

URBAN SCOUTING



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA -NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM COUNCIL

Cub Scouting is a family program. It is designed to have parents participate in meetings and activities with their children. However, most of the Cub Scouts participating in the Urban Scouting program are from families who do not become involved with the program for many reasons, among them, economic hardships, single-parent households and substance abuse. In one York City Cub Scouting program there is a fifth-grader named Robert who is part of one such family. Roberts parents do not typically bring him to meetings nor participate in events or activities that are held. Because the Urban Scouting program provides the leadership and structure needed for Cub Scouting to occur in the absence of willing and able adult family members, Robert can experience all that the program can offer.

Robert has enjoyed Cub Scouts so much he finds a way to attend every meeting despite the obstacle of having challenges at home. In addition to earning badges, racing pinewood derby cars, attending summer camp and participating in community service projects, Cub Scouting has benefitted Robert in even more meaningful ways. He has transformed from a shy and reserved boy when he first joined the program into one who is now outgoing and confident. He has made new friendships that extend beyond getting together at Cub Scout meetings. His self-esteem has improved and he is looking forward to continuing his Scouting experience into Boy Scouts. Eventually he could become an Eagle Scout. Robert's life-changing Cub Scouting experience would not have been possible without the availability of the Urban Scouting program.

Thank you for your support!

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