



May 17, 2017

Dear Scouting Supporter,

Over the past few weeks we've received a tremendous amount of contacts regarding the decision by the United Way of the Quad Cities to cease funding of many traditional community partners. As a supporter of our local Boy Scout Council, I wanted to reach out to you to provide you with additional information and clarification. The current level of funding that is not being renewed is approximately \$85,000 per year. The Illowa Council has not been defunded by the other United Way agencies in our 13-county area.

While it is true that the decision was a surprise to us, we are grateful for the past 100 years of funding provided to the Boy Scouts by the United Way. We are where we are today because of the community's investment in our youth development programs. Donors to the United Way may continue to designate their gifts to programs they support.

We realize that the volunteer United Way committees that allocate funds have challenging decisions to make and believe that their choice to invest in some of our local school districts and colleges will benefit our community.

Every week, thousands of youth from the greater Quad Cities Area come together at their meetings and recite the Scout Oath. All of these boys, young men and young women pledge to "Help other people at all times". This promise has served our country well since 1910 and we believe it is just as important today. For this reason, the Boy Scouts will continue to partner with the United Way for "Day of Caring" projects, at our expense, to provide opportunities for residents to engage in volunteer service.

If you have additional questions or concerns, you may contact our Scout Executive, Tom McDermott at (563) 388-7233.

Yours in Scouting,

James Richardson  
President  
Illowa Council

