

We wish to thank all our Baden-Powell Fellows, Members of the Honours Programme and other investors for their contribution to World Scouting.

And thank you to our colleagues at the World Scout Bureau Global and Regional Support Centres for the work and cooperation this year.

Above all, thank you to Scouts and their leaders, Scout Troops and NSOs who, through their commitment, dedication and energy, made this report possible.



# INTRODUCTION

Until now, our annual reports have focused on Scouting's impact on individuals or communities in one specific country... but that was in years where things happened in just one country, or touched just one community or individual.

As we all know now, 2020 wasn't such a year. Every corner of the world, and just about every single one of the 1.5 million communities that hosts a Scout group was touched by the COVID-19 crisis and Scouts were faced with the same question: how to react?

The stories we have shared in previous reports have described how one individual, one local Scout Group, or one National Scout Organisation had demonstrated resilience and overcome a calamity. We have shown how the Scout programme has helped that individual, local group, or country's Scouts, to develop resilience and respond in a way that showed they were exceptional among their peers. Scouting withstood the test – or were these just spectacular individuals? Was this just chance?

2020 tested *every* Scout in the world. All at the same time.

What we saw last year was nothing short of spectacular. As much of the world locked down and turned inwards, Scouts the world over did the opposite. Their community service amounted to 500 million hours and it tipped the running total over the 2 billion service hours mark. This means that in 2020, Scouts did the equivalent of three "normal" years' work! When the world needed them most, Scouts responded.

Their actions – and we report only a sample in these pages – are the definition of "resilience". Scouts helped their communities and the world recover from those darkest days and this resilience that we have witnessed is truly global. That Scouts are resilient is echoed in the studies we share this year by noted academics in this field and is also recognised by the Scout who oversees the global response to the pandemic – Dr Mike Ryan, who took time out to talk to us.

And as we will see, resilience is not just limited to our younger Scouts – you and the other members of the World Baden-Powell Fellowship stood with them all the way and, despite difficult economic times, made a remarkable effort and kept up your support to Scouts the world over. Thanks for your belief that this amazing network of young people can help the world bounce back!

Hector Robledo Cervantes Chairman



# **SWITZERLAND**

# Nyon Scouts (Vaud)



447 deliveries made to 102 households



1680 hours of service by 47 volunteers



400 kilograms of bread delivered

Watch the video of Scouts thanking essential workers:



# **WE KNEW WE COULD!**

# **Trois-Jetées Group**

None of us expected this. Across the world, including in developed countries with strong health and social services, we saw the cracks appear. And here, just on the doorstep of the Foundation, we witnessed the immediate impact of the virus on the most vulnerable, and a Scout response to be proud of.

In early March, the Swiss looked on as their neighbours in Italy went into lockdown, the numbers of deaths swiftly rose and the virus indiscriminately spread across the border, first into the Italian-speaking canton of Ticino, and rapidly to the rest of the country, including the French-speaking towns of Nyon and Geneva. Health and social services were quickly overwhelmed. Everyone was confined to their homes and workplaces, non-essential shops and services were shuttered. This was not the "Switzerland" of efficiency, precision and perfection.

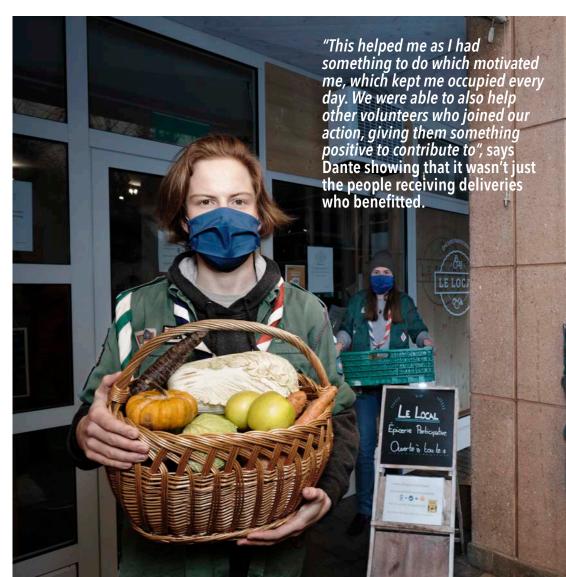
But true to their reputation, the Swiss people quickly caught on to the seriousness of the situation and did what was needed: they stayed at home and followed the request of the authorities to socially distance (masks were not readily available at that point). It quickly became

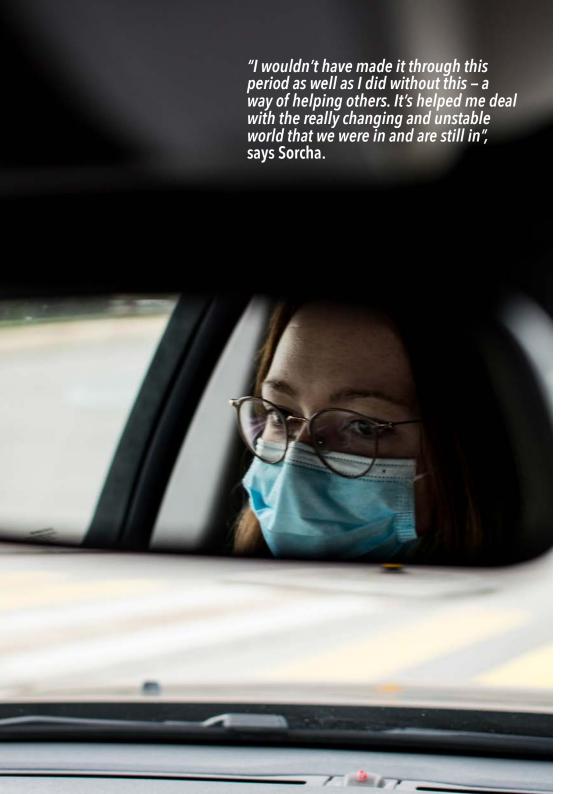
clear though that in all the chaos of a usually efficient country, many people – the most vulnerable and at risk – were being isolated without assistance and the authorities were overstretched. Scouts in Ticino quickly took action and shared their community service stories with other Swiss Scout friends across the country.

On the French-speaking side of Switzerland, while most people were reeling from the shock and just trying to understand what this meant for them, their friends and family, the Scouts didn't hesitate. Meet Dante, the then twenty-three-year-old Group Scout leader of the Nyon Scout group, and Sorcha, his twenty-two-year-old deputy.

"We never questioned if we could do it, we knew we could. It was just a question of how to do it, and to do it safely", explains Dante. "I contacted the Scout leader in Ticino who shared information on the set-up and safety precautions."

University courses were closing down or moving online and schools were closed so these amazing leaders had both the time and the capacity to take action.





"What was important here was the confidence we had in ourselves, in the people around us, and in our capacity to organise this – we've run camps and big events, this was not a problem", Sorcha explains. So, they launched on the Friday, made their first delivery on the Saturday and were featured on local television on the Sunday. By Monday morning, they were swamped with telephone calls!

From a society in shock, this was resilience in its truest sense, from young people who simply decided "why not"!

Over the course of the next two months, from 13 March to 11 May, Dante and Sorcha led a team of 47 volunteers, making 447 deliveries to 102 households in and around their town, amounting to 1680 hours of service.

Dante describes the importance of early action: "We were a couple of weeks ahead of other municipalities and associations, providing the only service of this type in the area in the first weeks. We developed the know-how that we were then able to transfer to the municipalities and others wanting to launch similar activities. Our Safety precautions document for

volunteers was read and approved by a University of Lausanne doctor (and former Scout) and has since been used by various municipalities for their own home-delivery services".

The Nyon team only stopped the service when they had to switch back to studies to prepare for exams, a period thankfully coinciding with an easing of local restrictions.

