



## What is a Chartered Organization?

A chartered organization is a community-based group whose objectives, mission and methodologies are compatible with those of the BSA. It agrees to use the Scouting program to further its mission to serve young people. Chartered Partners are the churches, civic clubs, temples, schools, mosques, civic clubs, and other community organizations that work hand in hand with Simon Kenton Council to offer Scouting to their organization's families and the community at large. The Chartered Organization relationship has been one of the foundations of the Boy Scouts of America since it was founded in 1910. We want to emphasize how important our Chartered Partners are to the success of Scouting in our council, and we want to do everything in our power to preserve and nurture these relationships.

Some of the strongest, most tenured, and sustainable chartered organizations that support Scouting units have been organized through faith-based organizations such as churches. Other vibrant, long-term chartered organizations involve community groups, service clubs, fraternal organizations, and educational groups. Chartered organizations, such as "Parents of" or "Friends of" a pack/troop/crew, while seeming adequate at times, often lack the community roots, leading to inconsistency in maintaining youth tenure, proper meeting locations, and adult volunteer succession plans. As a result, the BSA no longer promotes organizing new units with these types of groups due to the advantages provided by community-based organizations.

### Is your unit changing Chartering Organizations?

- 1. Talk with your Unit/District commissioner. Set up a meeting with your Unit Serving Professional to discuss:**
  - Why is the change needed?
  - What new chartering organization options are close-by to your unit?
  - Setting a meeting with the heads of potential new organizations to discuss what it means to be a chartering organization. Work with your BSA staff member to coordinate.
- 2. After the conversation with the new chartering organization, it's mostly paperwork:**
  - Get the old charter organization to write a letter releasing your unit's funds, equipment, number, and charter. Preferably on letter head- must be signed by the Institution Head and the Charter Organization Representative of the old organization
  - A unit leader, along with a Scouting staff member should meet with the new organization to:
    - Determine who is the "executive officer"
    - Determine who is the "charter organization representative" (COR)
  - Have the new executive officer complete a "New Unit Application"
  - Have the new charter organization representative fill out an adult application, attach proof of Youth Protection Training and position specific training for the COR position
  - Review the Annual Charter Agreement with both the executive officer and the COR. All 4 people (unit leader, executive officer, chartered organization representative and BSA staff member) sign the agreement
- 3. Turn in all the completed paperwork (letter of release, new unit application, completed chartered organization representative application with proof of YPT and position specific training attached, and a copy of the annual charter agreement) to your unit serving executive or to the council service center.**