

The Emerging Markets District is the outreach division of the Southeast Louisiana Council of Scouting America (www.bsa-selacouncil.org). Scouting America's mission is to *prepare every youth in the United States to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law.* That said, we recognize that participating in traditional Scouting units is not financially feasible for all families, nor are traditional units geographically accessible to all families.

At the Southeast Louisiana Council, we wish to increase that accessibility through free-to-join units set up in accessible locations, such as After-School Programs. These units can be led by volunteers or by paid/trained **Emerging Markets District Professionals**.

Starting an Emerging Markets District unit has no initial cost, but the registration fees for each youth and adult are \$37 and \$72, respectively. These fees can be covered by families, the charter organization, sponsors, or through Friends of Scouting (FOS) contributions raised by the Southeast Louisiana Council. Additionally, the cost of a professional staff member to support the unit is approximately \$15,000 per year. Other expenses will arise as the unit grows, including costs for uniforms, activity T-shirts, meeting materials, awards, extra activities, and potentially a paid leader.

Our funding goal this year is \$50,000. This amount will allow us to continue serving our 550 youth across 13 **Emerging Markets District** units and to expand our program.

SCOUTING AIMS: Character Development, Leadership Development, Citizenship in the Community, Physical and Mental Fitness.



SCOUTING METHODS: Living the Ideals (Oath/Law), Belonging to a Den, Advancement and Recognition, Family Involvement, Activities, Serving the Neighborhood, Uniform

Emerging Markets District units are REAL UNITS! They have the same accessibility to local district, council, and national adventures and activities. **Emerging Markets District** members are welcome to participate in local unit activities, such as hikes or day trips, with the host units' permission, of course.

Emerging Markets District Professionals can assist in contacting other local traditional units to share activities. Additionally, the Southeast Louisiana Council will do its best to reduce or eliminate registration costs for larger activities like Day Camp for Cubs and Summer Camp for Troops.

If you would like to start a unit, please e-mail Todd Conner at <u>todd.conner@scouting.org</u> or call 504-889-0388 Southeast Louisiana Council | Emerging Markets District Executive