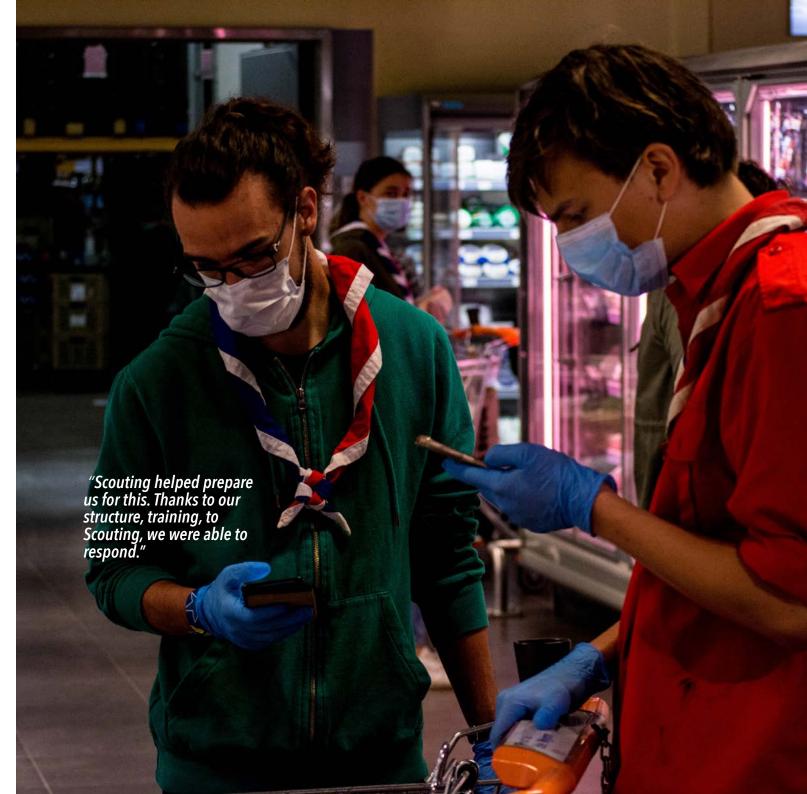
So why were the Nyon Scouts so quick off the mark? Again, why not? – It's part of a Scout's "DNA" to help others. "Scouting helped prepare us for this. Thanks to our structure, training, to Scouting, we were able to respond", Dante explains in a modest, but confident tone.

"It's great to see these young people taking action in situations such as these", an elderly couple who were supported by the Nyon Scouts reported in the "La Côte" newspaper.

And not surprisingly, the Nyon action led other Scouts in the Swiss cantons of Vaud, Geneva and Neuchâtel, to follow suit, and so the impact spread nationally.

Over the last year, the Nyon Scouts have seen their numbers grow from 121 active members to over 247 as of October 2020, taking countless calls from parents who have heard about the Scout action and want their children to join!

In November 2020, the Group was recognised for its "remarkable commitment towards the hardest hit by the COVID-19 crisis" with a well-deserved citizens' award from the local government.





# SPREADING RESILIENCE AND HOPE

# **Bonivard Group**

"Everything happened very quickly. Our Rovers agreed who would do what, teams were set up, and we started. Then, with the number of orders growing day by day, and with parental consent, a number of Scouts (aged 13 to 17) also safely joined the action", explains Group Scout Leader Sarah (26), who led the action, managed the on-call telephone and email, taking orders 24/7, coordinated the teams managing the orders and even participated in deliveries.

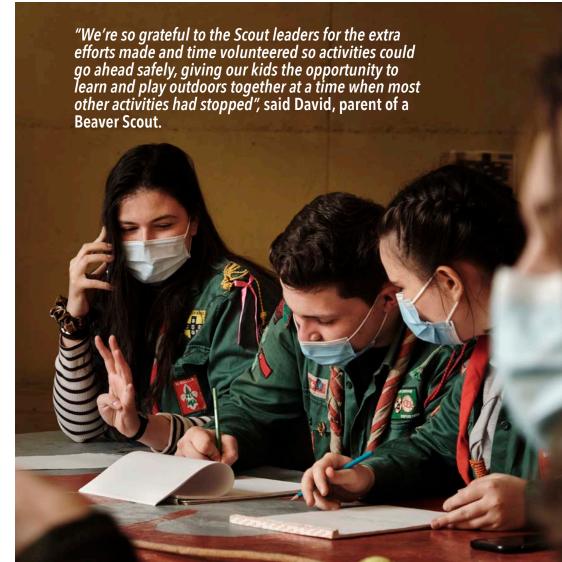
Every Wednesday and Saturday, twoperson teams set off with the orders received to various supermarkets and shops. "Teams mostly stayed the same to limit the risk of infection. In my case my buddy was my brother, also a Scout", said Estelle (23).

They delivered orders to each household, left them in front of the door along with the receipt and a bank payment slip, then the Scouts distanced themselves from the entrances and called the recipients.

"These little discussions on the telephone or via the windows were genuine moments of happiness and exchange, in spite of the situation. With time, teams got to know their 'customers' and they would increasingly look forward to seeing each from week to week. Ironically, this period brought us closer to many inhabitants", explained Sarah. "It was very touching to talk to people. These were special moments that underlined just how much small actions can make a big difference. I started to get to know some of the people who called regularly. I laughed with them on the telephone, we shared news and talked about everything and nothing". Resilience is contagious – even with social distancing!

"Throughout the semi-confinement, we were also regularly in contact with other groups in the city of Geneva and its environs to divide up the deliveries that were outside our municipalities and help each other where groups were overloaded with orders. This coordination helped us to ensure swift deliveries and throughout Geneva", added Sarah.

And like the Nyon group, Sarah and her team also worked hard throughout the whole of 2020 to retain as much normality as possible for younger Scouts and support their mental and physical health.





During the times when group activities were not permitted, whilst the Rovers led community action from March onwards, the Scout age-section met online as a troop and also in patrols, for all sorts of games, arts and crafts and discussions.

When restrictions were eased in the summer, the Group managed to adapt and hold a summer camp, carefully organised with considerable safeguards in place. Activities were allowed to take place in September and October 2020 for the younger age sections, but with a limit of 15, so the Bonivard Scout leaders adapted again, splitting the groups up and running multiple sessions for each age group in order to give all the children an opportunity to participate.

As a result of all this, Scouting in Veyrier and across the region has seen a significant image boost, with recognition

by authorities and the local population for the community service spontaneously led by the young women and men. For the first time in decades, the community has seen Scouts more visibly in action, and on a larger scale, and thus has a better understanding of Scout values and deeply appreciates the skills the young people were able to harness during this challenging time, attributed to their Scouting.

And like their friends in Nyon, the Bonivard Scout Group was awarded the Mérite de Veyrier, "for their exemplary dedication and outpouring of solidarity during the semi-confinement last spring, for being attentive to the needs of local habitants and for ensuring the management of purchases and deliveries".





# **SWITZERLAND**

# Champel Scouts (Geneva)



Around 400 orders shopped and delivered



1000km cycled



Coordination with 10 other Scout groups

Perceval Scouts in action in this Leman Bleu video report (in French):



# INSPIRATION, ACTION, COORDINATION

# Perceval Group

The Perceval Scout Group was the first in Geneva to launch its offer of support when the country went into lockdown. The young leaders swiftly led the action, reaching out to their community via online flyers and posters in the neighbourhood and coordinating with volunteers. Once again, these Scouts were able to balance their time taking calls, shopping and making deliveries alongside ongoing studies (where these could continue!). Deliveries were placed at the entrance to homes along with a bank transfer slip and the Scouts advanced the money, "We count on people being honest", said Paul. And nobody let them down!

Just imagine the amount of coordination and work involved! Four deliveries on the first day, then 12, then 20 and they stayed active for two months. They shopped for "normal" weekly shopping – with some pretty quirky requests too, which the Scouts tried to manage as best as possible! They used bikes and family cars, and they were even lent an electric car by a well-known brand, which was impressed with their community action.

Vitally, the Perceval Scout Group also liaised with around another 10 Scout Groups in the city and surrounding

region (including with Veyrier Scouts) and, using a central website, they were able to further promote the service and underline the strict safety procedures in place for both Scouts and beneficiaries. "At the group level, we achieved something really special by coordinating our efforts", said Julien.

And the intense media coverage of their Scout action led to other more global connections and interactions online: the coverage on a local TV station was viewed at least 200,000 times, and passed on through social media. "Scouts from around the world contacted us on our Facebook page sharing photos of their local actions in photos and videos, such as a Scout from Turkey who shared photos of his Scouts disinfecting roads and a bus shelter", explained Julien in an online podcast.

The World Scout Bureau also picked up the footage in its promotion of the April 2020 special edition Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) and even more Scouts worldwide were inspired by the Perceval Scouts' actions to find ways to safely help their own communities!





Programme ongoing since 2007

82 Scouts in the Manila TTL Troop in 2020

A gift from our generous donors Doris and Hans

Watch TTL Scouts in



# **RESILIENCE BUILT IN!**

# Ticket To Life Programme

One of the first Scout groups to address the issue of resilience was the Manila Ticket To Life Troop, led by Sophie and her team. For this year's report, we revisit the Scouts to see how this global disaster has affected them.

"They were already resilient before we even found them. However, the Scout Programme provides them with a sense of belonging and a safe space to be themselves — as children", says Sophie. "What we discovered was that the Scout Programme already has resilience built in and these young people have really benefited."

"In 2012, I participated in a specific resilience programme with my colleague, Derek, and we have integrated this learning and the language of resilience, "I have, I am, I can", into our Scout activities, including in moments of reflection at the beginning of troop meetings. This mantra, combined with the Scout Promise, helps our Scouts realise that they can bend, but not break."

"Our Scouts have been affected and probably more than most. Their families, used to doing business out of taxis and selling odds and ends on the street, have seen their work and limited income die overnight because of lockdown. So, the Scout Troop has taken on another role — that of supplying the basic needs for our Scouts and their families, made possible thanks to Scout solidarity from around the world. Our Scouts have faced difficulties before and they will overcome the current challenges with their incredible spirit – even quicker than most!"

