

## THE ASSOCIATION TEAM

The nucleus of the Association Team is the Association Chair, Assistant Chair, and the Field Director. Unlike Service Unit Teams that are fairly consistent throughout GSCNC, Association Teams may vary greatly in size due to the size, history and current trends of the Association.

Possible additions to the team are:

- Secretary
- Treasurer or Finance Chair
- Nominating and Referral Committee Chair
- Recognitions Committee Chair
- Events Coordinator
- Local Press Representative
- SHARE Chair
- Product Sales Coordinator
- Association Training Manager
- Association Program Manager
- Archivist or Historian
- Other Elected and/or Appointed Positions

While in smaller Associations all Delegates and Alternate Delegates may be a part of the team, this would not be realistic in a larger Association. Nonetheless, this practice has the potential of creating a very strong team in those smaller Associations.

Service Unit Managers are sometimes included on the Team. This practice is fine if all participants agree, and if there is clear understanding that while the Service Unit Manager and the Association Chair should communicate with each other, neither is **accountable to the other**.

Some Associations use the concept of Delegate

Representatives, in which one Delegate per Service Unit serves as a member of the Team and as a contact for the other Delegates and Alternate Delegates from that Service Unit. Another Association uses its Nominating and Referral Committee members to support communication between and among Delegates and Service Units. All of these ideas and suggestions serve to emphasize that the Association Team should include persons with a broad range of skills and interests from all areas of the Association.

Association Teams should meet on a regular basis to plan for the Association. All Girl Scouts should have the opportunity to participate in Girl Scouting beyond the Troop and Service Unit. In a council the size of GSCNC it is not possible for all who might wish to take part in all council events to do so. By planning and implementing activities, the Association makes participation beyond the Service Unit possible. Generally activities planned by a broad range of persons are likely to be supported by the membership.

Other ways in which the Association Team may be useful include:

- Serving as a “sounding board” which considers ideas before they are introduced to the full Team and Association; and
- Assisting with problem solving.

Finally, members of the Association Team work together to keep the Association running smoothly and effectively. Additional support is given by the Area Manager, the Deputy Executive Director, and the Second Vice President.

The presence of a strong and supportive Association Team is a major factor in the success of the Association.