



Starting a Navigators USA Chapter

Why Navigators USA?

“Watching the Navigators come into existence, grow and thrive this year has met a profound need for our families and our congregation as a whole. This vibrant chapter teaches positive ethical values, builds community, provides great opportunities for kids, and is, simply, fun.” - Rev. Hilary Krivchenia, CCUU, Chartering Organization of Chapter 30

“I like fun activities like orienteering and sleepovers.” - Helen, age 10, Chapter 27

“The focus on humanism and diversity born out of an urban environment made Navigators a better fit for us.” - Lance Finney, leader, Chapter 33

Navigators USA is intentionally inclusive. We are coed and truly respect the value of all people. By having a “bottom up” leadership structure, we guarantee that there will be no central organization telling us what we must do with our chapters. For example, chapters can have children who are younger or older than the suggested guidelines, whatever works for the leaders of your chapter.

One thing that is not negotiable, however, is that we do not discriminate based on belief, orientation, or anything else. We all follow the same moral compass:

As a Navigator I promise to do my best to create a world free of prejudice and ignorance. To treat people of every race, creed, lifestyle and ability with dignity and respect. To strengthen my body and improve my mind to reach my full potential. To protect our planet and preserve our freedom.

What we like about Navigators:

“I like fun activities like orienteering and sleepovers.” - Helen, age 10, Chapter 27

“My favorite part of Navigators is going on hikes in the woods!” - Ben, age 9, Chapter 27

“I like learning about different things in nature.” - Rocco, age 10, Chapter 27

“I like doing things with different people outside of school. I like getting to know new friends.” - Martine, age 9, Chapter 27

“The Navigators group allows my child to be around kids with varying backgrounds but similar interests. That's what the real world is made of.” –Rhonda, parent in Chapter 27

“As a parent I truly appreciate a nurturing environment that provides my child with another place to create and or deepen friendships.” –Kristan, parent in Chapter 27

“Navigators USA serves a great need for the Ethical Society - when the idea was introduced to start an ethics-based, inclusive, Humanistic scouting alternate within our Society, there was an immediate response. Many families had wanted something exactly like this, and Navigators gave us a way to work together to create it. Our Navigators group formed less than a year ago, and it has already become an important resource for our congregation. It has been a major part of an increase in involvement of young families, with several new families joining the Society directly because of Navigators and several long-term members becoming more involved.” - Kate Lovelady, Leader of the Ethical Society of St. Louis, Chartering Organization of Chapter 33

“Navigators is a true gift to our congregation! It supports our mission of building an intentionally inclusive community that invites all ages into the wholeness and fullness of life! In just the first year, Navigators has helped many young people and their families build friendships and collectively put their faith into action! Navigators has helped strengthen, energize and inspire our congregation! I encourage you to contact us to learn more, navigators@ccuu.org.” --Reverend Colleen Vahey, Assistant Minister at Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist, chartering organization of Chapter 30

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First Steps for Starting a Navigators USA Chapter

Find two leaders, five children, and submit application to Navigators USA.

Starting a Navigators USA chapter requires at least two leaders and five children. Insurance and annual dues are waived for the first year. Since there are no fees for the first year, there is no risk to starting a Navigators USA chapter. This allows many chapters to choose whether to charge parents a joining fee. Keeping fees to a minimum the first year really makes it easy to recruit members.

You may want to start your chapter with young children because it may be easiest to recruit families with whose children have yet to become involved with other organizations and activities. Find out what age other scout groups recruit in your area, and use that age as a minimum age for children in your chapter.

Have an Introductory Meeting

Start by planning an introductory meeting, with a few simple activities for the kids and a chance for parents to learn about our moral compass and traits. Put out a signup sheet and also ask parents if they would be willing to be a leader. You can advertise through existing programs at the chartering organization, such as through the religious education program or an after school program. Publicize the meeting well and often.

Family Involvement

Some chapters have encouraged parents to stay with children at the meetings, making meetings a family activity, a source of community for families. This encourages family participation and boosts adult leadership. When you are just starting out, a “one room schoolhouse” model for the different ages can work well, with older kids and parents helping the younger members. Family support for your chapter will help it grow strong quickly. Parents can find these meetings as fun and beneficial as the kids do. One of the benefits of a coed, nondiscriminatory scouting organization is that the whole family can be involved together. Fathers can be leaders for daughters. Mothers can take full leadership roles with their sons. Navigators does not discriminate based on sex or orientation and fully accepts families no matter what their structure.