When His Majesty visited the Group in 2012 and met some of the amazing Scouts, whose lives were lived on a knife edge, the future for many of these children was uncertain. The good news is that those vulnerable young people are still around and thriving, thanks in no small part to Sophie, Derek and the great programme – Ticket To Life, which builds resilience. Jerwin, Queenie and Joseph are living proof that this programme works!

Ticket To Life continues to develop and expand here in Manila and throughout the Asia-Pacific Region, and is currently active in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and The Philippines. With the support of Doris and Hans Imholz, Ticket to Life is being extended into the Africa Region in 2021.



We first featured Jerwin (now 26) in our 2012 Annual Report. He was born on the streets, raised in a gang culture and his childhood was filled with violence and addiction. However, he got the encouragement, support and skills to turn his life around and is now one of the Ticket To Life Manila Scout leaders in charge of the section for Scouts aged 9–12. He remains ever resourceful and since September 2020 has been working as a construction worker. When possible, he also drops in to see the Rover Scouts as you can see on the recent photo shown here.

His Majesty met Queenie and her mother Letitia during His visit in 2014 and they invited Him to see their home on the pavement at a busy intersection. Queenie was in teacher training college with support from the Ticket To Life Programme. She has since completed her tertiary education and initial training as a teaching assistant, and she's now been working for three years as a teacher at La Concordia College in Manila. She credits Scouting and her fellow Scouts and leaders as having nurtured this resilience, by supporting her dreams, giving her a second family and helping her to finish her education.

Joseph too acknowledges the unconditional support, love and encouragement he received in Scouting, as helping him to achieve his dreams: "The Ticket to Life project does not only bring unforgettable experiences through fun and games but it really helps a kid succeed in life, putting a smile on his face." With support from the programme, leaders and fellow Scouts, he successfully completed his studies, graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and has been working at Kareila Management Corporation as an Accounting Associate for almost two years now.











# **UNITED STATES**

# **Boy Scouts of America**





29 countries involved

View the project on Facebook:



# THINK BIG AND NEVER GIVE UP!

# 1 Million Pieces of Trash Project

John-Aaron had high hopes for his service project – a key element of his Venture Scout Summit Award. It was going to make a real impact in his local community in California... little did he know that COVID would take this impact global!

He had planned to lead an underwater clean-up at a local beach, but COVID-19 restrictions forced him to entirely re-think it. He came up with another conservation project on land, in line with social distancing, but he struggled to identify a local target because of COVID. So, John-Aaron went global, inviting Scouts worldwide to help him pick up 1 million pieces of trash. "This is a time when we should be helping", he urged in his appeal to Scouts of all ages.

Amazingly, 10,259 Scouts and volunteers, from all of the US States and a total of 29 countries, were inspired by John Aaron's call to action and he received wonderful feedback from Scouts across the world:

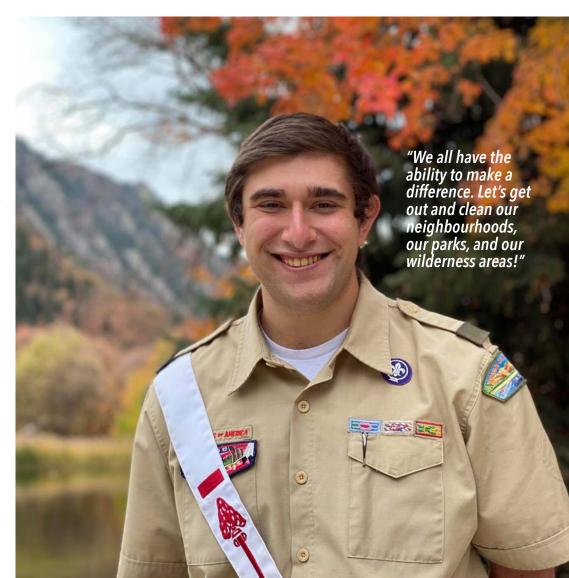
"Our leader, Nessie, spent two hours picking up rubbish so that the Joeys and Cubs could explore and play in the dark on our first night back after 12 weeks of meetings over Zoom. We had a great time not worrying about the broken glass and

rubbish. Good luck with your 1,000,000 pieces of trash. We'll pick up more and record it again!" Victoria, Australia.

"15 Scouts gathered and went on a one-day hiking trip to clean local picnic areas and paths and posted motivational ecological messages in the area." Ena, Scout Group Igman 92, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"My son enjoyed doing this trash pick-up so much he's been asking to do it again. We picked up what felt like hundreds of cigarette butts and busted up plastic car parts from accidents. Got a lot of waves and horn honking as well. Thank you for putting this together and creating an opportunity for my son to earn his Messenger of Peace Award." Mike, Pack 232 Glenmont, NY, USA.

And John-Aaron's reaction says it all: "Scouting has taught me to keep going, and work around any obstacles in my way, especially during this past year. A lot of events and meetings were cancelled or moved around this year, but Scouts all over were adapting and changing their plans in order to keep their activities going. That really stood out to me. That's what resiliency is all about."





# RESILIENCE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

# Online Scouting

Like many National Scout Organisations, Scouts Canada had to adapt quickly. As the pandemic unfolded and local groups began to respond – like Scouts worldwide – the organisation needed to provide support in the changing reality.

"With the help of technology, like the David Huestis Learning Centre and new tools developed to provide our grass-roots with access to the Scouting programme and activities online, we offered youth across Canada something to look forward to", explains Jennifer-Lee Thomas of Scouts Canada.

With Scouts confined at home, or to a very limited radius, Scouts Canada online tools and programmes saw a marked increase in use, with tens of thousands of Scouts accessing personal achievement badges, Scouts for Sustainability and the Rich Activity Finder resource. And their online learning platform, The David Huestis Learning Centre - named after their generous benefactor, WSF Board Member and Baden-Powell Circle Member – proved a vital tool for engaging with Scout leaders and keeping them informed of the rapidly changing situation. In 2020, over 8,310 Scouters participated in learning activity on the platform, and it was also

successfully used to host a "Welcome Back to Scouting" Webinar and online learning sessions.

In local groups, across Canada, young people – supported by passionate leaders – switched to Scouting at home and online. And the numerous groups and individuals, who took action to help others in their community, were supported by the NSO and linked to a global network.

The enormous resilience they demonstrated helped to inspire even more action by fellow Scouts in Canada and abroad, like Scouting parents, Kim and Shane, from British Columbia, who developed five hands-free handwashing stations – modelled on ones used at the Pacific Jamboree – to support the homeless population of downtown Victoria.

11-year-old Cub Scout Connor from Alberta, Canada, collected more than CAD15,000 worth of toys for Christmas, including for children whose parents had lost jobs due to the pandemic.

The 163<sup>rd</sup> Islamic Institute of Toronto Scout Group stayed active – meeting online and participating in a range of international events such as the Special edition JOTI, the regular JOTI event and the Camp at Home challenge organised by Northumberland Scouts, UK. 17 Scouts, Venturers and Scouters qualified for the Messenger of Peace Award, plus Venturers and Scouters successfully completed the Scouts for SDGs and the Better World Framework course run by World Scouting. The Scout Group organised local activities online too: a virtual campfire (see QR code, weekly video challenges including an Egg Drop for Beavers, a Knot challenge and Language challenge for Cub Scouts.

North Bay Scout Group, Ontario, Canada, supported their local soup kitchen, baking every second week from March through to the summer of 2020, plus they joined in John Aaron's Messengers of Peace activity to pick up 1 Million pieces of trash!

Scouting continued around the world in 2020, and thanks to local Scouts, parents, leaders and National Scout Organisations who showed amazing resilience, young people and communities can now feel proud that they have been able to make a difference.



# **AFRICA**



# **COTE D'IVOIRE**

Scouts produced facemasks and made face shields for distribution to students, essential workers such as market vendors and people from poor neighbourhoods. They also ran social media and poster campaigns on preventative actions to reduce the spread of the virus, developing short video clips to disseminate widely online.



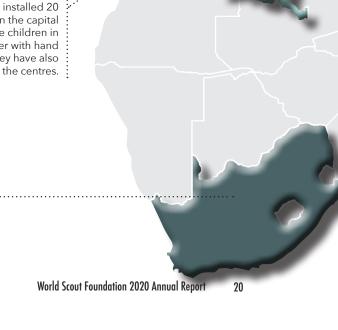
# **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

Scouts led sanitation training for 103 children and seven staff members in three social reintegration centres and for more than 176 unsupervised street children in Kinshasa. They also installed 20 handwashing stations at key points in the capital and distributed 400 facemasks to the children in the centres and on the streets, together with hand sanitisers, soap and food supplies. They have also now started three Scout groups in the centres.



