



## Piedmont Community Service Crew Newsletter November 2020

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**Please familiarize yourselves with PCSC's plans during these uncertain times. In the coming weeks, please remember that homeless and low-income Bay Area citizens need your help more than ever before. PCSC is having an extensive fall program, so read more below!**

**Green** = upcoming event

**Orange** = past event

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### **Celebrate the New Year with PCSC!**

PCSC is holding a New Year Awards event on January 24th (via zoom). Crew families are invited to attend our hour of recognizing notable members and parents, presenting a recap of PCSC's first semester accomplishments, and a silent auction! Parents and/or their crew member may be receiving recognition, and we'll strive to make this a fun and interactive event, so save the date! Keep an eye out for a special communication from the VP Admin team - Alex Kjellen and Anne O'Neil. Hope to see you there!

If you have further questions, please email VP Parent Engagement [eleanorhoffpauir20@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorhoffpauir20@gmail.com).

### **Socially Distanced Events**

Even though COVID-19 is rampant in the Bay Area right now, the crew is still hosting lots of safe and socially distant programs to help those underserved in our community. One of the events the crew is hosting is an event where crew members will make PPE at their homes to donate to health care workers. For this

event, PCSC crew members request a PPE materials kit which contains components to assemble either sewn masks, face shields or N95 masks. The finished kits are all subsequently sterilized and then donated to hospitals. Sign up and make this a family event - build PPEs while you all watch a movie!

Other programs that the crew has organized to benefit underserved children include: making flashcard sets, and committing to being a tutor for one child over at least a semester. For the flash cards, all the crew members need to do is have index cards and markers, and make them

whenever they have time. Because a lot of the events are done at home to stay socially distanced, events such as the PPE mask making and flash card making are ongoing events that members can sign up to complete at any time. Please look to the crew Facebook for more information on these socially distanced events.





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#### **Crew Committee Meeting!**

Crew Parents especially are invited to the December 8th Crew Committee meeting (5:00 to 6:00pm). The Crew Committee is a group of dedicated crew parents and adult volunteers that work to advise the Crew Officers (the elected teens that serve as President and VPs of the crew). The committee meets six times a year to discuss PCSC's upcoming events or decisions that require adult perspective and advice. All Crew Committee meetings are open to all interested parents and we hope that many more of you will join us at the upcoming meeting, as a major goal of the crew this year is to increase parent participation in PCSC activities to ensure sustainability of PCSC's future.

This coming Crew Committee Meeting will feature two guests: Kate Benson, Piedmont Council BSA's new Council Executive, and Seth Hilton, our Council Board President. They will talk about the relevance of PCSC's being a part of BSA.

If you are excited about how PCSC helps our local youth, interested in mentorship, crew advising, or simply expanding your volunteer efforts within our crew, I strongly encourage you to join us!

Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/97356931147>

#### **Cooking Events**

While many of PCSC's events have stopped due to the shelter in place order, the crew is still offering safe yet important events. One event that is occurring regularly is cooking for the homeless at St. Marys. For the event, PCSC members cook from their homes and then deliver their contributions to our crew event leader who packs up to-go dinner boxes that are delivered to St. Mary's Center's 3 transitional homes for recently homeless seniors. The next St. Mary's event is happening on Dec. 5th, and we will continue to have many similar cooking for the homeless events over the coming months, so if anyone is interested in helping out, please check Facebook, the [crew calendar](#), or contact one of the crew leaders listed below.

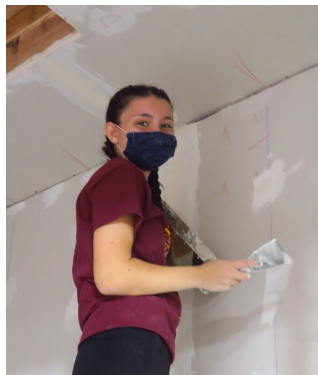
#### **Tiny House Wrap Up**

After 3 months of hard work building a frame, installing wires and drywall, and finishing the walls, Piedmont Community Service Crew is finally finishing their 2nd Tiny House. When finished, this house will join 25 others to form the first tiny house village for youth in America. If finishing one house this fall wasn't enough, they have also helped finishing a house started by College Preparatory School, another school in the area, as well as painting a mural on the house finished last year.



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For members and parents who enjoy similar construction projects, please let



their tiny houses for their at-risk teens. Volunteers will learn how to finish drywall by “taping and mudding”.

### **Volunteer Hours Sheet**

For PCSC members who are interested in learning how to input their service hours, please click on this [link](#) where you can find the official PCSC record of all of the events that you have attended through the crew and how many hours you have completed. Note that each event leader is responsible for collecting volunteer hours and then reporting those to the Crew Advisor who makes this official hours record for all our members. We also have instructions for PHS students on how to enter your service hours on <https://www.trackitforward.com/>

Crew Advisor Ken know. There are going to be some new events coming up where we'll help Youth Employment Partnership (YEP) to finish

### **Tree Lot: parents needed!**

As the holiday season nears, we are preparing for the annual Piedmont Scout Tree Lot, an essential fundraiser that supports our local BSA council, of which PCSC is a part. Our crew is responsible for staffing the Tree Lot operation on 4 different days. It's a really fun volunteering opportunity for crew members and crew parents! Due to COVID, the tree lot sales are online, and pick ups are by appointment only and trees will be delivered to buyers homes. We quickly filled our youth volunteer slots, but **we still need parents to fill 5 more open spots** on the 3 upcoming shifts which are from noon to 4:30 Dec 5, 6, 12. Parents help to coordinate the group effort, help to load trees onto cars as they come to pick up. We need a few parent + crew member pairs to sign up to do tree deliveries to customers around Piedmont using pickup trucks rented by the tree lot committee.

Check the PCSC [SignupGenius](#) to see the open spots and sign up ASAP!

Buy your family a tree from the [Tree Lot](#) and support Piedmont Scouting!

### **Friends of Scouting: please donate today!**

PCSC operates under the guidance and structure of Boy Scouts of America in the Venturing program, and gets administrative support from our local



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Piedmont Council which stands out nationally for its excellence in many ways. To ensure this quality of support and the local control enabled by having our own Council in Piedmont, we need to all provide annual funding to Piedmont Council. One key way is to make annual donations to Piedmont BSA via the Friends of Scouting (“FOS”) campaign.

Our VPs Fundraising have sent out a request that all crew families make a donation, and what better way than to do it today, on Giving Tuesday! Donate now using [this link](#).

Select affiliation= Venturing; unit = PCSCS  
Send a note to the [crew advisor](#) to let us know that you did your part!

Thank you for your interest and involvement in PCSC!!

Sincerely,  
Toshi Troyer, VP of Communications

For further information or other questions, visit our crew website, [www.pcservicecrew.org](http://www.pcservicecrew.org)

Please feel free to email any of PCSC’s officers

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