## Summary of Scouting's 5-Point Plan to Combat Child Abuse

## 1. Education

- Regular articles in Scouting Magazine and Boys' Life
- Parents "Guide to Child Abuse and Drug Abuse"
- Review with an adult is part of the joining requirements for Cub and Boy Scouting
- Youth protection training for volunteers
- Mandatory every 2 years
- "A Time to Tell" award winning video and leaders' guide for families of boys 11-14 years old
- "It Happened to Me" award winning video and leaders' guide for families of boys 6-10 years old
- 2. Assist chartered partners in strengthening <u>leader selection</u> to prevent offenders entering the BSA
  - Criminal background checks
  - Reference checks
- 3. Creation of **barriers** to sexual abuse
  - Two deep leadership requirement
  - Prohibition of one on one activities
- 4. Encourage Scouts to **report** improper behavior. "Yell and Tell".
- 5. Swift removal and mandatory reporting of alleged offenders.

Some Comments from Subject Matter Experts;

"The Boy Scouts of America is one group advocates say has gone farthest to institute such measures to safeguard kids."

-MSNBC, November 2011

"The Scouts' current prevention policies are considered state of the art...

Several independent child-protection experts told The Associated Press that the Scouts-though buffeted in the past by many abuse-related lawsuits-are now considered a leader in combating sexual abuse."

"The Boy Scouts have the most advanced policies and training," said Victor Vieth, a former prosecutor who heads the National Child Protection Training Center in Minnesota.

-Associated Press, January 2012

For more information, visit bsayouthprotection.org.