



## A Partnership Toward The Future

Collins Engineers, Inc. is a Top 500 Design Firm delivering engineering ingenuity and solutions; and realistic, honest answers since 1979. This company understands the need to educate and excite youth for future careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). To that end, Collins Engineers is generously providing \$200,000 over a period of four years. These funds will go toward program and financial support for STEM Marine Exploring and other Scouting programs in Northern Illinois and Northwest Indiana through the Collins Marine Engineering and Exploration Fund.



This substantial contribution has enabled boys, young men and young women in our communities to explore STEM opportunities through hands-on experiences. One of the most intriguing and engaging examples involves Exploring posts and Scouting units learning about, designing, building and deploying Underwater Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) to help solve specific, real-world engineering challenges. Through Collins Engineers' generous gift, Scouting is also able to further develop and expand the following programs:

- Square One Education/Ballard Nautilus Underwater ROV Scouting Program
- Experimental Aircraft Association 579/Shedd Aquarium Quadcopter UAV Exploring Post Program
- Shedd Aquarium Underwater ROV Explorers Program



In addition, Collins Engineers allocated part of its funding to a 4-day camp for Explorers to learn and experience their industry and toward a camp building dedicated solely to STEM education.

As a result of Collins Engineers' investment, the youth in our area - including boys, young men, and young women, are gaining skills that prepare them to be successful, considerate, and productive citizens who have learned important values to guide them throughout their lives.

While many community activities teach basic skills and promote teamwork, Collins Engineers has allowed the Scouting program in the Pathway to Adventure to go beyond by encouraging young people to achieve a deeper understanding of personal values, an appreciation for service to others and their community, and by providing experiences not offered by our schools or most other youth programs.

These initiatives will have a significant impact on our youth by developing an early and life-long interest in STEM-related concepts and careers.

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