# **SOUTH AFRICA**

A Rover Scout Crew coordinated food relief when the lockdown came into effect and students at the University were caught in limbo, unable to travel home due to restrictions yet without adequate means to buy food.



# **KENYA**

### **ETHIOPIA**

Over 1,000 Scouts and 300 Scout Leaders volunteered over 72,780 service hours, raising awareness about COVID-19 prevention; offering tuition services for school-going children; donating food to vulnerable community members, supporting the government's stay home programme and also taking part in three blood donation drives.



Scouts reached out to help 196 vulnerable children (orphans and others) living in close proximity in three children's homes in Nairobi.

Scouts ran training sessions via mobile phone calls and videos explaining how to make homemade sanitisers and soap and helping the management teams set up a code of conduct for the period. They delivered raw materials for the soap in advance of trainings.



### KENYA

When COVID-19 hit, three Rovers established a project for teenagers and young people who weren't addressed by the COVID-19 response. They worked with counsellors to provide support for mental health, as well as with lawyers, to enable victims of abuse during the period to obtain access to justice and ran two online webinars for teens and young adults on "prioritising our wellbeing" and "a teen's perspective". In addition, the Rovers distributed food to those in need and led awareness campaigns on health guidelines, including in a local children's home. These Rovers also developed a series of animated videos in Kiswahili, English and French, to communicate healthcare messages; combat isolation and support strong mental and physical health; highlight the support systems available for people facing abuse or violence of any kind, and more!



# **EUROPE**



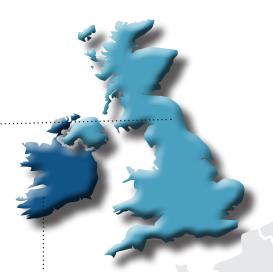
### **LUXEMBOURG**

Over 900 Scouts undertook key actions to support deliveries of groceries and medicines to the most vulnerable for around four months when the country was hit badly at the beginning of the pandemic. Scouts also helped to coordinate the national mask distribution, including the production and, collection of 40,000 hand-made masks.



### **UNITED KINGDOM**

Scouts developed "The Great Indoors" hundreds of indoor activity ideas to keep young people engaged while schools were closed, plus a digital summer camp and a UK-wide "Hike to the Moon" challenge in aid of local communities. They also addressed mental health, helping Scouts of all ages to become Wellbeing Champions to help tear down the taboo surrounding mental health and take action to boost people's wellbeing.



### **IRELAND**



Caillum, a 17-year-old Scout, cycled the 9km route around his rural community to help vulnerable neighbours, making deliveries and providing distanced company to those in isolation.

Read more here:



# **IRELAND**

10-year-old Cub Scout Tadhg put together care packages for isolated people in his local community, using his own savings. "That was the best thing that's happened in a long time. It really, really meant so much", said Mary, one of the recipients.







# **POLAND**

Scout Krystyna took action in response to rising domestic violence under lockdown in Poland, offering a lifeline to victims trapped in their homes with their abusers. She launched a fake online shop to allow people suffering from domestic abuse to make requests for help whilst appearing to be shopping online.

Find out more:



### **ROMANIA**

Scouts developed a project to promote and foster mental health among Scout leaders and adult volunteers, Scouts and non-Scouts. They produced e-learnings and ran webinars on subjects such as group dynamics, nonviolent communication, resilience and adaptability and emotional balance, plus ran a campaign to encourage volunteering.



### **ITALY**

Scouts across Italy helped the elderly and most vulnerable as possible with deliveries, also stopping for a quick chat from a safe distance.
One group also helped a local hospital with patient access, supervising hand sanitising and checking basic questions at the hospital entrance before then directing patients to the primary triage area.



# **ASIA-PACIFIC**



### **MONGOLIA**

Scouts communicated preventative information to people with no access to the internet, undertook deliveries of food to those in need and they produced three videos for children demonstrating handwashing and explaining how to make masks and home-made hand sanitisers.



### **BHUTAN**

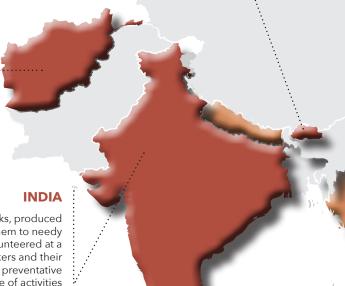
Scouts partnered with UNICEF to launch a COVID-19 Diaries initiative, helping young people during quarantine to address problems and supporting their wellbeing. They also installed hand washing taps and drinking water facilities in schools.





### **AFGHANISTAN**

Girl Scouts in Herat and Samangan undertook COVID-awareness training, then helped educate women in their local communities on measures to protect against the virus, reaching 164 families. They also distributed 100 hygiene kits.



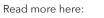
### **MYANMAR**

Scouts delivered food supplies and basic protective equipment to a large numbers of elderly people and random workers who had no way to supplement their income and raised awareness of the pandemic and precautionary measures to take. Rover Scouts also volunteered in quarantine centres.



Scouts and Guides set up Mask Banks, produced masks for the banks and distributed them to needy people. One group in Delhi also volunteered at a local shelter housing 124 migrant workers and their families, educating them on important preventative measures and providing a wide range of activities to improve the families' wellbeing and children's development and education. They ran non-formal education activities to teach the children and adults.









### **MALAYSIA**

Rover Scouts produced 101,000 Personal Protective Equipment sets to front-liners around the country to supplement a shortage of supplies and ran a series of webinars and other online trainings for both Scouts and non-Scouts of different ages.

### **PHILIPPINES**

Scouts ran webinars to keep young people engaged in activities, raised funds online to produce and acquire washable facemasks and distributed food relief to homeless people and front-liners. An Urban Agriculture Project was also initiated with the government to boost food availability and supplement incomes during the pandemic.



### **REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

Rover Scouts disinfected kindergarten schools and bus stations. Several local Scout councils provided direct support to their local communities with daily necessities like masks and bottles and also helped with fundraising efforts.



# **AUSTRALIA**

Scouts ran Scouting@home to help 50,000 Scouts and 10,000 non-Scouts stay connected socially, supported by online resources and activities to learn new skills and continue progressing through the youth programme, whilst combatting boredom and promoting positive mental health.



# **NEW ZEALAND**

Scouts launched a Scouting from Home programme and they came out of lockdown with more youth members than when they entered! A total of 1,300 families participated in the online programme in addition to existing youth members.



# **ARAB**



# **ALGERIA**

1,496 Scout troops from 48 states mobilised to support their communities, distributing 1,253,145 facemasks; sterilising numerous institutions, places of worship and museums; making 6,137 blood donations; distributing 173,868 lftar meals to needy families under quarantine in addition to 273,227 food parcels; and leading awareness campaigns on sanitation and protection measures.



### **MAURITANIA**

Scouts provided numerous families with essential provisions and cleaning supplies and partnered with health centres where they collected rubbish, sterilised rooms and offices, distributed facemasks and asked visitors to use water, soap and sterilisers.



# **TUNISIA**

Scouts volunteered their entire logistics and human potential to state efforts when COVID-19 hit, forming a crisis management national group to facilitate volunteering with numerous ministries as well as national and international organisations. In the months that followed, 11,673 volunteers undertook 22,680 field activities, delivering over 1.8 million hours of service.

Scouts in one group in Sfax set up a call centre to coordinate local deliveries of essential supplies to assist the most vulnerable in the local communities, making 400 deliveries and delivering over 6000 hours of service.



Watch a video here:

### **LEBANON**

Scouts led awareness campaigns, assisted the most vulnerable with food and mask distributions, ran Scouting online to give young people access to support systems and activities when in lockdown and supported essential workers and emergency personnel.

And when the Port of Beirut was hit by a devastating explosion on 4<sup>th</sup> August, over 5000 Scouts leaders and Rovers were key to recovery efforts providing first aid, transport for the wounded; helping to search for missing persons; donating blood; helping to accommodate families in need, providing food, water and essential supplies and helping to move and clean the debris.



### SAUDI ARABIA

More than 3,200 Saudi Scouts organised themselves into 37 volunteer teams support 145 community service initiatives, including COVID-19 health and safety awareness training via online workshops and four digital Scout camps; logistics support to manage social distancing for shoppers plus temperature testing; sterilisation of ATMs, cashier machines and shopping carts; the distribution of facemasks, gloves, sterilisers; blood donations through a National Blood Donation Scout project; and numerous food distributions via a *Messengers of Peace* project.



### **EGYPT**

Over 5,500 Scouts volunteered 66,000 hours of service sterilising key buildings (schools, police departments, mosques, churches, archaeological areas and banks); coordinating with governate health directorates to distribute chlorine, sanitisers and facemasks to workers and helping the elderly population obtain their pensions from the bank including by sanitising and sterilising cashpoints. They also conducted awareness activities on the prevention of COVID-19, including via Egyptian television and satellite programmes, posters, short clips and infographics.



