

**Contact:**

Sarah Archer

Phone: 812.232.9496

[sarcher@crossroadsbsa.org](mailto:sarcher@crossroadsbsa.org)**Prepared. For Life.™**

## **Scoutreach Program Proven to Make Cub Scouts Healthier**

### *ISU Students Evaluate Local Cub Scout Programs and Discover Positive Results*

**Terre Haute, Ind., February 21, 2013** – A recent program evaluation report released by the Indiana State University Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (ISU-NLA) campus affiliate reveals that the local Scoutreach program by the Boy Scouts of America is making significant progress at achieving key development program goals for Cub Scout-aged youth.

ISU-NLA students have been working with nine Scoutreach Cub Scout Packs in the Terre Haute area to evaluate the effectiveness of the Scouting program. By using scientific research methods, the evaluation team has determined that the Scoutreach program is positively impacting Scouts' lifestyle behaviors related to personal fitness, citizenship, and character development.

Scoutreach is a Boy Scouts of America National Council initiative that strives to provide all youth with a quality Scouting program regardless of circumstances, neighborhoods, or backgrounds. This program focuses on five of the eight areas of youth development: physical, cognitive, emotional, character, and citizenship.

From September 1, 2012, to December 10, 2012, the program evaluation team collected data related to the intended Cub Scout developmental program goals. Data revealed an improvement in healthy behaviors in all five targeted areas of youth development by the Cub Scouts.

Furthermore, statistically significant findings resulted in the areas of physical health, cognitive health, and civic health. These significant findings confirm the Scoutreach program is making progress towards developing local boys into healthy, ethical citizens.

Tony Doyle, district Scoutreach specialist for Crossroads of America Council, is grateful for the opportunity to evaluate and improve Scoutreach programming.

“The partnership with the ISU-NLA chapter and my district Scoutreach team has been an amazing opportunity to really do an in depth evaluation of our program's effectiveness,” Doyle said. “Budgetary constraints prevent most nonprofits from being able to undertake such a venture, but thanks to these cooperative efforts, we are well along the path of making our program even stronger and more effective for the youth.”

] more [

The collaboration between the ISU-NLA campus affiliate and the Scouts organization began two years ago under the leadership of Dr. Nathan Schaumleffel, associate professor at ISU and campus/executive director of the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Certification Program.

“Over the last two academic years, through President Bradley’s Presidential Student Employment Funding Program, we have been able to hire seven Nonprofit Leadership Alliance students to plan and implement a formative program impact evaluation process for the Scoutreach Program. With the support of Troy Fears of the United Way of the Wabash Valley, this project was partially funded by Indiana Campus Compact,” said Schaumleffel.

The partnership between the ISU Nonprofit Leadership Alliance students and the Scoutreach Program has proven beneficial for both entities.

“Not only has this program evaluation validated the success of this program for six to 10 year old boys, but it has provided a community engagement and service-learning experience that is career-shaping for our students,” Schaumleffel said.

Boy Scouts of America is a youth development organization that’s designed to prepare young people to make ethical and moral decisions throughout their lifetimes. The goals of Scouting consist of citizenship training, character development and personal fitness. Throughout the Boy Scout program, young people are encouraged to advance through ranks by fulfilling requirements in the areas of leadership, service and outdoor skills. For more information on Scouting, call (317) 813-7125 or 877-925-1900 (toll free) or visit [www.crossroadsbsa.org](http://www.crossroadsbsa.org).

###