

SCOUTING AMERICA

# Increasing African American Involvement

A Commitment to Youth Development



# The Evolution of Scouting

A Commitment to Inclusion



# Scouting America Timeline

## Founding



Scouting was founded in 1910, promoting youth development and community service.

## Name Change



In 2019, Scouts BSA was introduced to enhance inclusivity and modernize representation.

## Strategic Focus



A strategic priority was established to increase African American involvement in Scouting.

# Leadership Development Pathways

Empowering Youth Through Scouting

## Cub Scouts

Cub Scouts provides a foundation for **youth leadership**, fostering essential skills through age-appropriate activities that promote teamwork, community involvement, and personal growth within a supportive environment.

## Scouts BSA

Scouts BSA emphasizes a progression of **leadership growth**, encouraging older youth to take on leadership roles while mentoring younger members, instilling confidence and responsibility as they advance through ranks.

## Scouting Programs for Older Youth/Young Adults

These programs targets **older adolescents**, offering opportunities for leadership in high-adventure settings, promoting individual growth and team dynamics while engaging in community service and personal development projects.

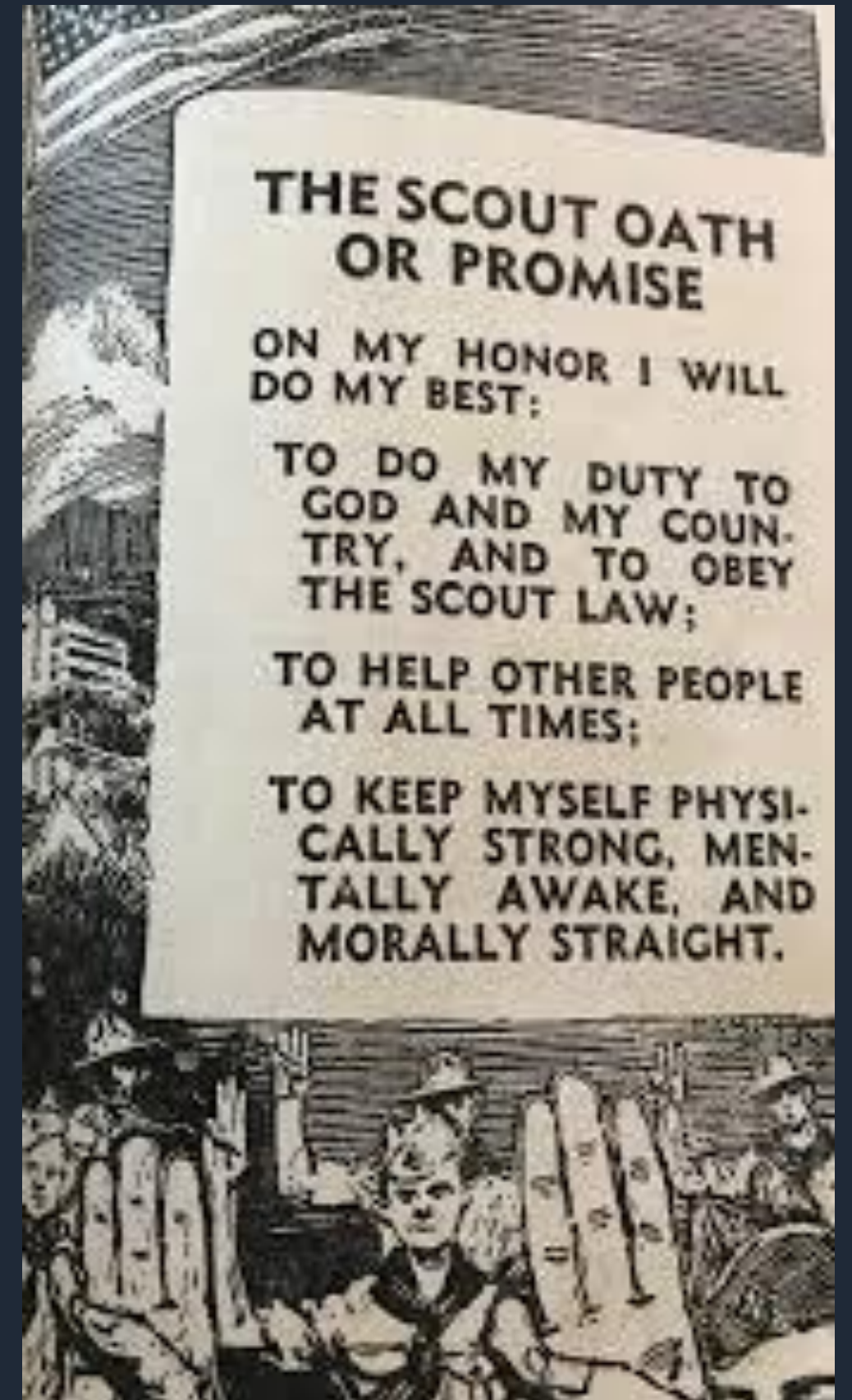
# Leadership Foundations

## Core Scouting Values

Scouting emphasizes character, citizenship, personal fitness, and responsibility as foundational leadership skills, fostering confidence and resilience among youth, equipping them to make meaningful contributions to their communities.

A Scout is...

- Trustworthy
- Loyal
- Helpful
- Friendly
- Courteous
- Kind
- Obedient
- Cheerful
- Thrifty
- Brave
- Clean
- Reverent



# Building Strong Leadership

Engaging Communities for Impact



## Role Models

Adult leaders serve as **critical role models**, inspiring African American youth by demonstrating commitment to values embodied in Scouting. Their presence fosters trust and encourages youth participation and development.

## Community Engagement

Involving families and faith communities creates a **support network**, enhancing the Scouting experience. This engagement strengthens ties and ensures that Scouting is embraced and valued within local cultures.

## Civic Responsibility

Scouting emphasizes participation in service projects, demonstrating **civic responsibility**. These initiatives not only benefit communities but also instill a sense of pride and purpose in youth participants.

# Impacting Communities

Scouts engage in community cleanup initiatives, demonstrating **leadership and civic responsibility** while fostering teamwork and strengthening local ties through meaningful service projects.



# Expanding Opportunities

## Representation and Cultural Pride



## Increasing Participation

Strategies aimed at broadening African American participation in Scouting are essential for fostering a more inclusive environment that reflects our diverse communities and enriches the Scouting experience.

## Cultural Connections

Aligning Scouting's principles with African American heritage enhances cultural pride, building a sense of identity that draws youth into Scouting and encourages them to embrace their roots and leadership potential.

## Lifelong Skills

Scouting develops critical lifelong skills such as leadership, teamwork, and community service, equipping youth to become active contributors to their communities and empowering them for future success.

# Scouting and Community Identity

Values Aligned with Development



1.9%

African American youth representation

Out of 7,988 total youth in the Capitol Area Council, **only 156** identify as African American, highlighting a significant opportunity for growth and increased involvement in Scouting programs.

# 54%

African American Adult Leaders

Out of a total of 63 African American adult leaders in the Capitol Area Council, 34 are African American men, showcasing **significant representation** and highlighting the potential for increased involvement and leadership growth within Scouting.

# Let's Work Together

Let's work together to:

- ✓ Partner as Chartered Organizations in our neighborhoods
- ✓ Serve on District and Council Boards to guide the future of Scouting
- ✓ Recruit and mentor the next generation of African American youth

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