

GAP 100
Activity Support

GAP 100 Reference #

113

What

“Invite former youth to return as Volunteers”

- a study showed that 7 out of 10 people would consider returning to Scouting if asked.

Why:

- To bring about youthfulness to the leadership team at a group, as well as reconnect previous members with the Scouting movement.

What do I Need

- Group History/Records, or the memory of a long serving member of the group.

Who Do I Need

- The members of your section leadership teams, as well as the members of the Group Committee.

Preparation

- Pick a date & time for as many volunteers from the group to gather as possible.

How do I do it

- This exercise is best done in a group committee type setting.
- If you have access to your group’s files, take a look at the names of the Senior youth (Scout aged or above) that were in your group 10 or so years ago.
- Make a list of those youth who you believe would be good potential leaders. What are they doing now? Are they in post-secondary education? Have they started their career yet? Have they gotten married? Have they began to have a family?
- Keep note of those youth you wish to contact, and assign a member from your group to contact them. (ie: Group Committee member or section leaders depending on whether or not a particular member of the group knows the individual well)
- Create a timeline. (ie: everyone agrees to attempt contact with those on their list within 3 weeks, etc.)
- Keep track of those who are interested and those who are not (and note reasons why they may not be interested – perhaps someone who cannot volunteer because they are in graduate school may have time in another couple of years)

Follow-up:

- Once those on your list have been contacted, invite them out to a special event. (ie: Group reunion/milestone anniversary; annual group banquet)
- Continue to invite Alumni members of the group to your group banquet annually. (ie: 3 former members per year receive invitations as special guests)
- Never give up! If you have exhausted all of the names on one list, go back and start the process over again.