

# Building Evidence in Scouting Together

## Announcing the Boy Scouts of America Building Evidence in Scouting Together (BEST) Study!



### **INTRODUCING THE BSA BUILDING EVIDENCE IN SCOUTING TOGETHER (BEST) STUDY**

The BEST Study explores the Scouting experience to understand how troop leader practices promote the development of Scouts. The goal of this study is to improve programming for youth and adults.

The BSA, Montclair State University, and the American Institutes for Research are partnering on this first-of-its-kind national study. The study is taking place between now and 2020 and has been approved by the Montclair State University Institutional Review Board (#17-18-1105).

The study team is inviting 2,500 troops and individuals within those troops to participate.

### **WHAT DO INDIVIDUALS FROM SELECTED TROOPS DO FOR THE STUDY?**

We want to learn more about their experiences as a current Scout, Scoutmaster, or Assistant Scoutmaster in the program formerly known as Boy Scouts. **Study participants will take an online survey three times between now and early 2020. Some participants also will be invited for phone interviews.**

Participation is voluntary. Selected troops and individuals within those troops who do not want to participate can choose not to sign up.

### **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER INDIVIDUALS FROM SELECTED TROOPS PARTICIPATE?**

**Individuals who complete each survey will earn one piece of a three-part BEST Study patch, pictured above. Troops will earn up to \$100 in Scout Shop gift cards for signing up and completing surveys. Individuals who participate in interviews will receive Scout Shop gift cards (up to \$105 for adult leaders, up to \$60 for youth).**

The study team will look at the survey and interview responses to identify findings, which the BSA will use to improve programming. We will not share any individual information or responses.

### **HOW DO INDIVIDUALS FROM SELECTED TROOPS SIGN UP?**

**The study team is contacting Scoutmasters of selected troops with more details about the study and information about how to sign up.**

### **QUESTIONS?**

If you have any questions, please contact the BEST Study team by email at [info@bsabeststudy.org](mailto:info@bsabeststudy.org) or by phone at 1-888-309-1556.