# **INTERAMERICA**

### **CANADA**

13-year-old Scout Quinn from Canada produced and donated thousands of ear guard straps to healthcare workers to stop ear pain from masks worn non-stop for long shifts, and inspired and enabled others to do the same. His mum shared the design link, the story went viral and Scouts worldwide as well as many other people and businesses fired up 3D-printers and donated straps to hardworking frontline workers. As of September 2020, his ear guard design file had been downloaded over 195,000 times.



Watch the video:





11-year-old Cub Scout Aidan, produced over 100 face shields, which he distributed to local hospitals and long-term care homes.





### USA

15-year-old Scout Alex led 19 volunteers to implement an Eagle Scout project to build 53 hand-washing stations in remote areas where water supplies are limited, on reservations of the Navajo and Hopi Nations near Glendale, Arizona, USA.

Read Alex's full story here:





# **GUYANA**

Scouts supported orphanages and families in need with hampers of food and cleaning supplies. They also delivered additional hampers – by boat! – for people in two remote villages who were cut off due to shop closures and scarce transportation.



### **MEXICO**

10-year-old Cub Scout Mao led a crowdfunding campaign to help vulnerable children, who did not have adequate access to devices and technology, continue their studies online. She launched a crowdfunding campaign on the Scout Donation Platform and raised USD 2,797, enough to donate tablets with internet packages to 30 children so they could finish their school year.







### ARGENTINA

Scouts launched a national volunteering effort, mobilising 9000 Scouts mobilised to deliver 627,000 food packages and 158,000 food bags in open dining areas and soup kitchens nationwide. They gave out 27,000 blankets and coats, supported blood donations (over 1000 Scout donors), delivered 18 trucks of non-perishable food to remote locations and then managed to source 50,000 toys for vulnerable children for Christmas.







# SCOUTING AND RESILIENCE What the experts say



We have seen in all our examples that Scouts have demonstrated great resilience during this crisis and also over a longer term such as in Manila. Is this a coincidence or a part of the nature of Scouting? What do the experts say?

# **Dr Robyne Hanley-Dafoe, Canada**

Dr Robyne Hanley-Dafoe partnered with Scouts Canada to develop a guide to resilient children, in 2020. We connected with her to find out what motivated her to get involved with Scouts Canada, her thoughts on Scouting and resiliency, how this compares with her research and more! And here are the highlights:

"As somebody who has grown up seeing Scouting, seeing what it looks like, there are some core values about Scouting, which I think are pretty extraordinary. And I know it benefits children, which will then benefit community", says Dr Robyne.

She says that it was the core values of Scouting, which she identified with, that led to her partnership with Scouts Canada to help more children find an outlet with routine, structure and community in the face of the pressures

and stressors of COVID. And these values match well with her five core areas for building resilience – read on!

Dr Robyne stresses that Scouting creates real world learning opportunities for children, outside of what they are familiar with. "It's giving them learning to learn skills. I think it's giving them a sense of belonging, which is absolutely crucial for a child to be able to have resiliency. And when we look at my research, we need to make sure that the child has a home team, a base in which then they can have that psychological safety. So, then they can take on the big challenges."

"Scouting is really trailblazing when it comes to what they are doing right now. Scouting has tackled some of those difficult conversations and put them in an age-appropriate way that children can understand. For example, the work on anti-racism, the work on diversity and inclusion. They're providing children an opportunity to learn about some of these difficult topics that we as grownups are still trying to work through in education".

"I'm very encouraged by all of the great work that I see Scouting doing to support their communities during COVID – the ways that people are getting involved. They're helping. This is just extraordinary to see how many lives are being positively impacted by the great work that the Scouting community is doing for their neighbours."

"At the end of the day, we need to make sure our children are emotionally intact. So, the priority right now, I believe is learning those learning to learn skills that involve self-regulation - a child knowing how that they can handle themselves. And also trusting that children can do difficult things. We know children are extremely resilient. And when this is all said and done these children, our children are going to be knowledge holders of what COVID was like. We really want to make sure that we are giving them every opportunity to learn, to grow, but in a way that's available to them, that's taking into consideration the importance of their mental and their emotional health."

As a proud mother of three, Dr Robyne says she encourages her children to trust in their ability: "trust that you are stronger, you are more capable and you are more resilient than you probably even know!"

She emphasises support too: "I want children to know that they have a home

team – people in their corner that are cheering them on that care deeply about their future." And lastly, that it's absolutely OK to sometimes be scared: "Even us, as grownups, sometimes feel big emotions. And that in itself is all OK. And it's OK sometimes to not be OK. And some days you're going to be all fired up and you're going to be able to get the good work done, and you're going to feel healthy and strong. And other days you might feel a little bit wobbly and that is OK. So just accept where you are in the moment and trust that you can do hard things." Great advice for everyone!

Her research has identified *five core* areas that promote and foster resilience and she talks passionately about the linkages:

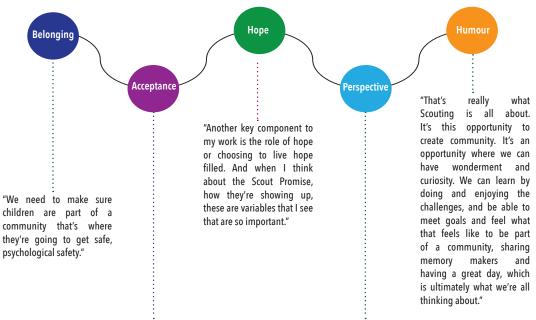
Guide to Resilient Children:



Dr Robyne Hanley-Dafoe's Website:



# RESILIANCE



"Also, in my work, we talk a lot about acceptance and learning what is within our control and what is outside of our control. So, these are things that are crucial for the development of children to foster resiliency." "I also know what's really important is perspective taking. And when we look at the values, when we look at how Scouting creates goals, supporting children, in terms of pacing, in terms of where they're coming from at their pace level, that's going to make a big difference."



### **Resilient Youth & Scouts Australia**

On the other side of the world, Scouts Australia have also been looking into the impact of Scouting on the resilience of young people. In 2019, they partnered with Resilient Youth Australia to survey a sample of Scouts aged 8-18 across all States and Territories, and benchmarked the results against the Australian norm dataset of 48,671 young people in the same age group.

The results of the survey, shared in 2020, revealed that Scouts demonstrate a far wider range of resilient behaviours than their peers. They are more optimistic about their future; hold more positive values; enjoy greater life satisfaction; feel healthier physically and mentally; read more; have more fun at school; are more likely to help other people and help out at school; contribute more to their local community. The report also showed that Scouts report to have "an overall better life satisfaction than their non-Scouting peers, and that the longer they stay in Scouts, the more resilient they are likely to become".

Scouts Australia rightly calls this "The Scouting Effect".

Read "The Scouting Effect" full report here:



# **WOSM Impact Studies**

The research above reflects the results of two external studies carried out for the World Organisation of the Scout Movement in 2017 and 2019 to measure the effect of Scouting on the personal development of young people, which we reported on in the Foundation's 2018 and 2019 Annual Reports.

The results of the first study, which focused on young people in Kenya, Singapore and the United Kingdom, saw Scouts outperform their non-Scouting peers in key competencies, as shown in the radar chart. The second study (France, Mexico, the Netherlands and Saudi Arabia) confirmed the findings.

It is indeed reassuring that when it comes to a time of global crisis that *the skills*, *leadership and values we have invested in, can be seen to be having an impact*. And that one of the world's leading experts partners with Scouting to support young people in the general population. We knew we were on the right lines – now we can see this reaffirmed.

WOSM 1st Impact Study available here:



WOSM 2nd Impact Study available here:



# **IMPACT STUDY LIFE SKILLS: SCOUTS VS NON-SCOUTS**



# GLOBAL RESILIENCE 2020 from WOSM perspective

2020 was an unprecedented year for young people. Formal education was severely impacted by the COVID lockdowns around the world and, according to UNESCO, at the peak of the crisis, over 1.6 billion learners in more than 190 countries were out of school.

As the world started to realise the extent of the pandemic, and while many international peer youth organisations were forced to close because of economic impact of the crisis, WOSM took a completely different tack: it adapted!

incredible agility, WOSM's Secretary General, Ahmad Alhendawi, and his team led a transformation and prioritisation of its services - from the strengthening of leader training with a robust Virtual Leadership Academy to support for governance structures through Zoom. And with the help of the Foundation and a number of its key donors – most notably via Messengers of Peace and from Alwaleed Philanthropies - emergency funds were made available National Scout Organisations worldwide to provide much needed community service and help to adapt Scouting to a new format: Scouting from home!

Most impressive was, within three weeks of the lockdown, WOSM engaged millions of Scouts worldwide in an incredible online programme – the Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI). This previously "small" event (in other years there were "only" around 1.5 million participants) reached and inspired 5 million Scouts, whose world had changed practically overnight.

