



VENTURING · BSA®

STRENGTHENING YOUTH THROUGH *VENTURING*



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®



ADVENTURE WITH A PURPOSE

Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women ages 14 through 20. Youth may also apply for the program at age 13 if they have completed eighth grade.

Venturing is adventure with a purpose. It fosters positive attitudes toward service while helping young adults to develop camaraderie and leadership skills—and most of all to have FUN!

The positive experiences enjoyed by young people in Venturing crews can help them mature and develop into responsible, caring adults. They provide service to the community while also pursuing their special interests through exciting and meaningful activities.

Venturing is based on a unique, dynamic relationship between Venturers, adult leaders and mentors, and local community organizations. Venturing allows the youth that you serve to explore their unique interests. Examples might include:

- Backpacking
- Drama club
- Robotics
- Rock climbing
- Service-oriented projects
- Skiing
- Whitewater rafting
- Conducting summer programs for children
- Job shadowing to learn from local professionals
- Participating in historical reenactments

There are no “typical” Venturing crews. It’s about what happens to young people as they lead and serve others, and as they grow and learn from that experience. Many times Venturing takes place outdoors but it can also happen indoors. Venturing is whatever you make it, and each Venturing crew is different.

ABOUT VENTURING



CONNECTING
YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THE
NATURAL
WORLD

YOUTH

- Venturers gain hands-on experience in goal-setting, time and project management, mentoring, and more.
- Venturers take part in community service projects and events.
- Participants develop a stronger sense of belonging and self-confidence, and develop character through the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
- Youth engage in physical activity with a focus on personal fitness and choosing new experiences outside their comfort zones.
- High-adventure opportunities are offered at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, Philmont Scout Ranch, Northern Tier, and Sea Base.



ADULTS

- Parents can serve as volunteer leaders and share common experiences alongside their sons and daughters in Venturing.
- The Venturing Crew Advisor—an adult who supports, coaches, and trains youth leaders to run the crew—gains new leadership and physical skills in the process. The activities and service opportunities are as much fun for the Advisor as for the Venturers.
- Parents and Advisors get the satisfaction of seeing young people grow through mentoring and teaching others.



ORGANIZATIONS

- Each organization *owns* the crew they sponsor. They can use Venturing to further the organization's aims and values for youth.
- Venturing can be used to enhance an organization's existing youth program and to attract more youth.
- Venturing offers an opportunity for the entire family to participate.
- The organization gains extensive resources from the BSA, including Youth Protection training and other course materials.
- General liability insurance is provided through the BSA.

WHO DOES VENTURING BENEFIT?



THE FOUR AREAS OF EMPHASIS IN VENTURING COME TOGETHER IN THE ALPS MODEL

ADVENTURE

Outings with a sense of adventure are the key to Venturers having fun and learning something new about themselves. They not only *participate* in fun activities but also learn how to *lead* the activities. And as new leadership skills develop, Venturers become mentors to others in the crew.

LEADERSHIP

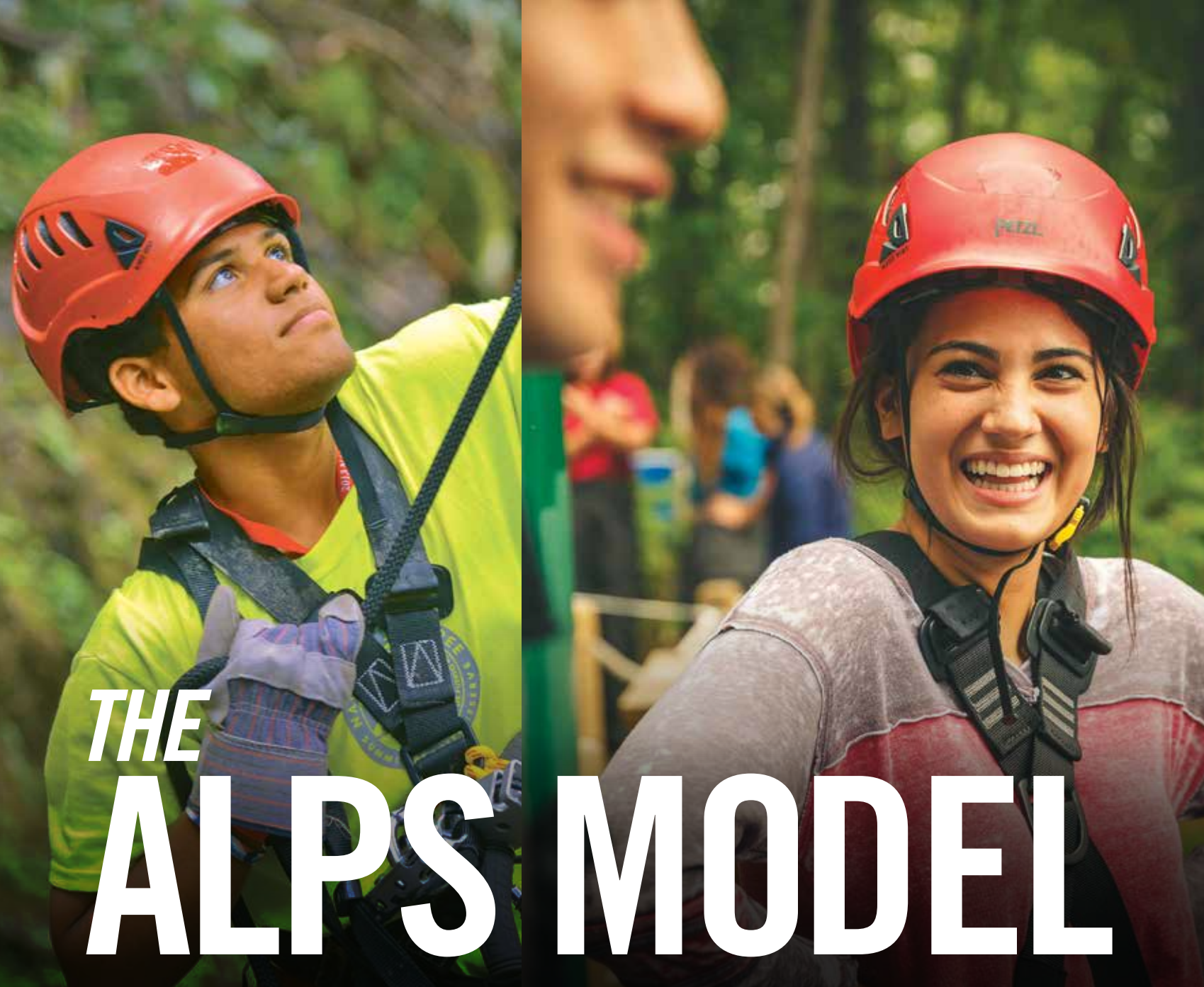
In Venturing, being a leader isn't just a position—it's an action. Venturers learn to lead the crew through adventures and service projects of their choice.

PERSONAL GROWTH

The three types of growth in Venturing are development of self, development of others, and development of faith. This gives each Venturer a framework for identifying areas in which they want to develop. Within that framework, they find goals that speak to them and their aspirations.

SERVICE

Scouts throughout history have demonstrated their willingness and ability to do a Good Turn for those in need. Venturers have an opportunity to serve others and many times experience a change in their own lives.



THE ALPS MODEL

**START
A VENTURING!
CREW TODAY!**

STEP 1

Contact your local BSA council through www.beascout.org.

STEP 2

Meet with your local Scouting professional or volunteer.

STEP 3

Find the right parents and adults to become Venturing volunteer leaders.



**START YOUR
VENTURING PROGRAM TODAY!**