Keep Adults and Parents Involved

Involving adults in the chapter gives a wealth of knowledge and experience to the chapter. An adult who is an engineer or electrician could organize a meeting where families bring discarded electronics and disassemble and recycle the components as they learn how the items work. An adult who is interested in forest conservation could lead a hike or other outdoor activity. An adult who works at a restaurant could arrange for a tour of the kitchen. Take advantage of the talents and hobbies not only of Navigators USA families, but also of the members of the sponsoring organization. You may find people with a wealth of scout skills that are interested in leadership roles in your chapter, even though they do not have kids

themselves. Many former scouts are thrilled to find a scouting organization where they will not be discriminated against.

Involve families from the beginning and set the expectation that this is a family activity, not a drop off. Let family members know they are important. Family involvement shows kids how important they are! Working together with their parents shows kids the value of cooperation in a community. Introduce everyone, and use nametags so the adults get to know each other, too.

Ask for Help

Ask for help for specific tasks. Even if adults are reluctant to sign up for a long term commitment, most will help on specific, short-term tasks when asked. Match the task to the individual's talents and interests if possible--if the adult seems willing, give them a task which will expand their experience, push them slightly out of their comfort zone. Navigators USA can help adults as well as children develop their skills. Remember to have some activities that are fun for the adults, too, and thank everyone who helps out.

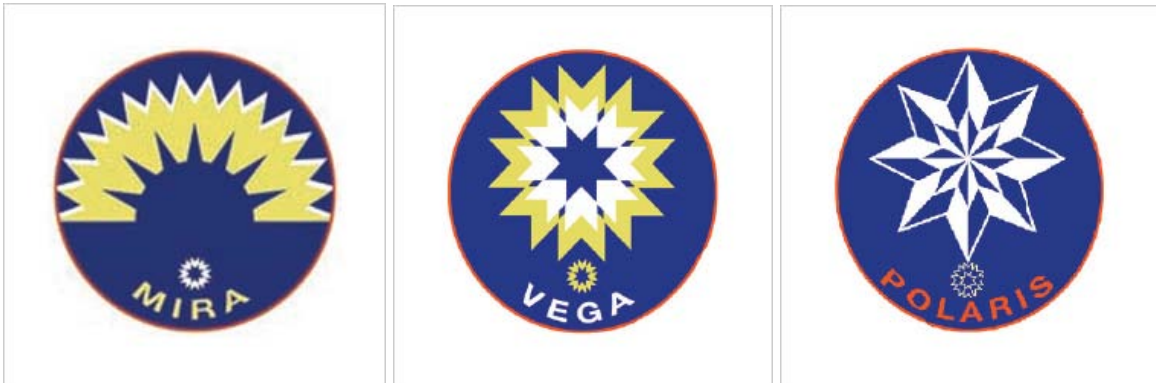
Communication

Keeping families informed of what is going on in Navigators keeps the chapter motivated. Facebook closed groups are a great way to communicate what is going on in your chapter. These groups are searchable on Facebook, but the administrator determines whether a person is added to the group or not, so you keep control of what the outside world sees. If your chapter is even more worried about privacy, you can have a Facebook "secret group" which is not searchable and the only people who are issued invitations can find and join the group. You can also make a Facebook page with public information about your chapter. Some groups have all three—a closed group for parent participation, a secret group for leader communications that are not quite ready to be published, and a public page which has carefully edited content and is used for advertising and to let the community know what the chapter is doing. Through any of these, you can create events and invite people to your next meeting or outing. Email lists are also effective for communication, some families may not use Facebook. The same content can be published twice—as an email update and on Facebook.

Ranks in Navigators USA

Navigators USA chapters can be divided by age. Teenagers are generally Senior Navigators, while ages 6-11 are generally Junior Navigators. Ages six and under are generally Stargazers. These age ranges are suggestions only, each chapter is free to allow different ages in their program.

Junior Navigators USA ranks are Mira, Vega, and Polaris.

