DO A GOOD TURN THIS NOVEMBER

- Service ideas and ready-to-use sign-up paths for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, crews and families
- Goal: every unit leaves with one November project idea
- Serving neighbors with dignity • Kansas City / Northstar District

Why November? Why Scouts?

- Thanksgiving creates a natural moment to address hunger, cold weather and isolation
- Small projects count: one hour, one bag of supplies, one thoughtful conversation
- Youth lead: select the need, contact the partner, organize the work, reflect afterward
- Ask: Who benefits? What did our Scouts learn?

THE SALVATION ARMY | Red Kettle Bell Ringing

- High-visibility, family-friendly holiday service; many shifts are about two hours

- How to sign up: open the official Salvation Army volunteer page → Ring a Bell → find local opportunities / enter ZIP → select a shift

- Unit approach: reserve adjoining shifts, confirm site and age/chaperone rules with local coordinator

- Bring weather-ready layers; arrange adult supervision and a backup for cancellations

Official bell-ringing information ↗

Volunteer / local sign-up ↗

THE SALVATION ARMY | Beyond the Kettle

- Ask Salivation Army staff about holiday food boxes, toy sorting, coats and meal support
- Roles and youth eligibility vary by site; confirm requirements before advertising to families
- Make it a unit project: pick a shift, designate adult coordinator, track participants and share arrival details
- Optional: combine a supply drive with an approved hands-on volunteer opportunity

Kansas & Western Missouri Salvation Army ↗

HARVESTERS | Fight Hunger

- Service: sort and pack food or support approved community distributions
- Sign-up: Volunteer → Individual Opportunities; for a unit use the Volunteer Group Request Form
- Onsite shifts require age 12+; parent/guardian waiver for minors; youth groups need chaperones
- Cub Scout alternative: organize a food drive and coordinate drop-off rather than assume warehouse eligibility

Volunteer and group registration ↗

GIVING THE BASICS | Hygiene & Dignity

- Collect soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant and other requested essentials
- Groups of 5+ can reserve listed weekday packaging sessions using the online calendar
- Under 18: parent/guardian online waiver; under 14: accompanied by an adult
- Great Cub option: assemble a hygiene collection with a partner-approved list

KC volunteer sign-up calendar and rules ↗

PARKS, NEIGHBORS & LOCAL SERVICE

- Park litter pickup or trail care: ask parks department before scheduling and follow site rules
- Leaf-raking for seniors or neighbors: arrange requests through trusted community partners
- Make thank-you cards or care notes for first responders, veterans or senior communities
- Collect coats, gloves or blankets only after confirming a receiving organization’s needs

Heart of America Council community service resources ↗

Match the project to the age group

- Scouts BSA: food sorting (12+ at Harvesters), park projects, supply drives, team bell-ringing
- Venturing / older youth: coordinate partner contact, transportation, publicity and multi-shift staffing
- Do not assume all partner roles permit minors; verify ages, waivers and supervision first

How to sign up | A 6-step unit playbook

1 Choose the cause and confirm a real need with the partner

2 Open the official registration link; choose group registration when available

3 Confirm date, location, shift capacity, minimum age and waiver rules

4 Recruit Scouts and adults; confirm Scouting supervision and transportation

5 Send a reminder with dress, arrival, supplies and contact details

6 Serve, thank the host, record hours and reflect with youth

Leader discussion | 5 minutes

- What is the biggest need in your unit’s neighborhood this November?
- What project can a 1st-year Scout do that is meaningful and age-appropriate?
- Could two units combine for a Salvation Army bell-ringing day?
- Who will contact the partner this week—and what date will you announce?

Leader discussion | Ideas

- Food donation items Salvation Army – UnHoused Friendly items – Microwave Ready or poptop
- Virtual Kettle – Options for Salvation army – Look up
- Gladstone Green Team
- Feeding North Land Kids
- Hilcrest Homeless
- Turning point
- Coloring books and Crayons – Police Department Drop off
- Toys and Blankets for Pets
- Gladestone Park – Program hand outs for Shows during Summer

Ready-to-use November service plan

- Unit youth select ONE cause; adult checks eligibility and availability
- Register with partner, assign adult lead and open unit RSVP
- Before event: review safety, waivers, weather and transport; give families details
- After event: count hours and participants; ask Scouts what changed because they served

Links & verification notes

- Salvation Army: national and regional pages provide current registration pathways
- Harvesters: pre-registration required; onsite age 12+ and minor waivers
- Giving the Basics: group calendar and minor requirements posted online
- Partner openings, dates and capacities change—verify before promising a shift

Salvation Army volunteer opportunities ↗

Harvesters volunteer opportunities ↗

Giving the Basics volunteer calendar ↗