

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BUFFALO TRAIL COUNCIL IS RECOGNIZED WITH GRANT SUPPORT

The Dora Roberts Foundation has awarded \$50,000 to the Buffalo Trail Council in support of the Council's efforts to impact the lives of at-risk youth.

Through the support of Dora Roberts Foundation the Council will be helping vulnerable youth in our area to avoid pitfalls like involvement in crime.

Counter balancing the negative peer pressure leading to criminal activities, Scouting provides opportunities for youth to build a belief in a positive future:

- Setting goals, achieving goals, and recognition within the Scouting program
- Linking activities to real world work: planning, leadership, problem solving, etc.
- Relationship building with a network of positive adult role models

A US Department of Health and Human Services report found "belief in the future – the internalization of hope and optimism about possible outcomes" to be one of the 14 positive factors in reducing juvenile crime. (<http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/positiveyouthdev99/>)

Scouting directly impacts participating youth by providing them with positive resilience factors which influence academic standing, graduation rates, and life-long success.

Nationwide **65%** of students graduate from high school; **91%** of students in the Scouting program for five or more years graduate from high school. (Values of Scouting study, Harris Interactive, 2005)

Youth who participate in Scouting build a sense of positive self-worth and usefulness, build caring relationships with positive adults, and become more socially adept. They move one step closer to becoming the competent parents, employers and leaders of tomorrow.

If you'd like more information about this grant, or to schedule an interview with Lyman Gifford, please contact Tracy MacIlroy, Executive Assistant, at Tracy.MacIlroy@Scouting.org or (432)570-7601.

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