



The BSA Expands Programs to Welcome Girls

LANSING - Today, the Boy Scouts of America Board of Directors unanimously approved an initiative to provide girls with the opportunity to join its iconic Cub Scout program. Board members also approved the development of a Scouting program for older girls that will enable them to advance and earn the highest rank of Eagle Scout.

“I wish this would have happened 10 years ago, because my daughter would have loved the opportunity to earn the Eagle Scout Rank.” Said MCC Board President Raymond Davis. “I have taken 3 Scout units on high adventure trips to Europe over the past 3 years, and have witnessed firsthand the value of having a coed program. All European programs are co-ed. This change is going to allow us to service entire families and to give all youth the opportunity to learn the leadership skills and the important principles such as ethics and environmentalism that are inherent in our wonderful program.”

Following the announcement, Donald Shepard, CEO/Scout Executive for the lower peninsula of Michigan, said “The Michigan Crossroads Council is looking forward to embracing the changes approved to the Cub Scout Program, which will enable us to meet the needs of families interested in positive and lifelong experiences for their children. We strive to give all of our youth the opportunity to experience what our organization does best – developing character and leadership for all young people.”

“We will execute the program in the Fall of 2018, according to the plans outlined by the Boy Scouts of America, and will work with our Chartering Partners throughout Michigan to offer families an important additional choice in meeting the character development needs of all of their children. “

The Boy Scouts of America helps young people be “Prepared. For Life.®”

About the Michigan Crossroads Council, Boy Scouts of America:

Serving young people between 6 and 20 years of age in 66 counties throughout the Lower Peninsula, the Michigan Crossroads Council is America’s largest Boy Scout Council. Our mission is to provide one of the nation’s foremost youth programs focused on character development and values-based leadership training. Scouting offers youth, regardless of financial circumstances, opportunities to reach their fullest potential and become leaders in all areas of their lives through a variety of activities, including service to their communities. Each year Scouts engage in thousands of hours of impactful community service, such as clothing and food drives, which improve the quality of life for Michigan’s residents.

The Council provides a variety of youth development and camping programs that promote character, leadership and life skills to more than 68,000 Michigan boys and girls. The Council works with nearly 25,000 adult volunteer leaders in conjunction with over 2500 partner organizations to teach young people the values and behaviors they need to succeed in life. More information on the Michigan Crossroads Council can be found at www.michiganscouting.org/.