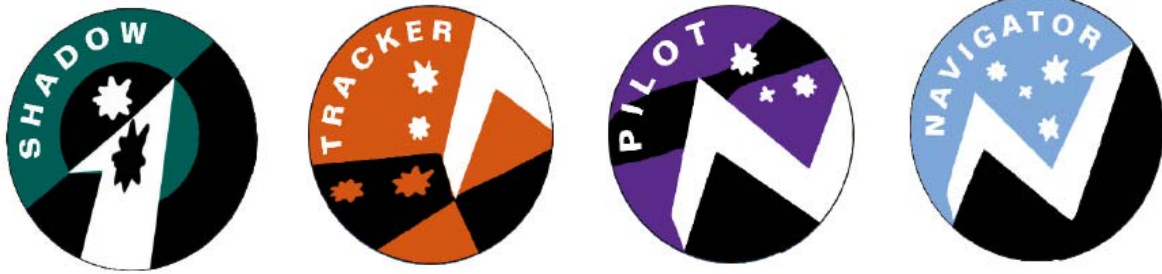


Mira is the first level for children approximately ages 7-8. Mira, named after the Giant Binary Red star about 418 light years away, means wonderful. Just like this “wonderful” star, the Mira level teaches children just how wonderful our world is through simple fun studies and projects that explore nature through science, art and games.

The second level, Vega, is for children approximately ages 8-9. Vega is the second brightest star in the northern hemisphere. This blue star is the “jewel” in the harp of the constellation Lyra. At this level the children begin to experience their important roles in the world through civic projects, overnight camping and skill building activities and games.

The final level is Polaris, for children approximately ages 9-10. Polaris is the North Star which makes it the perfect star for celestial navigation. This level bridges the children to the Senior Navigators. They learn the meaning behind the Moral Compass and Cardinal Points and well as skills training.

Senior Navigators USA ranks are Shadow, Tracker, Pilot, Navigator, and the Summit Achievement Award.



Shadow is the first level for Senior Navigators. This level consists of introductions to first aid, survival skills, ecology, the Moral Compass and Cardinal Points.

In the second level, Tracker, children learn to find their own path through the paths of others. They go on camping trips, learn more advanced first aid and survival skills, introduced to community service. They begin to learn the requirements of leadership.

In Pilot, the third level, children own their path and start to pick their own curriculum from a list of achievement awards. Continuing to advanced first aid, survival skills and community service, they start organizing events and trips.

As they progress to the Navigator level, children become leaders of the meetings, trips, events, and community service. They help younger members advance and work on mastering more of the requirements for the Summit Achievement Award.

The Summit Achievement Award is the equivalent to the Eagle Award. After completing all the skills requirements and an intensive community service project approved by the Summit Achievement Board, a Navigator will attain this highest honor.

Achievement Awards

Achievement Awards represent intensive study and mastery of specific skills such as knot tying, hiking, swimming, recycling, tree identification, ecology, fishing, and learning the moral compass. We are continually adding more achievement awards, check the Navigators USA website for the most recent awards.



The relationship of your Navigators USA chapter to the sponsoring organization

Within a year of forming, it is strongly recommended that you develop a formal relationship a sponsoring organization such as a church, synagogue, school, community center, civic organization or even a sporting goods store will work. This relationship helps sustain the Chapter over time by providing space, volunteer recruitment, children, fundraising opportunities and insurance coverage if necessary. The provided sample charter agreement provided by Navigators USA is a good guideline for what might be in an agreement, but we urge you to come up with your own charter. This agreement helps connect the Chapter to the larger community, so working on an agreement that all participate in is a great exercise.

The standard chartering form provides for a Navigators USA committee at the sponsoring organization -- composed of members from both the Navigators chapter and the sponsoring organization. This is an excellent chance to verify expectations and keep everyone involved. Navigators USA chapters may be considered outreach of the sponsoring organization.

Some Navigators chapters are more closely related to their sponsoring organizations than others, but as long as we all follow the Moral Compass, this is not a problem. It can be good to have individuals from the organization involved in the chapter. Choosing an experienced individual from the organization to lead a committee, for example, may help ensure lasting support and increase confidence. With all of the controversies around other scouting organizations, chartering organizations may want assurance that Navigators USA will not be involved in discrimination. Show them the www.navigatorsusa.org website and the promotional materials.

