



**The  
CorpsNetwork**

Strengthening America through  
service and conservation



Promoting youth stewardship  
of the great outdoors

# Working With Corps

# What is The Corps Network?

- The Corps Network is a national association of more than 150 Service and Conservation Corps that operate in all 50 states.
- As the voice of the Corps in our nation's capital, TCN advocates for funding and favorable policies; facilitates relationships with a variety of partners; provides opportunities to participate in special projects and receive technical assistance; and helps tell the story of Corps and the Corps Movement.



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# What are Service and Conservation Corps?

- Continuing the legacy of President Roosevelt's New Deal program, the Civilian Conservation Corps
- Operated by private non-profit organizations or state/local government entities
- Provide education, workforce development, and supportive services through a venue of national and community service to young people between the ages of 16 and 25, as well as recently returned military veterans.



# Service and Conservation Corps Today

The Corps Network's 150 members Corps:

- Engage 30,000 young people each year
- Complete 21 Million hours of work / service
- Leverage 265,000 volunteers

\*\*The Public Lands Service Coalition, made up of Corps and other conservation organizations, promotes youth service jobs and career development on public/tribal lands and waters.



# Corpsmembers

30,000 young people  
each year



- primarily ages 16-25
- 63% male
- 58% young people of color
- 66% family income less than \$22,200

- 45% without HS diploma or GED
- 30% court involved
- 10% formerly in foster care

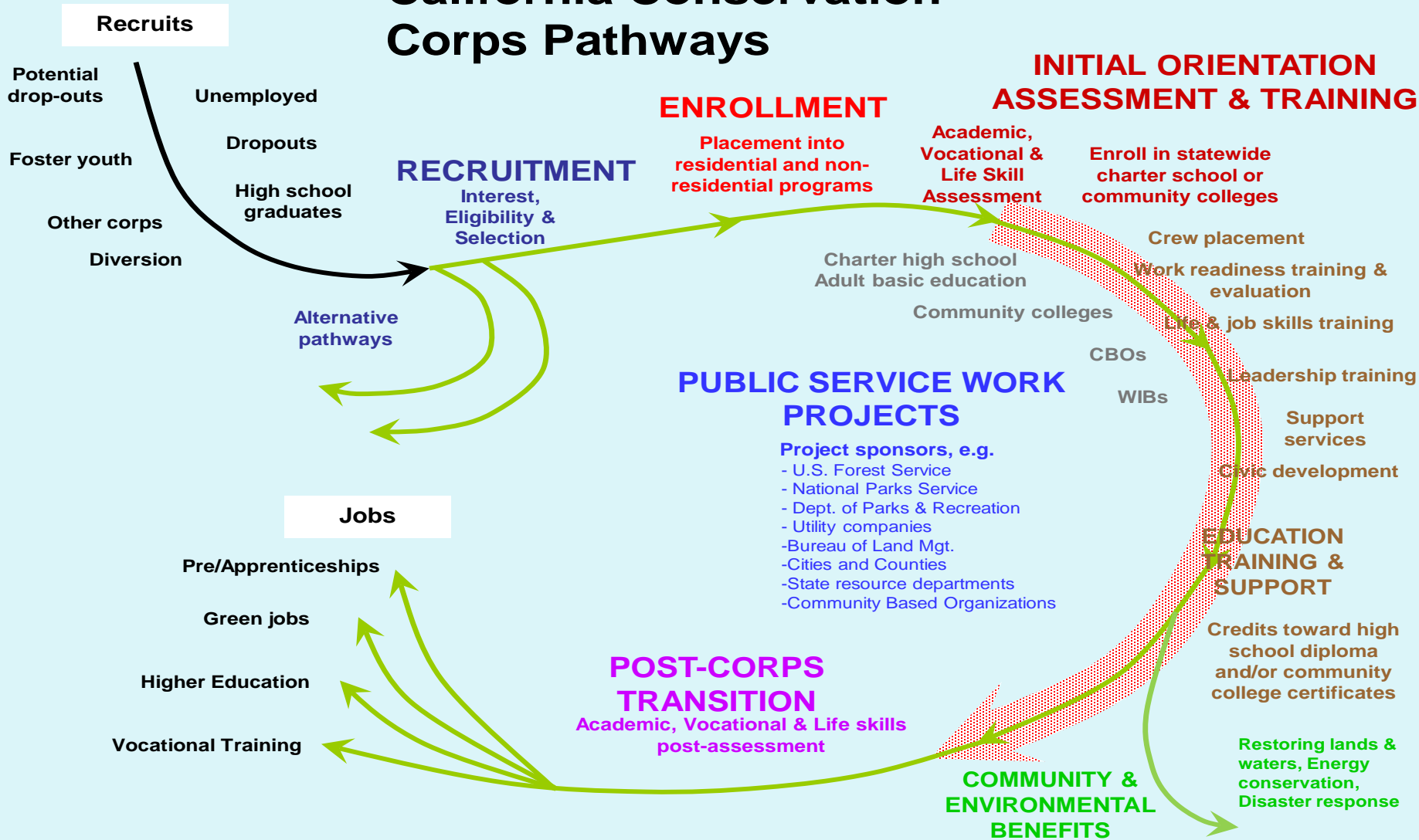


# The Corps Model

- Use environmental & conservation **service** to provide training & education to diverse & often **disadvantaged** youth
- 8-12 Corpsmembers working in **crews**.
- Hard, physical work that produces **tangible benefits**.
- Gain important **skills**, such as responsibility and teamwork, to move successfully into the workforce – including specialized skills training (i.e. chainsaw, hazmat, etc...).
- Youth are connected to **supportive services**, such as health care, child care, transportation, and career preparation.



