need. This remarkable achievement showcases the power of Scouting values in action, and we are beyond grateful to everyone who made it possible. Together, we've shown that when we serve, we strengthen our communities. Thank you for being part of this record-breaking effort!



## Popcorn Sales Success!

The 2024 popcorn season was marked by a historic achievement within our Council. While overall sales totaled over \$1.2 million! Unit 313 shattered records on a national scale by achieving an astounding \$300,000+ in popcorn sales! This achievement not only set a new standard within our Council but also established a national record for popcorn sales by a single unit. Unit 313's extraordinary accomplishment is a testament to their hard work, teamwork, and commitment to excellence.



# MEMBERSHIP & GROWTH <sup>4</sup>

2024 was a remarkable year of growth for the Greater Tampa Bay Area Council as we welcomed new Scouts and families into the adventure of Scouting. Together, we strengthened our programs, expanded our reach, and ensured that more youth had access to the life-changing experiences Scouting offers.

## 2024 Membership Highlights



- **Cub Scouts:** The foundation of our movement saw growth this year as more families discovered the excitement of Cub Scouting events like Spook-O-Ree and Nova Academy.



- **Scouts BSA:** Membership in our core program flourished, with new troops established and hundreds of youth advancing through the ranks, including 227 Eagle Scouts.



- **Exploring/Venturing/Sea Scouts:** Career-oriented Exploring programs expanded into new schools and community organizations, offering youth hands-on opportunities in law enforcement, firefighting, healthcare, and more. Meanwhile, Venturing crews and Sea Scout ships provided older Scouts with high-adventure experiences, leadership training, and opportunities to explore their passions on land *and* water. Together, these programs continue to inspire growth, teamwork, and a spirit of exploration.



10,394

Active Scouts

2,081

New Scouts

2,736

Female Scouts

227

New Eagle Scouts

# PROGRAM IMPACT

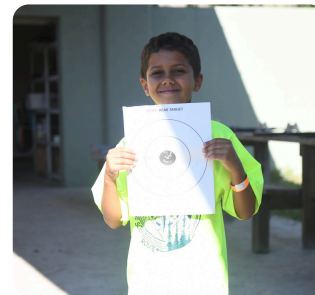
2024 was a remarkable year of growth for the Greater Tampa Bay Area Council as we welcomed new Scouts and families into the adventure of Scouting. Together, we strengthened our programs, expanded our reach, and ensured that more youth had access to the life-changing experiences Scouting offers.

## A Year of Growth and Achievement in Our Camp and Training Programs!

This year, our camp and training programs provided Scouts and leaders with unparalleled opportunities to grow, learn, and succeed. In 2024, we proudly recorded over 36,600 camping nights, reflecting the vibrant participation of our Scouting community. More than half of our resident Scouts attended one of our flagship council-led camps, while 5,281 Scouts, families, and adult leaders took part in events like Splash-O-Ree, Spook-O-Ree, and our ever-popular Resident Camps. Scouts collectively earned an impressive 8,917 merit badges, mastering skills ranging from outdoor adventure to STEM and Citizenship in Society.

Leadership development remained at the forefront of our mission. Programs like Wood Badge and National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) prepared the next generation of leaders to guide with confidence and purpose. Additionally, essential training for adult leaders—through courses such as BALOO, IOLS, and IOLST—ensured they had the tools to lead and inspire. This year, a remarkable 292 Scouters completed a national training course within our council.

These transformative experiences fostered resilience, teamwork, and a commitment to service, creating lifelong memories and equipping our Scouts and leaders for the challenges ahead.