Questions may arise about how your Navigators chapter will fit into the sponsoring organization's structure. Navigators may start right away as an outreach program or ministry, or you may choose to keep it as an extension of the existing RE program or after school program for a trial period before publicizing it widely.

Insurance

Navigators USA provides insurance for all chapters for a low yearly fee. You can check with your sponsoring organization's insurance agent and see if you will be covered under their policy, but such policies often exclude scouting groups. Be aware that while our insurance is otherwise comprehensive, it does not currently cover water sports of any kind. As we grow the policy and premiums will change, so you will need to stay current each year with these changes.

How Unitarian Universalist principles align with Navigators

Historically, Navigators USA has been closely connected with Unitarian Universalism. Navigators USA was founded by a group of volunteers from All Souls Unitarian in New York City as a response to discrimination in scouting. The original chapters were for outreach, serving children in need. The volunteers had previously led Boy Scout Troop 103 in East Harlem chartered at All Souls, but with the discrimination in scouting, All Souls did not renew the charter and instead Navigators USA was born.

Our Navigators USA moral compass is based on the principle of the inherent worth and dignity of all people. “As a Navigator I promise to do my best to create a world free of prejudice and ignorance. To treat people of every race, creed, lifestyle and ability with dignity and respect. To strengthen my body and improve my mind to reach my full potential. To protect our planet and preserve our freedom.” Agreement to abide by the moral compass is the only strict requirement of Navigators USA.

With Navigators USA, your chapter is not bound by a prescribed curriculum. You may choose to establish meetings around the seven traits of a Navigator: *Truthful, Respectful, Inclusive, Generous, Dependable, Resourceful, and Cooperative*. While not an exact match to the Unitarian Universalist seven principles, there is some correlation.

Respectful: Respect All People (Red Promise)

Inclusive: Offer kind and fair treatment to all (Orange Promise)

Truthful: Grow by Exploring What is True and Right (Green Promise)

Generous: Believe in our Ideas and Act on Them (Blue Promise)

Resourceful: Yearn to Accept and Learn About Ourselves and Others (Yellow Promise)

Cooperative: Insist on Freedom, Justice, and Peace for all People (Indigo Promise)

Dependable: Value our home, Earth, that we share with all living beings (Violet Promise)

What if my child is already involved in other scouting organizations?

Many families who are interested in Navigators may already be involved in other scouting organizations. A lot of families are tired of the discrimination and controversy and are anxious to find a nondiscriminatory organization. Other families may choose to remain in both, at least for a while. There is no prohibition against being in multiple organizations if a family wishes. If you can keep costs low as you start your Navigators chapter, you may find that families will start gradually migrating over from other organizations. Given a trial period, they may prefer the positive attitude and publicity of Navigators USA. As John, a parent with kids in both Chapter 30 and another organization said, “we are hanging out with parents at the meetings anyway, we might as well hang out with people we share values with.”

Some families are looking for an organization where dads and moms can be more equal in leadership roles. Some families look for a place where they can have a family experience with both daughters and sons together. And some families will just be tired of participating in an organization where they would not be welcome if they were genuine and open about who they are.

If families feel a twinge of regret for years spent in discriminatory scouting organizations, remind them that they can consider it training for helping Navigators succeed! Utilize the experience of these families—they will add richness and resources to your chapter.

If older scouts move to Navigators, they can bring their achievements with them. Navigators USA recognizes merit badges from other scouting organizations.

Meetings, Activities and Building your Navigators USA community

Navigators USA chapters can schedule meetings when it works best for the families involved. Some chapters have regular weekly meetings. Others schedule one or two regular meetings a month and then fill in with other activities as they become available.

There are online trainings available to get you started at <http://navigatorsusa.org/training-page/>. The regularly scheduled meetings can include working on ranks, craft or service projects, or learning about the world around us. Team building exercises are very popular with kids and adults alike. Activities can be as simple as flying kites or doing relay races. Science projects make popular winter meetings. Welcoming families, including siblings to meetings can benefit everyone--older siblings can assume leadership and helper roles, and younger siblings will be the future of the chapter!

Meetings can be a lot of fun for all involved with a little advance planning. Pay attention to the size of your group and the space needs for the planned activities when considering where to hold the meetings. A large room for indoor activities may seem like a good idea, but can encourage some kids to run around and not concentrate on the task at hand. A room which just fits your group can make indoor activities easier to manage.