Over three days, Scouts connected with their peers around the world, participating in live shows and hundreds of interactive activities; having fun together; learning about mental and physical health, safety measures and digital citizenship; sharing ideas for Scouting from home, and, quite significantly, undertaking the challenge of re-energising their local community service, as reported here.

The incredible, passionate, inspiring team of volunteers and staff who had been trained as facilitators within WOSM, demonstrated leadership, resilience and agility to respond to the changing needs of Scouts, supporting them and their volunteer leaders and, by extension, their families.

And WOSM continued this amazing work throughout the rest of 2020. WOSM's

essential activities to inspire (peer to peer sharing of projects, encouraging even more action and impact), enable (through capacity building – this time through virtual training and personalised support for national leaders) and deliver (providing essential project support, even during emergencies) continued and paid off, with over 500 million hours of community service recorded in 2020 – more than any other year in recent history.

"We adapted quickly to the new reality thanks to the lean structures built by our volunteers and staff in the years leading up to 2020, and to the investment we made in the capacity of our National Scout Organisations worldwide", explains Ahmad. "This has laid the groundwork for our agility to act. All of the training and preparation we have invested helped us to be ready to connect the Movement during this unprecedented global health crisis. Scouting continues thanks to the energy, motivation and resilience of these amazing teams, and the millions of volunteers and supporters. We heard it from governments and partners alike that having Scouts in any community increases its resilience. 2020 was a proof of that!

Special thanks must go to the World Scout Foundation for its support during this period. While the youth sector was under so much pressure and shortage in resources, we were able to power ahead and the Foundation was an unwavering ally on that. Particular thanks must go to the network of Baden-Powell Fellows and key donors who maintained their generous support and to the Messengers of Peace programme, supported by our National Scout Organisation in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Foundation didn't blink and you all stayed right with us during these difficult months, despite market uncertainties and some of your own businesses being badly affected.

A huge thank you from our 54 million Scouts!"



# YOU MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE! Message from a Scout with a global view



A Sunday morning is the only time Mike is free to talk. As Executive Director of the World Health Organisation's Emergency Programme, he's a bit busy these days! On a Zoom call, he explains that the COVID-19 pandemic is "right up there with the major disasters in recent world history... right up there with WWII for its global impact... no disease has had such an impact on lives, economies, education, health systems".

Mike describes how many governments "got it right" from day one by taking a community health approach - where community resilience is key - to the pandemic. "We (WHO and other international organisations) have been 'a sort of thin blue line' for the world in the past thirty years" - with outbreaks of SARS, MERS, Ebola to mention but a few of the crises WHO has managed. The common feature of all these is not that the "bugs are doing anything different - it's what we are doing, where we are living and how we are behaving" that has caused the barrier between the species to be breached, for the effects of the virus to be amplified and for the impact to be propagated worldwide. Normally this would be slower, but when we push farmland into pristine

habitats where species can mix, we bring new bugs into densely populated and underprepared urban areas, and we travel globally, all these phases happen almost simultaneously, explains Mike. And the WHO team is there to help, advise and inform in a way that medics, scientists, governments and the general population can understand.

WHO has helped develop a global vaccination sharing programme, it has advised countries to respond more effectively and has shared learning across the globe. And this is all in addition to helping in a myriad of other medical emergencies in war torn areas like Syria, Ebola areas in West Africa and deadly measles outbreaks in the Pacific Islands.

Mike comes from a very modest background—with a hero mum! His father passed away when Mike was only 11, and his mother had to hold down three jobs to keep the family together. He and his brother were Scouts in a small rural town in Ireland. For him, Scouting opened up the world to him—it was all about service to the community, and taking action, making a difference. When you have the lives of younger Scouts in your hands

on camping trips and have to deal with daily disasters on camp (he jokes about flooded tents), you learn about life: "It's amazing how the Scouts teaches you both self-reliance and teamwork which is what you need for modern life. You have to be self-reliant enough to be a member of a team, but no matter how self-reliant you are, a team always gets it done better. It was really important for myself and my brother — it gave us a resilience and a camaraderie". A Scout exchange to the Boy Scouts of America in his teens gave Mike a "wanderlust", and made him "an international man".

Mike has a message for the millions of Scouts who have worked tirelessly in the past year responding to the COVID crisis: "No matter where you are, you make a difference. Every person matters. You add it up... you make a difference to the life of one person, then those "ones" add up to the hundreds, the hundred to the thousands and then to the millions. Scouting is like a global tribe, connected by a set of ideas and a set of thoughts. When I have met former Scouts in different parts of the world there is always a sort of link. There's that connection. Scouting is all about service, learning about yourself and what you can do for your community. It's amazing!"

And to our Baden-Powell Fellows: "What you're doing is investing in young people. I think that young people have to be 'constructively disruptive' - to disrupt by doing, not by storming the government. It's acting". Scouts do that, very quietly, with no "hoopla". Scouting creates a structure within which you can serve and make a difference. It also shows the community the value of youth. and it shows youth the value of youth. I'm a bit scared that our latest generation of youth have disconnected in a way that previous generations didn't. But Scouting gives young people - regardless of economic status, background, race - the power or the energy to change something. Young people get support, not direction in Scouting. You believe you can do anything. It gives you the right to believe!"

From a ward doctor in rural Ireland to chasing polio cases in Pakistan, Ebola patients in West Africa and now leading the world's response to the deadliest global disaster in decades, this very modest man is a shining example of what every Scout is at heart: a person who cares, who appreciates others, and, because of his Scout experience, he's not afraid to act.



# **FUNDRAISING**

"2020 has been an entirely different year for the Foundation in all aspects and especially with regards to fundraising", reports Margot Bogert, Board Member. "We started 2020 off with a clear set of goals for fundraising on all levels. We revisited these in mid-March and worked to define new flexible goals, better attuned to the reality of fundraising in 2020."

Although the Board and staff adapted swiftly to working remotely, such environments are not favourable for convincing potential high value investors to invest in World Scouting. However, the good news is that none of the existing high value investors have lost interest!

Our global network of Baden-Powell Fellows has stepped up and supported several emergency appeals, in addition to giving generously to the 2020/2021 Fundraising Campaign, which started in October 2020, and kept up donations to fulfil pledges, despite uncertain markets and difficult times for all."

In June 2020, WOSM and the Foundation jointly ran a COVID-19 Emergency Appeal on the Scout Donation Platform

and raised USD 122,100 to support local level projects related to COVID-19, including a Madagascar Scouts handwashing projects in schools, a project in the Philippines supporting migrants in shelters to mitigate the spread of the virus, and vital food distribution to vulnerable families in the Dominican Republic. The bulk of the funds made available for these projects under this appeal came from Baden-Powell Fellows!

A Virtual Investor Seminar was organised on 24 September 2020 to replace the postponed Dublin event. It was attended by a total of 170 BP Fellows, special quests and speakers. The seminar was brilliantly presided by two Young BP Fellows and featured five remarkable Scout stories along with a special address by the Honorary Chairman, a welcome by the Chairman and closing remarks by the Foundation's Director. The Scout features shone the spotlight on Scouting in a Refugee Camp in Kenya; the global impact of the action of one young Scout from Canada; the inspiring community service project by Scouts from Tunisia: the transformation

of Scouting in Ethiopia; and the impact of the Interamerican Leadership project on a USA Scout.

A group of seven Young BP Fellows took on a challenge to reenergise the Young BP Fellows Programme and support their peers with advice on how to feasibly 'bridge the gap' to life membership of the Fellowship, from the initial donation of USD 1,000 to the full pledge of USD 10,000. This Task Force has worked hard to actively engage with Young BP Fellows via social media and a number of exciting initiatives, including a Giving Circle, a Speakers Series and a Mentoring Programme to create stronger links across the network of BP Fellows.

One of the original goals at the start of 2020 was to organise a fundraising campaign among BP Fellows, which was last done in 2015. Ateam led by Co-Chairs and Board Members, Margot Bogert and Kent Clayburn, worked on this from May to September 2020. The campaign was launched in October 2020. The two key features of this campaign are: the 'friendraising' aspect which recognises BP Fellows for the value of a newly

recruited BP Fellow, and the option to set up a recurring donation by credit card via the foundation's website. We are delighted to announce that at the end of 2020, the total received in pledges, new BP Fellowships, upgrades and donations was already USD 1,115,767. The campaign runs until June 2021.

Work continues together with the Saudi Scout Association to secure funding for the next round of *Messengers of Peace*, with an aim to have a firm decision during 2021. Alwaleed Philanthropies has continued its commitment, supporting numerous projects in 2020, including the relaunch of Girls in Scouting in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with HH Princess Sama (WSF Board Member) as President of Girls in Scouting in the Kingdom.

