

# 2008 FAMILY FOS FACT SHEET

## What is Family Friends of Scouting?

Family Friends of Scouting (FOS) is an annual, council-wide presentation conducted in every pack, troop, crew, team or post between the months of November and March. The Family FOS campaign asks parents and families to consider financially supporting the Scouting program in an effort to offset the cost of providing Scouting to their child.

## Why is Family FOS important?

The true cost of Scouting is greater than the \$10 registration fee, dues your pack, troop, crew, team or post may require and the fee charged for camp. Registration fees and camping costs are kept low so all youth can experience the fun and excitement of the Scouting program. Family FOS ensures that quality Scouting can happen for our Scouts by supporting the cost of camp upkeep and expansion, training of adult leaders, advancement record keeping, professional staff guidance, support and more!

## Should every family in my pack, troop, crew, team or post give to FOS?

Every family should be given the opportunity to experience an FOS presentation, learn more about the ways in which FOS benefits the program their child enjoys and consider making a gift dependent on their giving ability. The true cost of support the council provides for each child is approximately \$150 annually.

## But I'm a leader and give my time, why should I support FOS too?

As a leader, you've dedicated time and energy to the Scouting program. You've probably also benefited first-hand from the many things that Family FOS helps to make possible; seven quality camping programs, training for leaders, monthly roundtables, professional support and five service centers with resources. When compared with the cost of many other programs that young people join, Scouting is relatively inexpensive. Your support and participation in the Family FOS program in your unit is critical for its success.

## What benefits does my unit receive?

Other than the benefits mentioned previously (low camping costs, quality camping facilities, etc.), you will receive another recognition item if you reach your silver or gold achievement as established by your District FOS Chair.

## How do we conduct a successful Family FOS program?

Follow the presentation preparation and suggested script within this booklet. Setting a presentation date/time/location is the first step! Upon completion of the presentation forward the results to the District FOS Chair or your District Executive within **ONE WEEK.**

## **How is the goal determined for our unit?**

The goal for your unit takes into consideration the following factors: your unit's 2007 goal or what was actually raised, the percent of families giving in your district, the average Family FOS gift in your district and the number of families registered in your unit on June 30, 2007. Your unit goal should be set fairly and be a motivator. If you have questions, call your district Family FOS Chair.

## UNIT FAMILY FOS PRESENTER

### Position Description

1. Attend training on October 17<sup>th</sup> or at the Pow Wow on November 3<sup>rd</sup> or the University of Scouting on January 26<sup>th</sup>.
2. Communicate with parents and leaders of the upcoming FOS presentation and its importance. Presentation dates should be set anytime between November and March.
3. \*Make the presentation and tell the Scouting story using the script with video to inform parents of:
  - Importance of the program.
  - Benefits of FOS to parents, leaders and youth.
  - Different giving levels and the appropriate recognition items (Council shoulder strip, Silver Achievement, Gold Achievement, etc.)

All gifts are gratefully appreciated.

  - Need to turn in pledge card on the evening of presentation.
  - **\*All cards returned eligible for prize drawing of one Scouting cooler.**
  - Personal belief in the program!
4. Organize the pledge cards and donations; record them on the unit ledger sheet. Keep a copy of the completed ledger for the unit. Turn in the pledge cards, donations, and a copy of the unit ledger within one week of the presentation (donors expect their checks to be cashed or their credit cards billed in a timely manner).
5. Follow up with families that did not attend the presentation to solicit their gift. Subsequent pledge cards and donations can be sent to the Scout office in the extra follow-up pledge envelope in the FOS packet.

\*If you do not have a leader or parent that is comfortable conducting the presentation, please contact the District Family Friends of Scouting Chair for assistance.