## 36,600

Total Number of  
Nights Camped

## 5,281

# of attendee's at  
marquee Council  
Camp Event

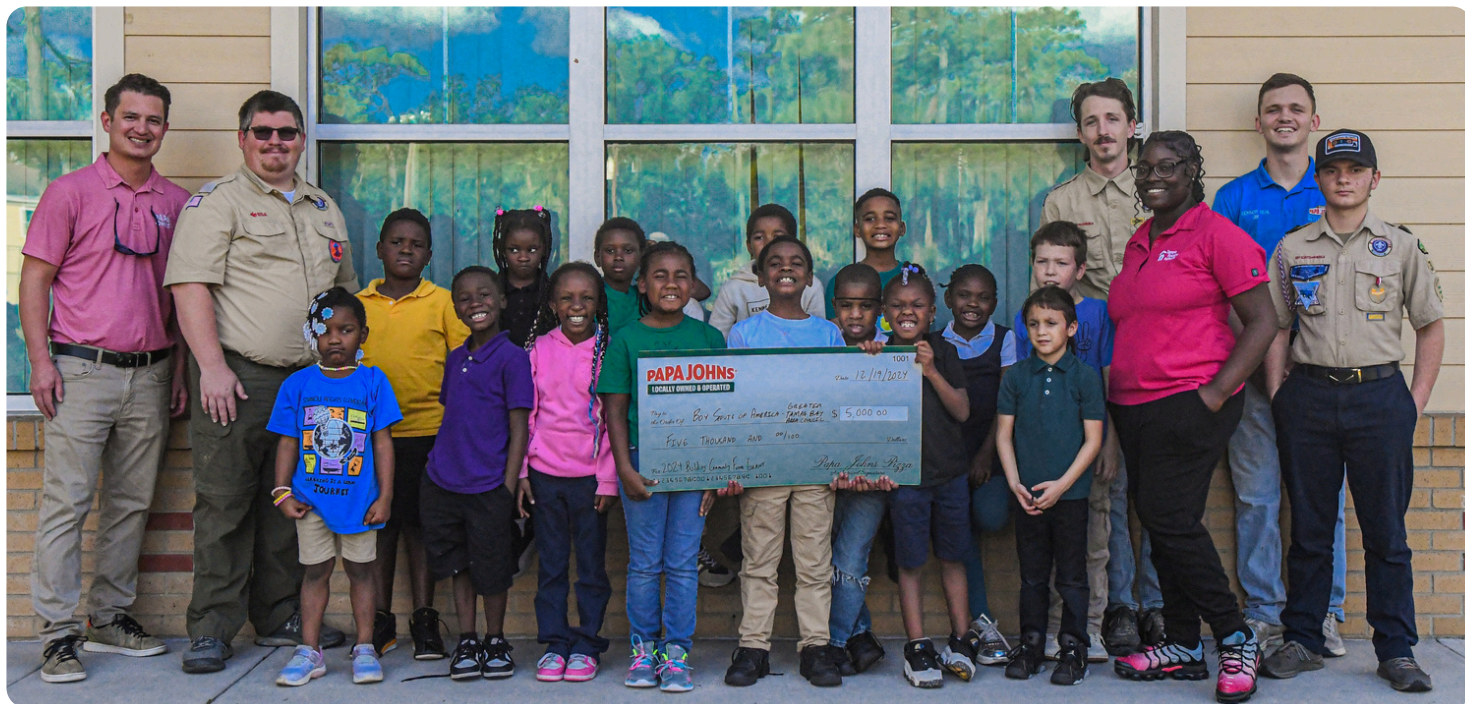
## 8,917

total # of Merit  
Badges  
Earned

## 292

Scouters attended  
a national  
training course

# SCOUTREACH SUCCESS



## Providing Scouting to ALL!

In 2024, our ScoutReach program made extraordinary strides in expanding opportunities and creating lasting memories for youth across the Greater Tampa Bay Area. Thanks to the dedication of our community partners and volunteers, we saw remarkable growth in participation, with **more Scouts than ever before joining the adventure**. From exciting outdoor activities to engaging STEM workshops and service projects, our Scouts made over **1,800 pinewood derby cars**, building character and learning valuable life skills along the way. The program's success was fueled by partnerships with **13 organizations** committed to empowering youth and ensuring that every child, regardless of background, can benefit from the values of Scouting. This year's achievements are a testament to what's possible when communities come together to inspire and support the next generation of leaders.

2,542

Youth Served  
in ScoutReach

500

First-Time  
Scouts

45

Active Units

1,800

Pinewood Derby  
Cars Made



# SCOUT RECOGNITION



## Peter P.

Troop 4 | Fort Brooke District

At just 14 years old, Peter P. made a lasting impact on the Humane Society of Tampa Bay through his Eagle Scout project, “Puppy Rescue Packs.” Inspired by his volunteer work at the shelter, Peter noticed older and special-needs dogs often struggled to find homes. Determined to help, he created 50 “Rescue Packs,” providing essentials like crates, beds, leashes, and treats to new adopters. With support from family, friends, and local businesses, Peter exceeded his \$3,000 fundraising goal and rallied his community. Read the full story online to see how Peter’s project continues to inspire and make a difference.



