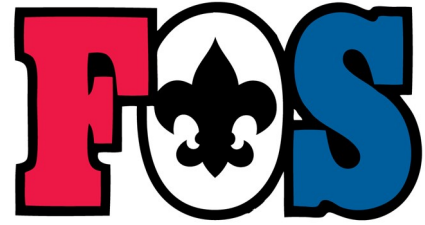




BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
NARRAGANSETT COUNCIL



## Why Friends of Scouting (FOS)?

Every youth deserves the opportunity for fun, exciting, adventure-filled activities that foster character; citizenship; physical, mental, and emotional fitness; and life-long values that are found in Scouting.

When a Scout unit collects dues from the youth, \$24 goes to the national office of the Boy Scouts of America for the youth's annual membership registration. The remainder is kept in the unit to fund their annual program. None of the dues money goes to help the Narragansett Council, BSA.

The annual Friends of Scouting campaign is an opportunity for families, friends, alumni, businesses, and community organizations to support Scouting at the council level. This six-month campaign (January to June) provides funding so that Narragansett Council can provide resources and support to each unit, whether in the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venturing, Sea Scout, Explorer, or Learning for Life program.

Money donated to the Friends of Scouting campaign helps provide for:

- In-person training for youth and adult leaders
- Operation and maintenance of nine camping properties
- Keeping events and activities affordable
- Paid accident and liability insurance for all youth and adult leaders
- Assistance to those in need
- Program support such as: AV equipment; newsletters; website; Roundtable materials; Scout Shops, etc.

## What does my unit get from FOS?

For the 2017 FOS campaign, Narragansett Council has revamped their Unit Incentive Program. This year units have the opportunity to earn a Narragansett Council Scout Shop credit. Here is how it works:

- Unit presentation date must be submitted to the Service Area FOS Team prior to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016.
- Presentation date must be on or before April 30<sup>th</sup> 2017.
- Reach your unit goal at the time of your presentation and the unit will receive a credit equal to 5% of the total dollars the unit raises by May 31<sup>st</sup> 2017.
- Reach your goal within 30 days of your presentation date and the unit will receive a credit equal to 3% of the total dollars the unit raises by May 31<sup>st</sup> 2017.

The credit may be used for purchases at the Scout Shop, pay for camp fees, membership fees, etc.

### **How much should families, friends, or alumni give?**

The amount of a pledge is a personal decision for each family based on their economic situation and what value they get from the Scouting program. Gifts can vary from a few dollars to several hundred or thousands of dollars. These annual gifts can be made as one-time payments, quarterly, or monthly payments.

Some employers have a matching gift program. Some companies even make financial contributions for volunteering time. Gift donors should check with their employers to see if they do either as they will count towards the unit's FOS goal.

### **How does a unit maximize their opportunity with the incentive program?**

- Submit your presentation date as early as possible.
- Schedule your presentation as early as possible in the year. Could even schedule for the end of 2016.
- Utilize the 2017 Family Friends of Scouting Unit Guide
- Make sure your unit has a FOS Coordinator. Units with active coordinators have seen pledges more than double.
- Encourage families to be in attendance at the FOS presentation. Every donation helps your unit and the council, no matter the value. Encourage as close to 100% participation as possible.
- Reach out to unit alumni and have them make a pledge through the unit.

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