

District Specific Friends of Scouting Training Guide
Friends of Scouting 2015 Campaign

Introduction

In conjunction with the Friends of Scouting 2015 District and Zone General Information handout, the following is recommended for the main district training meeting to introduce the FOS 2015 Campaign to the stakes and wards.

Date: The District FOS Training should take place by August 14, 2014

Invited: District Key-3, District FOS Chair, Relations Committee Members, Stake FOS Chairs, and Ward FOS Chairs

Format: District-wide training as a group (30 minutes) with stake/zone breakouts led by the LDS Relations Member from that stake and the Stake FOS Chair (30 minutes)

Materials to Provide: For each participant, provide the Friends of Scouting 2015 District and Zone General Information Handout, FOS 2015 targets, and PatchFunding System links (gs1c.patchfunding.com), and materials specific to the district plan.

Before the Meeting

Prior to the meeting the District FOS Chair should gather the contact information for the Stake FOS Chairs, and from the Stake FOS Chairs, the Ward FOS Chairs. Receiving the contact information for these leaders ahead of the meeting is key to having their attendance at the training meeting. Confirm with Relations Committee members that they should oversee the stake portion of their training. **Relations Committee members should be fully aware of the stake/zone targets and have input in any adjustment within the district target.**

The District-Wide Portion of the Training

The district training should cover the items in the FOS 2015 General Information Handout as well as additional items specific to the district plan.

Hints and Tips for the Stake-Specific Part of the FOS Training Meeting

Since the district training will cover the items in the FOS 2014 General Information Handout, the time spent in the individual stake FOS training breakouts should not need to duplicate those details. Instead, the following is a suggested agenda for the stake-specific portion of the training and a list of bullet points that may be used or emphasized to round out the training.

FOS Two-Fold Purpose:

(1) Reach our goal (2) Visit every home

The council relies on this opportunity to...

...provide resources and professionals to train leaders, to ensure integrity in the program, and to maintain infrastructure for scout activities in fulfilling the mission of the BSA.

...directly educate the public about the values and benefits of scouting for our youth and to allow everybody the opportunity to contribute to its success.

Primary Turn-In: September 7, 2014; 5:00 PM

Campaign Completion: September 28, 2014

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Sample Stake-Specific Training Agenda

Stake Presidency Member: Introductory statement discussing the importance of Friends of Scouting, a positive plea for being organized and timely in the campaign to avoid getting into a campaign quagmire, and an introduction of the Stake FOS Chair.

Stake FOS Chair: Solicit general feedback to the training items addressed in the district-wide portion of the training. Receiving feedback may allow an opportunity to resolve individual concerns about the campaign.

Stake FOS Chair: Present stake-specific philosophy related to the campaign and communicate deviations from the suggested district plan. Present specific milestones to the Ward FOS Chairs and give a path for follow-up so that their progress can be checked.

Stake Presidency Member: Quickly follow up with the group on their understanding of the items presented by the Stake FOS Chair and express your support of those items. Request a commitment from each ward representative to follow the plan outlined, to work to achieve the two-fold purpose, and to solicit the help of the Stake FOS Chair at the first sign of difficulty with any part of the plan from any source.

Sample Bullet Point Items that May be Useful in the Stake-Specific FOS Training

- ☑ The neighborhood visits should represent the culmination of efforts in the campaign. By the time of the visits, willing major donors should have already donated, the neighborhood notified of the visits, and the neighborhood helpers gathered and prepared their own donations. In many cases more than half of the ward donation target can be achieved from major donors and helpers just by preparing to make the visits.
- ☑ Set a goal as a Ward FOS Chair to move as much work as possible to the front side of the campaign. Work to organize the process of visiting major donors, mapping helper routes, and recruiting helpers, all done prior to the neighborhood visits makes it much easier to fulfill the goals of the campaign and replaces very difficult work required to catch up after the campaign has begun.
- ☑ The first turn-in should be emphasized as the primary and most important turn-in. When either Stake or Ward FOS Chairs view the second or third turn-in as the important turn-in, it pushes the end of the campaign out further into timeframes that draw new competition for charitable donations and make the campaign stale and more difficult for the donors to see and feel a positive spirit about the campaign.
- ☑ Reinventing the wheel for FOS methods almost never works, and in fact often hurts campaigns in the future. The method described in the general information illustrates a process that has led to entire stakes, with goals of all sizes, finishing their donation target well within in the advertised timeframe of campaign.
- ☑ Work to finish the plan, not the just the target. Giving everybody an opportunity to contribute fulfills both purposes of the campaign and stopping when the goal is reached may actually hurt future campaigns. **Exceeding your target is not and has not been a serious consideration in how targets are allocated.**