Local Boy Scouts Collect Over 129,000 Pounds of Food
“Scouting for Food” Effort Helps Feed Neediest in Our Community

Sacramento, CA — March 17, 2017. This week, the Boy Scouts of the Golden Empire Council collected over 129,000 pounds of food providing meals for 107,500 food insecure citizens in the Sacramento and surrounding areas. Over 26,800 of those citizens are children.

The drive was part of the Golden Empire Council's annual Scouting for Food program. In one day, over 3,500 Northern Californian Scouts and their families from 15 counties went door-to-door collecting over 129,000 pounds of food.

Non-perishable items were donated to 38 local food banks. Nancy Alcola at the People of Progress food pantry in Red Bluff, CA, said, “our shelves were dangerously low, so when Scouts arrived with a huge influx of food, it was a miracle!”

“Scouting for Food is a very important food drive for us,” said Peggy Marshall, Donation Drive Coordinator for Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services. “Food drives at this time of year are critically important to us because it helps restock our shelves after holiday donations have been depleted. The drive helps get us through the summer months when children, in particular, need help the most,” she added. “Scouting for Food grows year after year and we couldn’t be more excited about it,” Marshall shared.

“I am so proud of our Scouts and the incredible service they provided to the community this week,” said Chuck Brasfeild, Scout Executive and CEO of the Golden Empire Council. “Scouting for Food is an excellent example of how Scouts “do a good turn daily” and put their oath of “helping people at all times” into action,” Brasfeild said.

To learn how you can get involved with Scouting, visit the Golden Empire’s website at www.gec-bsa.org, or visit www.beascout.org to find a Unit near you.

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Red Bluff Boy Scout Troop and Pack 417 collected over 4,000 pounds of food on Saturday, March 11, 2017.

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**About the Boy Scouts of America**

Scouting has had more than 100 million members since its inception in 1910, and has helped mold the future leaders of this country by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. The Boy Scouts of America believes that helping youth puts us on a path toward a more conscientious, responsible, and productive society. Scouting focuses on six essentials: mentoring, lifelong learning, faith traditions, serving others, healthy living, and building character. If you would like more information about the programs available through the Boy Scouts of America, please visit www.scouting.org.

**About the Golden Empire Council**

The Golden Empire Council is a division of the Boy Scouts of America that serves a large section of Northern California, primarily the Sacramento Valley and the northern Sierra Nevada mountains. The Council currently serves over 16,000 youth in 15 counties. If you would like more information about the programs available through the Golden Empire Council, please visit www.gec-bsa.org.
Cub Scouts’ food drive part of Scouting For Food campaign

Contributed Cub Scouts from Red Bluff Pack 417 pose in front of the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Saturday.

Cub Scouts from Red Bluff Pack 417, sponsored by Sacred Heart Catholic Church, gathered at the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Saturday where they dropped of more than 300 items to the church’s food bank.

The drive was part of the Golden Empire Council’s annual Scouting For Food program. Many North State Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops participate each year.

These Cub Scouts went door to door in the area around the Sacred Heart Parish Hall on Thursday leaving door hangers letting people know they would be collecting food Saturday morning.

The Cubs delivered the food and created a bucket brigade to unload it at the church.