Start with a gathering activity of some sort. This could be a worksheet, a puzzle, or a small craft that the kids can work on immediately when they arrive while you are waiting for the rest of the group to gather. When it is time to start the meeting or move from one activity to the next, it can be helpful to have some sort of bell to ring to signal the start of the meeting. Kids quickly get used to the sound and recognize it as their signal to sit in a circle and be quiet.

Reward positive behavior, Be patient with the kids and use positive language when possible. Let the chapter set the rules using the democratic process. Don't overreact or retaliate to bad behavior. Compliment the kids often and focus on what they do correctly—let them know you think they can do it!

Activity ideas can include attending a local school play, doing yoga, or marching in a parade. You could host a pumpkin carving contest in the fall--a local store might even donate pumpkins if you ask. Build a campfire in a fire ring in a backyard and roast marshmallows. You could have a building contest to build, decorate and race cars, boats, or even penny shooters. Maybe some of the parents could build a catapult to launch potatoes or playground balls. Build and launch rockets, either air powered or with engines from the hobby store. Build birdhouses or bird feeders. Take advantage of the skills and experience of the people involved or interested in your chapter.

Keeping Kids Safe

Having parents actively involved in meetings gives families ownership of the organization and makes meetings go smoothly, especially if the chapter has young members. To insure safety, the Navigators protocol is that there must be, at minimum, either two adults with one child or two children with one adult at all times. This is not only to protect children, but also to protect our adult volunteers from a situation where they might be accused of misconduct.

Conduct any individual meetings with youth within view of other youth and leaders. Youth should not sleep in the tent of an adult that is not their own parent or guardian. Cameras and other imaging devices must be used in a responsible manner, not in restrooms, showers, or other private areas. No hazing, bullying, or corporal punishment is permitted.

Navigators USA will run background checks on the two leaders who are listed on the chapter application. Your sponsoring organization may wish to run their own background checks on all additional leaders, your chapter may be responsible for the fees for these background checks.

Community Tours

One of the pleasures of leading a scout group is calling up organizations and businesses in the community and organizing tours. Being part of a scout group opens doors, and many of the tours are free. For example, contact a grocery for a behind the scenes look at how our food is sold—you may even get to go in the dairy case and see people taking milk from the other side. Call your town hall and ask if the mayor or other officials could talk to the kids. Contact the fire, police, radio, and TV stations. Tour farms in the area, go for hikes. Tour museums and science centers, some may even host overnights. Postal sorting centers or newspaper printing presses are great fun. Contact conservation organizations in the area and see if there are educational or service opportunities for your chapter. If there is a beach nearby, take the kids to collect sea glass. Some restaurants will let the kids tour or even help cook their own food. Craft stores sometimes have programs for scouts. Ask the parents in your chapter if they have connections to any place that would be fun to tour, you may be surprised by what you find!

Service Projects

Starting out with an intentional focus on service projects gives your Navigators USA chapter goodwill in the community and in the chartering organization. The Navigators USA slogan is very true, “The more you give, the more you get.”

Many Navigators USA chapters perform a service project for their chartering organization each year to show appreciation for meeting space and other support. Depending on the age level of the group, Navigators could paint a rain barrel, paint a bench, build an arbor, paint a mural, clean the grounds, or do gardening. As the Navigators progress, there will be kids working on the Summit Award, the highest award in Navigators. These kids will be organizing larger service projects which can be a great asset to the chartering organization and the community.

Navigators chapters can also do service projects in the community as a form of outreach. They could adopt a roadway, pick up trash at a park or cemetery, cut invasive species at a forest preserve, or go caroling at a nursing home. Several Navigators USA chapters are starting community gardens on the grounds of their chartering organizations and donating the produce to food pantries. Navigators can participate in Earth Day activities and parades and be a significant source of outreach for the chartering organization.

Camps and Outdoor Education

As your chapter grows, you may consider running a day camp in the summer or an overnight camp. Consider opening up a day camp to the community as a source of outreach for your organization. A day at camp for younger kids could be as simple as doing crafts and eating a picnic lunch that the kids bring. As funds permit, older kids could go on ski trips, hiking trips, or conservation days in forest preserves. Take advantage of the skills and interests of the adults interested and involved in your chapter.

