

SCOUTREACH

Chief Seattle
Council

The **Scoutreach** program, Chief Seattle Council's initiative ensuring all young people have the opportunity to join the Boy Scouts of America regardless of their financial circumstances, neighborhood, or ethnic background, helps bring Scouting programs and values to underserved youth. Through community partnerships with groups including the Seattle Public Schools, YMCA of Greater Seattle, and Kent Youth and Family Services, we bring the unique Adventure of Scouting to youth who need it the most.

The Scoutreach program is designed to inspire kids to get outdoors, learn about wildlife, and become more aware of the nature in their neighborhood and community. A child who joins the Scoutreach program will learn outdoor skills from orienteering, wilderness first aid, outdoor cooking and more, all the while building self-confidence and an understanding of what it means to set a goal and achieve it. Scoutreach prides itself on finding new ways to engage children in the outdoors.

Alongside the Scoutreach program, the Chief Seattle Council also offers the **Children of Incarcerated Parents** (COIP) program. The COIP program works closely with Washington State Department of Corrections to provide programming for inmates rebuilding ties with their families while being incarcerated. This program focuses on connecting parents with their children and through the creation of a safe place works on breaking the cycle of incarceration.

The Children of Incarcerated Parents Program (COIP) exists to provide youth who have family members that are currently incarcerated with positive community associations. Recognizing that parental relationships and encouragement have a significant impact on the youth, the COIP program involves the offender mother's in a portion of the program. For these youth, establishing pro-social relationships in Scouting built on trust and reliability is critical. While the programs primary focus on the boys who are affected by incarceration there is also a strong emphasis on working with the mothers as well.

For the mothers, we strive to build and maintain healthy connections with their sons. Upon release, the mothers will have the skills and support necessary to stay involved in their local community in a positive way. The mothers are now trained to help run a community troop meeting and to be a positive role model for their children. While still incarcerated, these mothers must remain infraction free to continue participation in the program.



CHIEF SEATTLE COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA