United Way Cuts Funding from $ 23,500 to $ 3,000

The United Way of Central Arkansas has allocated $ 3,000 of funding to the Quapaw Area Council for the coming year. This figure represents a reduction of 87 % over the past ten years.

After analyzing the program provided by Packs, Troops, Crews and Posts operating in Faulkner County, the United Way has offered the following reasons for these cuts: not serving enough minority youth, not having enough adult leaders, and our program does not affect community-wide conditions. We were also told to expect continued cuts in funding in the years to come.

Arguments in opposition to these statements have been presented at annual meetings with the United Way by representatives of the Foothills District and the council, citing the fact that Faulkner County is perhaps the strongest Scouting County within our 33 counties by virtue of the fact that you serve a higher percentage of available youth and that new programs in recent years now serve an increased number of minority youth as well as physically and mentally challenged populations. Additional consideration was anticipated due to the fact that the Gus Blass Scout Reservation is located in Faulkner County and that most of the goods and services purchased for camp come from business entities located within Faulkner County.

In spite of diminishing support, the Quapaw Area Council greatly appreciates the financial support of the United Way of Central Arkansas and the important role it has played since volunteers within this council organized it. We will continue on as a partner agency as long as possible.