



# The Corps Network

Strengthening America through service and conservation

## Our Impact



### What is a Corps?

Corps are locally-based organizations that engage young adults (generally ages 16 – 25) and veterans (up to age 35) in service projects that address recreation, conservation, disaster response, and community needs. Through service to our country, Corps participants – or “Corpsmembers” – gain work experience and develop in-demand skills. Corpsmembers are compensated with a stipend or living allowance and often receive an education award or scholarship upon completing their term of service. Additionally, Corps provide educational programming, mentoring, and access to career and personal counseling.

*By annually engaging thousands of young adults and veterans in education and service, Corps...*

- increase access to public lands and waters
- build and enhance multi-use trails
- ensure productive fish and wildlife habitats
- increase recycling and revitalize neighborhoods
- restore communities and resources following disasters
- prevent and fight wildfires
- create/maintain urban parks and recreational spaces
- remove invasive species
- address the maintenance backlog on public lands
- weatherize homes for money-saving resource efficiency

### What is The Corps Network?

Established in 1985, The Corps Network is the national association of service and conservation Corps. Our 130 Corps provide young adults and veterans the opportunity to serve our country through projects on public lands and in rural and urban communities. The Corps Network supports Corps by advocating on their behalf, providing access to funding and projects, and offering expertise in Corps operations and programming.

**31,440,000** pounds of waste collected, recycled/disposed of

**1,663,143** trees planted and managed

**1,393,082** square feet of graffiti abatement

**311,378** acres of habitat improved and made accessible

**150,300** acres of invasive species and fire fuels treated

**14,230** low-income homes audited and/or weatherized

**13,284** miles of multi-use trails constructed/improved

**566** major disasters and wildfires responded to

**150** historic structures preserved

**25,233 Corpsmembers**

58% male | 41% female

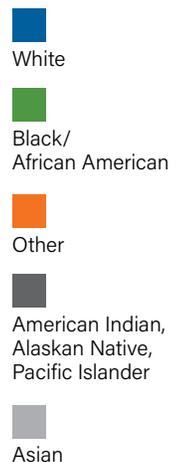
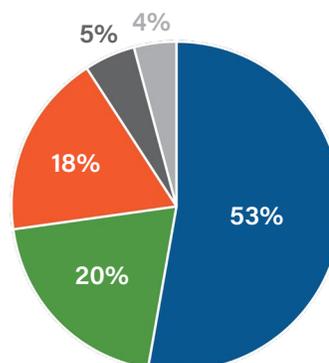


Photo: Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps

\*18% identified as Hispanic

## Corps Strengthen Rural and Urban Economies by Leveraging the Talents of Young Adults and Veterans

Through service, Corpsmembers gain work experience and develop **in-demand skills** in leadership, problem solving, and entrepreneurship. By offering certifications and partnering with local businesses, schools, and training organizations, Corps create a pathway to employment.

Corps offer a hand-up, not a hand-out; alumni understand the value of a hard day's work. There are currently **5.5 million youth** out of work and school. These young people are referred to as "opportunity youth," reflecting their enormous potential if given the chance to get back on track. Returning veterans also may struggle to leverage their talents. Corps participants train for careers while also experiencing the sense of community and mission that comes with service.

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## Corps Conserve Resources, Improve Infrastructure, and Increase Access to the Outdoors

Resource management and municipal agencies face billions of dollars in backlogged projects. Corps partner with agencies to address public lands needs, and work with all levels of government on community development and infrastructure projects in water and energy efficiency. Projects Corps complete, such as those that improve habitats and public lands access, support the **\$887 billion outdoor economy**.

### *Public-private partnerships:*

Local, state and federal government agencies partner with Corps to streamline project delivery and leverage limited funding. A study by the National Park Service demonstrated Corps can reduce project expenses by **50 percent or more**. Plus, studies show **99.6%** of land management employees would work with Corps again.

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## Corps Respond to Disasters and Build Resilience

Corpsmembers not only respond to disasters, but complete community and resource resiliency projects. When fires, storms and floods occur, Corps help communities recover by managing volunteers, removing debris, mucking and gutting buildings, and conducting site remediation.

**Corps have been on the front lines of recent disasters**, including Hurricanes Harvey, Maria and Irma, and wildfires throughout the West.

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## Corps Provide Opportunities to Serve our Country

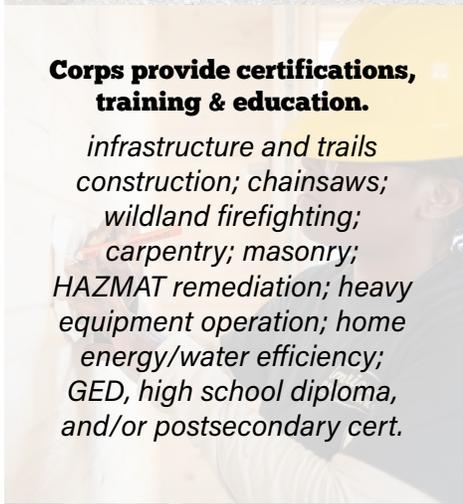
AmeriCorps and other national service programs offer opportunities for people of different faiths, socioeconomic, geographic, ethnic, racial, and political backgrounds to **come together for the common goal of bettering our nation**.

Corps, leverage AmeriCorps funding and raise private dollars for the completion of important infrastructure, public lands, and disaster response projects. AmeriCorps and our Corps have **bipartisan and local support**. Corps address challenges identified as important by their community and state and local elected officials.



**For every \$1 invested  
in national service...**

*\$3.95 is returned in higher  
earnings, increased output  
and community-wide  
benefits.*



**Corps provide certifications,  
training & education.**

*infrastructure and trails  
construction; chainsaws;  
wildland firefighting;  
carpentry; masonry;  
HAZMAT remediation; heavy  
equipment operation; home  
energy/water efficiency;  
GED, high school diploma,  
and/or postsecondary cert.*



**The history of Corps  
dates back to the 1930s.**

*AmeriCorps now provides  
the infrastructure to  
support local Corps in  
every state in the country.*

**Corps have  
bipartisan support.**

*"We recognize Conservation  
Corps as essential partners  
in meeting ongoing demands  
for natural resource  
management needs, and as  
effective workforce and career  
development programs."*

- Western Governors' Association