# YOU INVESTED IN 2020

Mr Jan Olav Aamlid Mr & Mrs Glenn A. and Melinda Adams Mr Armando A. Aguirre Prof Dr Nizamuddin Ahmed Prof Dr Staffan Ahnve, MD, PhD HE Dr Yahya Bin Mahfoodh Al Manthri HH Princess Sama Bint Faisal A.M.bin Abdulaziz Al Saud HRH Prince Alwaleed bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud Mr Paul Aldridge Mr Ahmad Alhendawi HE Faisal bin Abdulrahman I. Almuaammar Mr José Tomás Andrade Peinado Mr Masaya Arao Lt Col Council J. "Pete" Armstrong, Jr US Army (rtd) Mr Ho Wing Herbert Au-Yeung Mr Camilo "Pitu" Ayala Herrera Mr Byung-Soo Baik Mr Thomas S. Bain Mr Manuel Baldauff Mr Thomas F. Baltutis Mr Marshall Bartlett Mr David Berg Consul General Sven-Åke and Mrs Carina Bergkvist Mr Frans Bergkvist Mr Ludvig Bergkvist Mr Nils Bildt, Ms Sc, DHS, Colonel Life Guards Mr George Birsic Mr John Blouin Dr jur Manfred H. Bobke-von Camen Mrs Margot C. Bogert Mr David Caldwell Bouley Mr Joseph R. Boulev Mr Stewart Bowman Mr David J. Burge Ms Marina Cangelaris Mr John Brent Carswell Mr Ajey Chandra Mr Edward Andrew "Andy" Chapman Mr II Sun Chung Mr & Mrs Kent D. and Constance Clayburn Mr Mark A. Clayton

Mr & Mrs Philip and Geda Condit Mr & Mrs Richard A. and Andrea Cox Mr & Mrs William F. "Rick" and Janet Cronk Mr Richard A. Davies Mr John Michael Davis Dr Jens Ehrhardt Mr René Elvinger Mr Jørgen Enggaard Dr Brad Lawrence Epstein, MD Mr Luis A. Feliciano Mr Marcos Clayton Fernandes Pessoa Dr William Finerty Rev Eugene A. Folev Mr George Anders Fosselius Mr David S. French Mr Thomas Frostberg Mr Marek Fukas Mr Francisco Xavier Gamez Perez Dr João Armando P Goncalves Mrs Nicole Gooderson Mr Marcelo Guerra Hahn Mrs Jennifer Hancock, Esq. Ms Kaitlin Hancock Mr Kendrick Hancock Mr Randy Harris Mr John Hawthorn Mr Keijun Hayashi Mrs Myriam Heidelberger-Kaufmann Mr Kari Heinistö Mr Lance Hirsch Mr Thomas Hirt Mrs Christina Hjelm Dr Marshall E. Hollis Mr Gregory B. Holt Mr Gun Hee Hong Mr & Mrs David B. and Faye Huestis Mr John O. Hunnicutt, III Mr & Mrs Hans and Doris Imholz Mr Ikuo Irie Mr Ilyas Ismayilli Mr David A. Jefferson, OAM Dr David Jenny Ms Eva-Marie Johansson Mr Tom Johnson Mr James C. Karegeannes, MD Mr Tadao Kato

Mr Stephen Kent

Mr Alexander Killby Mr Eugene Kim Mr SeungSu "Sonny" Kim Mr Suk-Won Kim Mrs Michelle King Mr Mark Knippenberg, MSc Mr Toru Kobayashi Mr Lars Kolind Mr William Cheuk-yin Kwan Mr SangKyun Lee Mr John Leece, AM Mr Jorge Arturo León y Velez Avelar Mrs Crystal Leuna Mr Tom Levine Mr Donald MacDonald Mr Douglas MacDonald Mr Francisco Javier Macías Valadez Treviño Mr Stefan Mahlstein Mr Matthew J. Mann Mrs Cynthia Cardoza Mr Matthew May Mr Bruce McCréa Mr Joseph M. McDermott Ms Savannah McMillan Mr Francisco Antonio Meza Durán Ms Chihori Miki Mr Hiromasa Mizushima Mr Victor Molander HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco Mr Ivo Renato Moreira de Faria Oliveira Mr Geoff Keith Morgan, AM Mouvement Scout de Suisse Mr Paul Tadashi Murayama Dr Koji Negi Mr Daniel A. Nelson Mr & Mrs Brian I. and Carolyn Neysmith Mr John A. Neysmith Mr Pablo Antonio Nieto Passano Captain Leonardo Carlos Ocampo Guadarrama Ms Andrea Palomo Robles Mrs Janne Peltola Mr Jean Perea Mr & Mrs Wayne M. and Christine Perry Mr Martin Persson Mrs Christine Pollithy Hon Randy L. Potts

Mr Pascal R. Poumailloux Mr Jørgen Rasmussen Mr Allen Rickert Mr & Mrs David and Valerie Rippon Mr Hector Robledo Cervantes Mr Matthias Rufener Mr & Mrs Jim and Linda Ryffel Mrs Franziska Saager Mr Akihiro Sasazawa Mr John Saville, JP, DL Mr Friedemann Scholz Scouterna Scouts Canada Mr Marc Secretan Mr Robert F. Sinclair Dr Ha-Jin Song Miss Nicole Strachan Mr John Sutin Mrs Darci Swanson Mr Shinichi Taiima The Eric Frank Trust Mr Charles "Chuck" Thibodeau Mr & Mrs Brian D. and Carolyn Thiessen Ms Kristine M. Tran Mr Jukka Tulivuori Mr James S. Turley Mr Craig Turpie Mr Yasuki Usami Mr Pratik Vaiyda Mr Brad E. Valdyke Count Hans-Eric von der Groeben Mr Dennis C. Waitzman Mrs Minou Virginie Weber Mr Siegfried Weiser and Mrs Yasmine Bensultana Mr Beat Daniel Wenger Mr Alexander Wong Mr Jones Chung-Hie Wong, OStJ Ms Caitlin Wood Mr & Mrs Rob and Jan Woolford Mr Davis Lee Wright Mr William Xiao Mr Nathan Clement Wai-Chun Yiu Mr Stephen Lai-suen Yiu Mr Nicolás Zapata Mr Wouter Zilverberg Mrs Beate Zischka

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

"When we were preparing the 2019 Annual Report, in early 2020, we could already predict that 2020 would present numerous challenges, which was putting it mildly! However, there have been some positive outcomes from this difficult year. The decision taken in 2019 to change our investment manager to JP Morgan Private Bank Switzerland has, in hindsight, proved to be the right decision, taken at the right moment. JP Morgan has been able to swiftly change positions when the markets demanded. This has meant that our investment portfolio was expertly managed in particular during the massive downturn in the second quarter, followed by a rebalancing phase in the third quarter and a phase of growth in the last quarter, resulting in an overall return of investments of 11.8%, after a dip of nearly -13% in March/April 2020 (2019: 18.6 % return)", reports Kent Clayburn, Chairman-Elect and Chairman of the Investment Committee.

The Foundation's assets, including funds held abroad, reached just over USD 68.7 million on 31 December 2020, up from USD 66.9 million the previous year.

The Board has been able to continue its grantmaking to World Scouting by

providing a total of USD 5.13 million in 2020 (2019: USD 6.7 million). This is lower than previous years as the spending rate on field projects was affected by the pandemic restrictions.

With the initial Messengers of Peace Initiative coming to the end of its first 10-year funding period, the Foundation had pre-financed a total of USD 6 million for the remaining donor instalments for 2018, 2019 and 2020. (At the time of writing, USD 4 million has been received in March 2021 and the remaining USD 2 million is expected in the third quarter of 2021. This will lift the stress on the endowment fund considerably.)

Despite the pandemic, work to secure a second phase of funding for the Messengers of Peace beyond 2021 has been going well, with a final decision expected in the first half of 2021. The Board looks forward to continuing our very substantial support to World Scouting for this vital programme.

As reported, our global network of Baden-Powell Fellows has also generously supported the 2020/2021 Fundraising Campaign, in addition to a number of emergency appeals, and has also kept up with donations to fulfil pledges made. USD 1 million raised just before the end of 2020, has more or less balanced the loss from postponed inperson fundraising event opportunities in 2020.

The Foundation's administration and staff costs remain covered by a special fund established by a small group of existing donors. Members of the Board continued to make significant contributions in 2020 to ensure that this fund remains viable for the years to come. This means that the Foundation has been able to assure new investors that every new gift to the Foundation goes entirely to Scout projects. No fees or expenses are paid to Officers or Members of the Board or of its Sub-Committees.

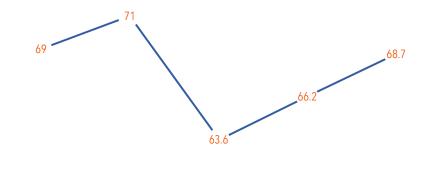
The World Scout Foundation is an independent, not for profit, charitable organisation based in Switzerland, established under Swiss law and is subject to supervision by the Swiss Federal Supervisory Authority of Foundations. The Foundation has entities or funds established in Australia, Canada, France and Germany which will accept tax deductible contributions from those residing in these countries.