# California Conservation Corps Pathways



# Variations in the Model

**TRADITIONAL AMERICORPS  
PROGRAMS**

**SUMMER PROGRAMS**

**ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION  
PROGRAMS**

**CIVIC JUSTICE CORPS PROGRAMS**

**NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS**

**VETERANS PROGRAMS**

***CAREER DEVELOPMENT***

***JOB TRAINING***

***TRANSITION***

***(TRANS)FORMATIONAL  
EXPERIENCES***



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# What Corps Do

## Improve Neighborhoods & Community Spaces

- community gardens, playgrounds & public spaces
- Planting grasses, trees, seedlings, and shrubs
- Recycling

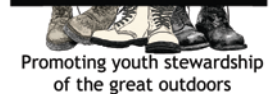


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# What Corps Do

Improve access to public lands (for recreation and other activities)

- Constructing and maintaining trails, fences, corrals, bridges, retaining walls, irrigation culverts, and overlooks
- Building, restoring, and maintaining campgrounds and other recreational facilities



# What Corps Do

## Protect Wildlife Habitat

- Performing erosion control measures, including soil and shoreline stabilization



- Preserving and restoring stream banks and wetlands
- Preserving and restoring wildlife and riparian habitat
- Inventorying and removing invasive weeds



# What Corps Do

## Prepare for & Respond to Disasters

- Stabilizing mud slides
- Removing debris and hazardous trees



## Protect Communities from Wildfire

- Implementing controlled burns
- Removing hazardous fuels
- Supporting fire crews

# Why Partner with Corps?

- Expose diverse young people to the nation's public lands.
- Engage diverse young people in meeting critical environmental needs.
- Foster the next generation of earth stewards and public lands workers.





# Current Partners

- Corporation for National and Community Service
- Department of Agriculture / Forest Service
- Department of Interior
  - National Park Service
  - Bureau of Land Management
  - Bureau of Reclamation
  - Fish and Wildlife Service
- Department of Labor
- Department of Transportation (FHWA)
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



# Funding Streams that Corps Can Access

- Public Lands / Fee for Service
- Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)
- Transportation
- **Inspirational Note:** One member of The Corps Network said that they receive funding from 58 different sources



# Cost savings from using youth programs vary depending on labor types compared against (Contracted, In-House, or a Combination)

The “combination” cost type assumes 80% of work will be done with Contracted labor and the remaining 20% will be done with In-House labor

Total Cyclic Projects already in 5-year plan that youth can address in next 5 years:	<b>\$25 million</b>
Cost using youth programs for cyclic work:	<b>\$14 million</b>
Percentage savings from youth program:	<b>56%</b>

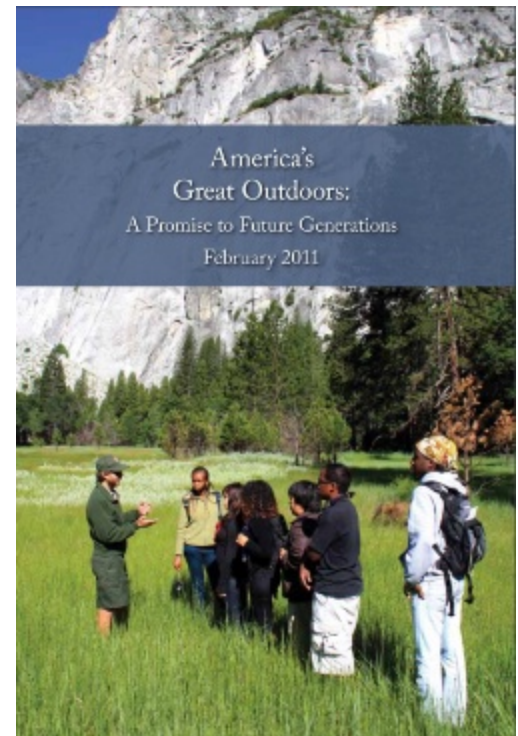
Cost Type	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Grand Total
Total Project Costs	\$354,279	\$8,766,515	\$7,856,434	\$7,018,233	\$784,693	\$699,585	\$25,479,738
Estimated Labor Hours	7,997	197,890	177,346	158,425	17,713	15,792	575,163
Cost with In-House Labor	\$280,064	\$6,930,098	\$6,210,662	\$5,548,048	\$620,315	\$553,035	\$20,142,222
Cost with Combination Labor	\$339,436	\$8,399,232	\$7,527,279	\$6,724,196	\$751,817	\$670,275	\$24,412,235
Cost with Youth Program	\$154,827	\$3,831,145	\$3,433,421	\$3,067,110	\$342,927	\$305,733	\$11,135,163
<b>Cost savings with Youth Program</b>	<b>\$199,452</b>	<b>\$4,935,370</b>	<b>\$4,423,013</b>	<b>\$3,951,122</b>	<b>\$441,766</b>	<b>\$393,852</b>	<b>\$14,344,575</b>

# America's Great Outdoors

AGO Report

Recommendation 1.1:

“Catalyze the establishment of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conservation Service Corps to engage young Americans in public lands and water restoration.”



# 21CSC Goals

- Put Americans to work.
- Preserve, protect, and promote America's greatest gifts.
- Build America's future.

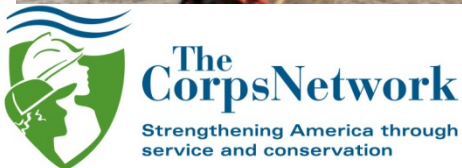




# 21CSC Goals

## ***Recommendation 4: Rapidly Increase the Scale and Presence of 21CSC***

***“Double the current number of conservation corps participants and implement a two-phase plan for growing the 21CSC to 100,000 participants by 2018.”***





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[www.corpsnetwork.org](http://www.corpsnetwork.org)

[www.plscoalition.org](http://www.plscoalition.org)