



Key 3 Perspectives



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We all recognize Scouting is a great program for kids, and we know how effective it can be for churches and other sponsoring community organizations with goals to serve young people. However, there is another group that can benefit a lot from Scouting: The families of Scouts. This does not happen, though, unless the Pack or Troop Committee plans for it.

Things that draw families closer to Scouting are getting families to events and activities designed to be fun and welcoming for them as well as their Scouts, and encouraging parents to be actively engaged at home with their Scout about Scouting. Another great way to strengthen our tie to a family (and to strengthen the unit) is to ask the parent to take a role as a volunteer. This can be something as simple as making a few phone calls each month, sending out a monthly newsletter or going on several outdoor activities each year.

Making a general announcement at a pack meeting or a troop court of honor that we need more adult help does not usually work very well.

Experience tells us we will have the most success with this if we set the expectation when a boy joins that everyone needs to do something to help, and then give people choices of the things that need doing. Millennial parents want to be involved with their children's activities, but often do not know how to go about it. This approach makes it easy for them.

The result is a better program for Scouts, fun for siblings and a much more meaningful experience for parents than "dropping them off and picking them up".