## Emaya W.

Troop 606 | Timucua District

Emaya was unsure about joining Scouts, but her mom encouraged her to try it for a year. That decision changed everything. Through camping, event planning, and leadership roles, Emaya gained confidence, resilience, and lifelong values like kindness and trustworthiness. A highlight of her journey was attending National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT), where she discovered her leadership potential and returned excited to inspire others. Read the full story online to see how Scouting shaped Emaya into a confident and capable leader.



# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



**A legacy of service, a future of impact – all made possible by you.**

Our volunteers are the heart and soul of the Greater Tampa Bay Area Council. Every campfire lit, knot tied, and lesson shared reflects the unwavering dedication and passion of those who generously give their time and talents to inspire and empower the next generation. In 2024, over 3,460 incredible volunteers contributed their energy and expertise to shape the lives of Scouts, providing them with invaluable opportunities to learn, grow, and lead.

We are deeply grateful for your commitment to nurturing tomorrow's leaders. To learn more about volunteering opportunities or to nominate an outstanding volunteer for recognition, visit [TampaBayScouting.org/council-award-nomination-forms](https://TampaBayScouting.org/council-award-nomination-forms).

Together, we're building character, fostering resilience, and creating a brighter future –

***One Scout at a time.***

Dedicated Volunteers

**3,467**

Est Values of  
Volunteer Hours

**\$1.5 Million**

Volunteer Hours  
Donated

**47,711 +**

# A YEAR OF IMPACTFUL EVENTS



This year's special events brought our Scouting communities together and strengthened our mission in remarkable ways.

Among the highlights, we proudly honored the **Glazer Family at the Distinguished Citizen Award (DCA) Dinner** for their exceptional contributions to our community. **The Council Golf Tournament** offered a day of camaraderie on the greens while raising crucial funds for our programs. At the **Council Recognition Banquet**, we celebrated the achievements of Scouts, volunteers, and leaders who exemplify service and dedication. The **Annual Clay Shoot** added excitement and friendly competition, with proceeds supporting youth development initiatives.

These events, along with many others, not only funded vital programs but also fostered connection and inspired continued growth.

We are grateful to everyone who attended, sponsored, and volunteered. Your support makes these moments possible and ensures we continue delivering life-changing experiences. Here's to another year of celebration, connection, and impact!

Total Money Raised

**\$560,000**

# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS & PARTNERS



The Greater Tampa Bay Area Council is deeply grateful for the **unwavering generosity of our major donors, whose commitment to Scouting has transformed countless lives.** These dedicated supporters provide the foundation for our mission, **enabling us to deliver life-changing programs that instill values, leadership, and a spirit of adventure in our youth.** Their contributions fuel our efforts to reach more communities, enhance outdoor experiences, and provide resources for Scouts to thrive. **Together, we are building a brighter future, one Scout at a time,** and we proudly honor their vital role in making it all possible.



# 2025 AND BEYOND



## Future Plans

In 2025, the Greater Tampa Bay Area Council will expand Scouting's reach by launching innovative STEM programs, fostering inclusion, strengthening community partnerships, and enhancing leadership opportunities to prepare Scouts for impactful futures.

## Camp Investments

In 2025, we'll invest in key improvements, including a new shooting range at Sand Hill Scout Reservation for state-of-the-art marksmanship training, a new dining hall at Camp Brorein, and upgraded bathrooms across our facilities to enhance comfort and accessibility for all.

The future of Scouting in the Greater Tampa Bay Area is bright, thanks to the unwavering support of our Scouts, families, volunteers, and community partners. Together, we are creating opportunities for youth to discover their potential, develop character, and make a lasting impact. As we continue this journey, we invite you to join us in shaping the next chapter of Scouting—one filled with adventure, growth, and service to others.

**Join Us for the Adventure Ahead!**



# Celebrating our Year of **SCOUTING**

**10,394**

Active Scouts in the Council

**2,081**

First Time Scouts



**36**

New units formed

**227**

New Eagle Scouts



**8,917**

Merit badges earned across the council



**Scouting America**

Greater Tampa Bay Area Council

**2024 By The numbers**

**\$1.5 Million**

Est. value of 47,711 +  
volunteer hours

**2,736**

Female Scouts



**163**

Community Partners

**2,542**

Youth Served by  
ScoutReach

**5,145**

Almost 50% of our  
Scouts come from  
diverse backgrounds

**51,939.2**

Pounds of food  
donated to local  
food banks



**\$1.2+ Million**  
total popcorn sold

Learn more about Scouting at [TampaBayScouting.org](https://TampaBayScouting.org)