Contributions to the Foundation can also be made through National Scout Organisations in the following countries: Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, Mexico, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom and the United States of America. This might also be possible in other countries and the Foundation is available to assist.

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) audits the accounts and Financial Statements, annually.

Please contact the Foundation Office in Geneva for a copy of the complete audited 2020 Financial Statements.

## **WSF ASSETS (in million USD)**



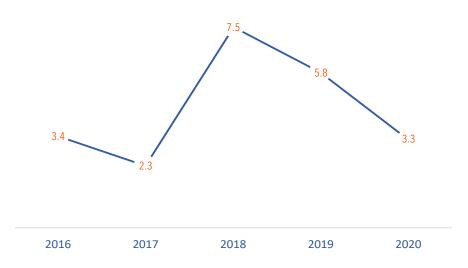
2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

## **GRANT TO WORLD SCOUTING (in million USD)**

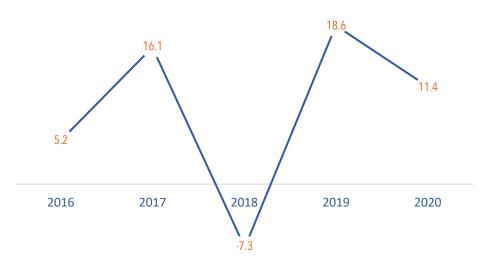


2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

## **FUNDS RAISED IN CASH & FIRM PLEDGES (in million USD)**



### **RETURN ON INVESTMENTS (in %)**



# **GOVERNANCE**

Due to the COVID-19 crisis which lasted nearly all of 2020, all in-person meetings had to be cancelled. For the first time a virtual meeting format was rolled out for the 69th Meeting of the Board on 17th April 2020 and for the 70th Meeting of the Board on 7th December 2020. A Board Update Meeting was held on 25th June 2020.

Key decisions taken by the Board during this year included:

- Approval of the annual grant to WOSM of USD 2.8 million;
- Approval of the 2019 audited Financial Statements;
- Reappointment of the following Board Members:
   Dr Jens Ehrhardt, Mr Masaya Arao, Mr William
   F. "Rick" Cronk, Mr John Leece AM, Mr James S.
   Turley and Mr Rob Woolford;
- Approval of the election of Mr Kent D. Clayburn as Chairman-Elect:
- Approval of the revised WSF Investment Policy and WSF Asset Allocation Policy;

- Approval of the revised WSF System of Internal Control;
- Development of a 2020/2021 Fundraising Campaign to raise additional funds for the Endowment Fund and the approval of the appointment of Mrs Margot Bogert and Mr Kent D. Clayburn as Campaign Co-Chairs;
- Approval of the proposal to move the Dublin Event to 1-4 September 2021;
- Approval of the evaluation and report of the Messengers of Peace Initiative (2011-2020).

The Board in its meetings adapted its annual plan with particular attention to Scouting globally dealing with the pandemic and the effects this had on funding streams and income of NSOs and WOSM.

The Foundation's Director, Mr John Geoghegan, informed the Board that he will be stepping down at the end of August 2021.

An ad-hoc Chairman's Team was formed to be able to swiftly deal with the constantly changing circumstances

influencing the operations of the Foundation. The members are: Hector Robledo Cervantes (Chairman), Kent Clayburn (Chairman-Elect), Lars Kolind (Immediate Past Chairman), Fredrik Gottlieb (Treasurer) and Siegfried Weiser (Past Chairman). This team also dealt with the preparation of a viable proposal for the Board Review process as well as the succession planning for the Foundation's Director.

The Audit Committee and the Nominations Committee both met virtually once in April before the Board Meeting. The Investment Committee held four virtual meetings in 2020. The Grant-making Oversight Committee met twice virtually, ahead of each of the Board meetings.





# **BOARD**

**HONORARY CHAIRMAN** His Majesty The King of Sweden

**OFFICERS** 

Chairman Hector Robledo Cervantes (Mexico)

Past Chairman Lars Kolind (Denmark)
Chairman-Elect Kent Clayburn (USA)

Treasurer Fredrik Gottlieb (Sweden)
Secretary Jens Ehrhardt (Germany)
Director John Geoghegan (Ireland)

**EX-OFFICIO** 

Chairman, WSC Craig Turpie (UK)

Vice-Chairman, WSC Edward Andrew "Andy" Chapman (USA)

Secretary General, WOSM Ahmad Alhendawi (Jordan)

**MEMBERS** 

HRH Hereditary Grand Duke Guillaume of Luxembourg

HH Princess Sama Bint Faisal Al Saud (Saudi Arabia)

Masaya Arao (Japan)

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WSF Staff Nicole Gooderson (Switzerland)

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## IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR!

# Dante's family

As we have reported this year, many Scout families get involved in Scout projects – so meet one of the families behind our cover story from Nyon.

Livio is the Scout-age section Assistant Leader. He made deliveries and also produced the thank-you video. Flavia was too young to help with deliveries, but was active online as part of the Scouting at home programme. Mum, Roberta supported the family and the Scout Group and Dad, Glenn, was active as a member of the Scout Group Support Committee.

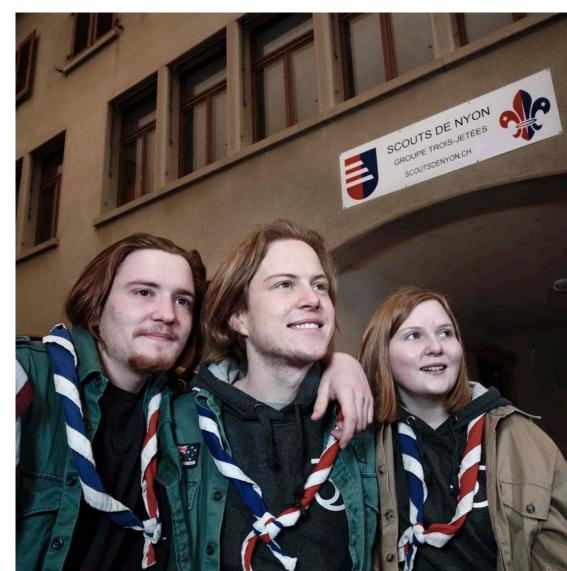
Glenn explains how he sees Scouting:

"I was very happy that our family could participate last year. Dante and Livio were both very active several days a week taking requests, doing the shopping and delivering; it was really a great effort.

"Our daughter Flavia, as a Scout, took part in the online Scouting at home activities, some of which were done in solidarity with the COVID-19 response, such as putting together a video message of thanks to the frontline workers.

I think Scouting is really a "school for life" in it prepares young people in many different ways; how to improvise, how to get along with all types of people, how to lead and how to cope in challenging situations. Just last week, Flavia had to lead a group of some five Cub Scouts across an orientation trail – now that's experience!

Scouting really develops resilience in young people — I am the living proof! Having myself been a Cub Scout, Scout, Venturer and Rover, my own experience was that it helps you cope and deal with all sorts of situations in life, in addition to giving you unforgettable experiences and lifelong friends. I see now with my own children that Scouts has given them as lot — and they have also given a lot to Scouts to lead and support other young people."



# ONE YEAR ON...



Only last year, we shared some of the incredible leadership stories related to the 24th World Scout Jamboree, which took place at the BSA Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR) in West Virginia, USA. And whilst the dust has long since settled on this historic event for 45,000 Scouts, activity at the Summit has continued as far as possible, taking an interesting turn in 2020 due to the pandemic.

In early 2020, the Summit team reached out to health officials to offer the facilities and staff support to help with COVID-19 testing over the last eight months and, more recently, vaccinations.

"The Ruby Centre (the Summit's welcome centre, sitting on the side of the motorway) is a perfect location to facilitate drive-through testing and vaccinations. To date, around 7,500 have been tested and approximately 600 vaccinated. SBR facilities and health and safety teams

directly support the mission", says Shane Wheeler, Summit Health and Safety Director.

While all this was happening, Scouting also went on. Summit activities were massively trimmed back at the high adventure base, but the team dug deep and adapted their programme to deliver Scouting programmes for young people.

"The SBR developed a comprehensive COVID-19 plan, which was approved by state officials and safely provided Scout camping programmes and High Adventure experiences to over 3,800 Scouts and Leaders in the summer of 2020, with no community spread of the virus. We were also able to provide interactive experiences to thousands of Scouts at home through several virtual Scouting events throughout the summer that were hosted by the Summit, live onsite", says Shane.

Watch the video of the first rollout of vaccinations here:



World Scout Foundation Annual Report 2020

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#### A CONTRIBUTION TO SCOUTING IS AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

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