Community Building

A Navigators USA chapter is an excellent opportunity to build a community among families with children. By planning activities that are fun for the entire family and encouraging adult participation, you have a great opportunity to form a network of support. Issue a directory so adults can contact each other, or form an email list or Facebook page where adults can communicate. Host potluck dinners, family games, or family campouts or hikes. The youngest Navigators group, Stargazers, could be organized like a playgroup.

Fundraising

Kids love badges, but badges cost money, as do activities, snacks, etc. Some chapters let parents pay by collecting a fee upfront, others take voluntary donations as they go along. There are no national fundraisers in Navigators USA, no overpriced products to sell. Local fundraising is up to you. Your chapter could host a bake sale or a craft fair. One chapter hosted a large rummage sale with donated items and raised over \$2,000. Other ideas could include donations by local businesses for day camps, badge clinics, or community outreach.

Some Navigators USA chapters are given financial support by their sponsoring organization, but this is not a requirement of sponsorship.

Uniforms

Junior Navigators USA members wear dark green T-shirts, Seniors wear blue. Both styles have the Navigator's logo and our moral compass on the back. We are adding more official merchandise, but none of it is mandatory. Some chapters tie-dye their own T-shirts. Some make their own vests for patches out of yellow felt. Some chapters wear a more traditional uniform. The advantage of being in an organization that encourages leadership from the local level up is that you are free to add your own local flavor to your chapter.

Our Local Experience—Chapter 30

Each Navigators' chapter has its own unique success story, here we will tell a little about ours. We formed in October 2013 at Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist in Palatine, Illinois. We are the

first Navigators USA Chapter in the Chicago area, but have been contacted by others who are ready to get started. We look forward to regional activities and cooperation.

Why Navigators USA? We wanted an organization where we could be ourselves, which would provide flexibility and allow us to be inclusive. The fact that Navigators USA formed at All Souls, a Unitarian Universalist church in New York City where the Executive Director, Robin Bossert, is a Deacon was a huge selling point to us. We felt confident that this organization would let us live out our inclusive values and would not be in conflict with our seven principles. We have many humanist families in our chapter, and we appreciate that Navigators USA does not discriminate based on religious belief.

The kids in our chapter are young, we are quite flexible with ages as long as parents or grandparents stay with the kids. We currently have ages 5-14, so the feel of the meetings is a lot like a one room schoolhouse with the older kids and parents helping the youngest. We were fortunate to have a former Eagle scout in our congregation who stepped up to be the first co-leader, this saved a lot of time in training, he already knew how to successfully run meetings.

We made it very clear from the beginning that we are not just another class or activity for the kids. There are plenty of those available in our area through schools and park districts--there you can drop off your kids and know that they will be entertained until you come back to retrieve them. Navigators is a bonding, community experience for us. We suggest a parent presence from most families at each meeting—and the parents have found they enjoy it as much as the kids. Of course we make exceptions on a case by case basis, but we are not just entertaining the kids, we are building a community. Some meetings we find that we have more adults attending than kids!

We concentrate on teaching the kids the Navigators USA traits—a Navigator is *Truthful, Respectful, Inclusive, Generous, Dependable, Resourceful, Cooperative*. One activity that we did was very simple and a huge success, even though it didn't turn out exactly as planned. We put 100 small puzzle pieces in 100 plastic Easter eggs and our oldest Navigator (age 13) hid the eggs. The kids had a great time finding the eggs but were a bit confused by the contents, until they realized that they could cooperate and put their puzzle pieces together to create something much greater than any of them could create alone. To date, we have found 99 of the eggs, but this has taught us to “Stay on Course” which is, after all, the Navigators motto.

We spend a lot of time networking with members of our chartering organization. We are finding a wealth of resources for Navigators tours and the members are really enjoying seeing the kids learn and have fun together. We feel like we are a positive influence and are doing our part in making the community and the world a better place. We have adopted a rainbow theme for our chapter, and have made a big felt banner where we put kids' handprints when they join. This helps the kids feel that they are a part of a community, they are very proud of their banner. The members at our chartering organization often use the word “vibrant” when describing our chapter—our meetings often spill over into other spaces simply because of the number of people involved. We currently have 28 children very actively involved.

