



# DCS 517

# Understanding Your District

Revision date 12/15/2025

# Learning Objectives



**By the end of this session, participants should be able to...**

- **Align** service initiatives with overarching goals
- **Utilize** data to make informed decisions
- **Empower** volunteers through collaboration

# Identifying and Meeting Unit Needs



Aligning: Vision

Utilizing: Unit data

Empowering: Volunteers



# Clarifying Vision and Goals



- **Define Vision**
- **Set SMART Goals**
- **Focus on Impact**





## Identifying Gaps

- Resource Gaps
- Prioritize Needs
- Optimize Resources





# Lists to Action



## **Analyze Survey Results**

Identify common gaps and insights from district responses.



## **Break Down Tasks**

Transform initiatives into actionable and manageable assignments.



## **Leverage Team Dynamics**

Organize teams to execute tasks based on volunteer strengths.

# Understanding Your District Survey



The screenshot shows the Scouting America website interface. The top navigation bar includes the Scouting America logo, a search icon, and links for 'BE A SCOUT', 'SCOUTSHOP', 'GIVE', and 'MY.Scouting'. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal menu with categories like 'PROGRAMS', 'SCOUTING SAFELY', 'AWARDS', 'ABOUT', 'TRAINING', 'RESOURCES', 'OUTDOOR PROGRAMS', 'SKILLS', 'HIGH ADVENTURE', and 'PARTNERS'. The main content area is titled 'Retention Resources' and contains two sections: 'Organizing Commissioner Teams' and a list of resources. The 'Understanding Your District \*NEW\*' link is highlighted with a red box.

**Retention Resources**

Keeping commissioners engaged as volunteers helps Scouting units grow and make a bigger impact. When commissioners stay involved, less time is spent training new helpers, allowing more focus on supporting units. Experienced volunteers understand Scouting traditions, build strong connections, and inspire others to follow in their footsteps. A committed team strengthens relationships and fosters a supportive, fun community. Dedicated commissioners help Scouting thrive for years to come!

**Organizing Commissioner Teams**

Well-organized commissioner teams support local Scout units by matching their specific needs to a tailored approach to unit service. A district or council can organize its commissioners in many ways to best support its local needs. There is no one-size-fits-all approach that works nationwide, but a good commissioner organization helps units get the support they need when they need it. The Organizing Commissioner Teams guide and associated Understanding Your District resource are designed to enable exploration of various models that could work for your specific situation.

- [Organizing Commissioner Teams](#) \*NEW\*
- [Understanding Your District](#) \*NEW\*
- [Organizing Effective Commissioner Events for Scouting America](#) \*NEW\*



<https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/recruiting-and-retention/>

# Understanding Your District Survey



# Revealing Gaps



- **Group Discussion**
- **Identify Hidden Gaps**
- **Validate Priorities**





## Organizing Tasks and Assigning Roles



### **Refine Task Lists**

Break down objectives into actionable and clear tasks.



### **Assign Roles Strategically**

Match volunteers to tasks based on skills and availability.



### **Promote Team Collaboration**

Encourage group work and shared responsibility.

# Driving Forward



## Now take a look at your existing list...

- Are there things that can be broken down into tasks or short-term assignments?
- Are there items that can be done by teams/groups?
- Do you have specific people already in mind?



# Summary



- **Unified Vision**
- **Strategic Execution**
- **Celebrate Progress**



**Questions?  
Comments!**

THANK  YOU!!

---