



2017

**Blackhawk Area Council
Boy Scouts of America**

Unit Participation Packet

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

GOOD TURN – 2017

Dear Unit Leader:

Millions of Americans go hungry at some time every month. Hunger is a problem we can do something about by working together in the Scouting for Food Good Turn.

The Scouting for Food Good Turn is a collection of nonperishable food. The purpose of Scouting for Food is to:

- Help meet the needs of the hungry in Northern Illinois and Southwest Wisconsin.
- Expose Scouts to the highest ideals of the Scouting movement through a practical and dramatic experience in the principle of the “Daily Good Turn” and “Helping people at all times”.

Who: The Blackhawk Area Council, Boy Scouts of America serves over 18,000 youth in a twelve county area of Northern Illinois and Southwestern Wisconsin. Over 5,000 registered adult leaders volunteer their time to deliver a quality program of activity that is fun and educational and designed to grow traits of good character, leadership, and participating citizenship.

What: The **Scouting for Food Good Turn** is a massive food collection effort by those 18,000 youths and their leaders in the twelve county area of our two state area council. The Blackhawk Area Council will join hands with local businesses and media in a massive community food collection good turn.

The Scouting for Food campaign will involve a door-to-door food collection effort by Scouts. On the first of two successive Saturdays, Scouts will distribute information door hangers throughout their designated area. The following Saturday the bags of food are to be collected and taken to local food pantries.

When: Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers will distribute Scouting for Food information door hangers in their neighborhoods on Saturday, February 25, 2017, asking people to join us in fighting hunger in our region. The Scouts will return one week later, on March 4th, to pick up the bags of food and then deliver them to approved local food pantries.

Dozens of area food pantries will receive the donated canned food, and will in turn, give the food to thousands of individuals and families in need. We expect to collect over 100,000 items of food.

FACTS ABOUT HUNGER:

- An estimated 30 million people nation wide, are below the poverty level and at risk of going hungry for a significant period of time in any given month.
- Of that number nation wide, approximately 13 million of those without adequate food are children.

- Hunger hurts. Prolonged hunger causes malnutrition that leads to permanent tissue damage, and leaves its sufferers – particularly children and the elderly – susceptible to illness and infection.

HERE'S THE PLAN:

Pass this booklet on to your unit's Scouting for Food Drive Chairperson.

Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, Venture Crews and Explorer Posts sign up to distribute the door hangers to households in their neighborhoods on Saturday, February 25, 2017, and agree to pick the bags of food up on Saturday, March 4, 2017. Bags are taken to a unit staging area for counting and sorting. Unit report form is filled out.

The collected food will be taken to pre-approved food pantries in your district. The food pantries will be local community food pantries. The food your unit collects will remain in your community.

The door hangers will be provided to the units, courtesy of several outstanding corporate citizens in our area.

If your unit did not pick up the information door hangers by the February roundtable, please contact your district's Scouting for Food Coordinator.

Scouts and leaders should be in uniform.

Remember – Let the youth members and parents know why they are participating in this Good Turn project. Also let the public know.

Scouting for Food Unit Follow-Up

Units may wish to take time after the Scouting for Food collection to complete one or more of the following project ideas.

- Spend a few minutes at the unit meeting discussing the boys' impressions of this good turn. Relate Scouting for Food to the Cub Scout Promise, Motto, and Law of the Pack, or the Scout Oath or Promise and the Scout Law.
- Cub Scouts might draw pictures showing their part in the project for display at your next pack meeting.
- Take plenty of action photographs of the Scouts. Make a picture display of what your unit has done.
- Your pack may develop a skit describing participation in Scouting for Food.
- Plan a way for your unit to continue participating in a local food drive. There will always be a need.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD 2017

The Blackhawk Area Council invites all Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops and Venture crews to make plans to participate in the largest one-day food collection program in the two-state region! We expect that our local Scouts will collect **over 100,000 containers** of non-perishable food in the 12 county area of the Blackhawk Area Council.

Scouting for Food is a great community service opportunity for the youth and adult leaders of the council. The collection effort makes a significant impact in stocking food pantry shelves with dry goods and other staples for needy families in their respective communities.

<p>Dates: February 25, 2017 – distribution day March 4, 2017 – food bag collection day</p>

To participate, simply fill out the Scouting for Food participation form below and turn it in to your Scouting for Food District Coordinator. Names and mailing address are included in this packet. Do it today!

<p><u>Count us in! Scouting for Food – 2017</u></p>
District _____
Pack _____ Troop _____ Team _____ Crew _____ Post _____
Scouting for Food contact person:
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (_____) _____
Email _____

Unit Scouting for Food Chair Position Description

1. Secure commitment of unit leadership to participate.
2. Accept responsibility for successful participation of your unit.
3. Ensure your unit is signed up to participate.
4. Promote participation at den, pack and/or troop and crew meetings.
5. Attend district briefing meeting to secure information and collection bags and assignment of collection territory.
6. Ensure bags are distributed to youth in unit.
7. Ensure the area your unit is covering is clearly marked on a map and coordinated with the other units in the district or community.
8. Ensure each group of Scouts via unit leadership, understands what areas they are to distribute and pick up food bags.
9. Ensure that proper adult supervision and support is recruited to assist with the distribution and collection of food bags.
10. Ensure participants understand where food is to be taken.
11. Contact a local food pantry in advance so they know your unit is delivering food.
12. Count the number of items your unit collects. Turn in the report form to the District Scouting for Food Coordinator for final tally.
13. If you have any questions, contact your District Scouting for Food Coordinator.

2017 SCOUTING FOR FOOD UNIT ROSTER

FOR PACK – TROOP - CREW # _____

DISTRICT _____

Please list the youth and adults that participated in your unit's Scouting for Food Good Turn. Give this form to your district's Scouting for Food Coordinator.

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