Within our Unitarian Universalist church, we are officially a part of the study ministry where we grew our chapter through the RE program. We could just as easily be claimed by the service ministry, and they do welcome us. We also cooperate often with Kinship ministry, hosting a monthly “family games activity” in addition to our regular Navigators meetings.

When we formed our Navigators Committee, we asked an experienced leader in the service ministry to be our committee chair. She has no other connection to Navigators and has been very valuable in

keeping us connected with the chartering organization. She is wonderful and often attends meetings and helps out with the kids. Our Director of Religious Education is also on the Committee, along with a half-dozen Navigator parents.

Our ministers organized a “Navigators Sunday” this spring, and it very successfully introduced our organization to the congregation which supports us. Before the ceremony, people vaguely knew that something was forming, but there was a lot of misinformation floating around. Many in the congregation wondered if we were related to other, discriminatory, scouting organizations. The congregation was enthused as they heard our message of inclusion and saw all of the kids in their shirts come up holding our rainbow banner.

We organized our first summer day camp, and it was a huge success. This year it was just a couple of days long, so we could get started and get used to organizing an event like this. The first day we spent at our church, outside, doing crafts and activities. The second day, our minister’s husband and congregation members took the kids to a nearby forest preserve where we cooked lunch over an open fire and did conservation and nature oriented activities.

APPENDIX A: Checklist for starting a chapter

1. Hold an informational meeting for interested parents
2. Acquire two leaders and five youth for the initial application
3. Send in chapter application to the National Office
4. Hold first meeting where parents sign forms
5. Connect with sponsoring organization's insurance to determine if you need additional coverage through Navigators
6. Continue holding meetings where youth and parents get to know each other, twice a month or as your chapter decides.
7. Procure agreement with sponsoring organization signed within **one year** of formation

APPENDIX B: Overview of Navigators USA Roles

Unless otherwise agreed to in the sponsoring agreement, the sponsoring organization will:

1. Provide meeting space for the Navigators chapter;
2. Allow use of 501(c)3 status by the chapter, if applicable; and
3. Allow the chapter to follow the Navigators Moral Compass.

Navigators USA will:

1. Provide insurance for the chapter to purchase;
2. Provide networking opportunities for individual chapters;
3. Provide support for chapters;
4. Provide opportunities to purchase official merchandise if chapters and individuals desire;
5. Provide a general framework for the organization, including opportunities.

The Navigators USA Chapter will:

1. Follow the Navigators USA Moral Compass;
2. Ensure that the chapter has adequate insurance;
3. Hold meetings;
4. Recruit members and leaders;
5. Find a sponsoring organization.

APPENDIX C: Forms for Starting a Chapter



Navigator USA Chapter Application

CO-LEADER INFORMATION				
Last Name	First	M.I.	Date	
Street Address	Apt.			
City	State	Zip		
Phone	E-mail			
Date of Birth	Social			
CO-LEADER INFORMATION				
Last Name	First	I.	Date	
Street Address	Apt.			
City	State	Zip		
Phone	E-mail			
Date of Birth:	Social			
Names of at least 5 children for the starter group				
1. Name		Date of Birth		
2. Name		Date of Birth		
3. Name		Date of Birth		
4. Name		Date of Birth		
5. Name		Date of Birth		
Location of Chapter meetings				
Name of				
Street Address				
City/Town	State	Zip		
Organization or Person				
Address if different				
Phone number				
Disclaimer and Signature				

SAMPLE Charter

THE NAVIGATORS USA, INC., CHARTER AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, made this _____ day of _____, 20__ between _____ (“The Chartered Organization”) and The Navigators USA, Inc. (“Navigators USA”). This agreement establishes Chapter _____ of The Navigators USA.

Navigators USA is a nonprofit corporation organized to establish an educational and outdoor activity program for individuals ages seven (7) through eighteen (18), (the program), through an organization of chapters throughout the United States of America. The program is secular and co-educational. Discrimination against individuals based upon race, gender, religion, nationality or sexual orientation is strictly prohibited.

Navigators USA hereby delegates authority to the above referenced organization to establish and administer Chapter _____ of the Navigators USA (“The Chapter”). The respective obligations of the chartered organization and Navigators USA are described below.

The chartered organization agrees to:

- (1) administer the program according to its own rules as well as the rules and guidelines of Navigators USA
- (2) appoint an adult member of the chartered organization to serve as representative to Navigators USA (“the representative”). The representative will:
 - ◆ coordinate all operations within the Chapter,
 - ◆ represent the chartered organization and Chapter when communicating with Navigators USA,
 - ◆ select a committee of parents and members of the chartered organization (a minimum of five) who will scrutinize hand chosen chapter leaders who meet the chartered organization’s standards, and
 - ◆ actively recruit boys and girls for the chapters.
- (3) require that before a leader shall assume leadership duties, the selection committee shall sign the leaders application, signifying committee approval of the leader,
- (4) provide one or more facilities for the Chapter units to meet on a regular basis,
- (5) make outdoor activities, such as hiking, canoeing and camping, part of the program,
- (6) obtain and maintain a general liability insurance policy that protects as named insureds the chartered organization, its board, officers and employees, and Navigators USA, its board, officers and employees, against all personal liability claims and attorneys fees and costs necessitated by such claims, and
- (7) indemnify for personal injury or property damage and hold harmless Navigators USA regarding any and all claims made against Navigators USA based upon the activities of the Chapter or chartered organization, or any of their members.

Navigators USA hereby agrees that it:

- (1) will provide training and program resources to the Chapter,
- (2) provide methods and standards for choosing quality committee members and unit leaders,
- (3) provide methods and standards regarding recognition of merit and advancement of the Chapters

This agreement shall take effect on _____ for one year and shall automatically renew unless expressly cancelled in writing. Navigators USA reserves the right to cancel this annual charter agreement for any reason at any time, and to revoke the chartered organization's charter for any reason at any time.

The Chartered Organization, By, _____

The Navigators, USA, Inc., By, _____

Sample Flyer for Information Meeting



Navigators

Informational Meeting

Date:

Time:

Location:

Contact:

MORAL COMPASS

As a Navigator I promise to do my best
To create a world free of prejudice and ignorance.

To treat people of every race, creed,
Lifestyle and ability with dignity and respect.

To strengthen my body and improve
My mind to reach my full potential.

To protect our planet and
Preserve our freedom.

Navigator Cardinal Points

A Navigator is:
Truthful
Respectful
Inclusive
Generous
Patient
Dependable
Resourceful
And Cooperative

Navigator Motto
Stay On Course

Navigator Slogan
The more you give
The more you get



Navigators USA
is a coed, secular,
inclusive organization
dedicated to helping our
children, the next
generation of leaders,
reach their full potential
and make sound choices
for the future.

<http://navigatorsusa.ning.com/>

Brochure

Cure
Nature
Deficit
Disorder
with
The Navigators



NAVIGATORS USA
scouting for everyone



The Moral Compass

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with dignity and respect.

To strengthen my body
and improve my mind
to reach my full potential.

To protect our planet and
preserve our freedom.



www.navigatorsusa.org

contact us at:
info@navigatorsusa.org
56 Bogart Street, suite 4E
Brooklyn, NY 11206



Navigating Life

Navigating Relationships

Navigating the Planet

NAVIGATORS USA
is co-ed, secular, and inclusive

JUNIOR NAVIGATORS
is for boys and girls
ages 7 to 11 yrs old



SENIOR NAVIGATORS
is for boys and girls
ages 12 to 18 yrs old



OUR MISSION

- Offer an alternative scouting experience for boys and girls that emphasizes diversity, inclusiveness and all the lessons that Nature has to offer.
- Help parents, care givers, and single people organize Chapters in their local communities to foster face to face interaction with each other and the natural world.
- Create a safe environment for children to test their skills and achieve the goals they set for themselves.

OUR METHOD

- Weekly meetings that create another opportunity to bond besides school, religion or family.
- Guidebooks that sets targets for achievement with advancement levels and achievement awards.
- Games that develop group problem solving and cooperation.
- Day Trips: hikes, biking, rafting...
- Overnight Trips: camping, skiing...
- Service Projects: giving back to the community.
- Fundraisers: to help those who need help paying for activities.

For more information; our history, curriculum, merchandise, and applications visit:
www.navigatorsusa.org