



The Corps Network

Strengthening America through
service and conservation

FY18

Annual Report



www.corpsnetwork.org
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Dear Friends,

I am continually impressed by the ingenuity of America's Service and Conservation Corps. As the needs of our communities and young people change, so too do Corps. At The Corps Network (TCN), we also adapt to changes in the country's priorities and the national dialogue. We are hard at work pursuing new resources and opportunities to sustain and grow the Corps movement.

2018 was an exciting year for TCN and the Corps movement, presenting new opportunities and challenges. 2018 marked year-two of our Moving Forward Initiative. Funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Moving Forward Initiative has allowed more than 100 Corps staff and Corpsmembers to examine issues of, and potential solutions to, structural racism and unconscious bias in outdoor recreation and natural resource careers.

In 2018, TCN received funding from the JPB Foundation to expand our capacity to provide training and technical assistance to our membership. We have already begun working with the field to identify needs and provide resources and support. This funding will enable TCN to make significant progress toward the objectives of our newly implemented strategic plan.

Also during the past year, the first GulfCorps members got to work restoring ecosystems along the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, TCN received a national cooperative agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), which will allow our members to complete projects on FWS properties. This agreement joins similar existing agreements with the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service. We also entered into a new partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to encourage more transportation infrastructure projects and develop career pathways for Corpsmembers. Further, we received a new AmeriCorps grant that, in 2019, will allow Corps to engage 120+ youth in transportation infrastructure improvement projects.

2018 was also marked by the transitions and uncertainty that come with a new Administration. As a voice for Corps in Washington, we provided education to new members of Congress and the Administration. TCN helped stave off drastic budget cuts and advocated for level or increased funding for AmeriCorps and important federal land management accounts. Even with the challenging fiscal and political climate, many Corps saw opportunities for increased project work and to serve more Corpsmembers. We are also proud our signature piece of legislation, the 21CSC Act, was bipartisan and came very close to becoming law. We will increase our efforts in these areas in 2019.

With the exciting developments we saw in 2018, I am optimistic about the year ahead. I am excited to see our longtime members continue to excel, and I am excited to support the Corps movement as we explore new ways and new communities in which to strengthen America through Service and Conservation.

Mary Ellen Sprunkel

Mary Ellen Sprunkel
President & CEO, The Corps Network



Our Mission

The Corps Network advances programs that transform young people's lives and communities through career development, conservation, and civic engagement.

Our Vision

A high-quality Corps serving every community in America.

The Corps Network FY18 Board of Directors

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Photo above: Rocky Mountain Conservancy. Two members hike to a trail maintenance project at Rawah Lakes in the Rawah Wilderness Area, Colorado.
Photo facing page: Arizona Conservation Corps, rock work at Saguaro National Park.

About 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 project opportunities, and by offering expertise in Corps operations and programming. Every year, The Corps Network's efforts enable nearly 25,000 diverse young people and recent veterans to strengthen communities, improve the environment, and transform their lives through service in Corps programs.

Contents

Letter from our Leadership	1
Corps in Numbers	3
Programs & Projects	5
Events	13
Outreach & Advocacy	17
Financials	21

@TheCorpsNetwork
#CorpsWork
www.corpsnetwork.org

Corps in Numbers

A snapshot of the Corps community in FY18



Ivan Robles, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps New Mexico

Membership

679	Total member organizations
131	Service and Conservation Corps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 119 Full Members • 12 Emerging Corps
58	Affiliate Members
490	AmeriCorps Basic Members

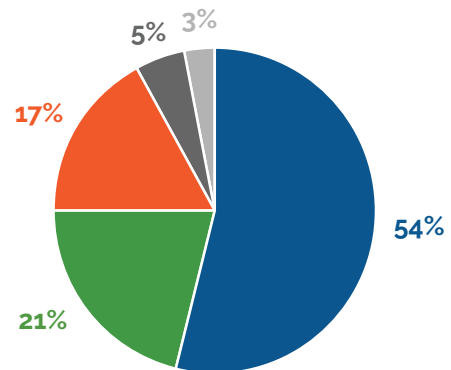
Corpsmembers

24,093	Total number of Corpsmembers
56%	Identify male
43%	Identify female

Corpsmember Race and Ethnicity

●	White
●	Other
●	Black, African-American
●	American Indian, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander
●	Asian

*15% Identified as Hispanic or Latino



12,747
Number of industry-recognized certifications earned by Corpsmembers



3,020
Number of Corpsmembers enrolled in a Corps-related high school diploma or GED program (across 23 Corps offering such programs)



4,830
Corpsmembers covered through The Corps Network Health Insurance Plan

Conservation, Recreation, and Environmental Outcomes



1,400,478
acres of habitat restored



67,984
acres of invasive
species treated



2,347
miles of waterway restored



18,215
acres of hazardous
fire fuels treated



13,967
miles of multi-use trails
constructed/improved



31,574,000
pounds of waste
collected and recycled



1,044,819
trees planted



36,029
low-income homes audited
and/or retrofitted to improve
resource efficiency

Community Outcomes



10,715
community spaces/public
facilities improved or
constructed



656
disasters responded to,
including fires, floods,
and storms



363
historic structures restored



666,502
community members who
benefited from educational
programs provided by Corps



1,868,796
square feet of
graffiti removed



509,707
volunteer service hours
generated through Corps
service opportunities



Programs & Projects

Learn about exciting work made possible through partnerships and grants



AmeriCorps Programs

A Corpsmember from Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps, based in Minnesota. This member is supported by The Corps Network's AmeriCorps Education Award Program (EAP).

Trails and Transportation

A Corpsmember from Wyoming Conservation Corps working on the Pole Mountain project, which won a 2018 Achievement Award from the Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT). Corps worked on several other CRT-winning projects in 2018. The Corps Network looks to expand and enhance work on trails and transportation infrastructure in the years to come.



Wyoming Conservation Corps, University of Wyoming

New Opportunities

Helping expand and enhance the Corps movement

The Corps Network secured several exciting new partnerships and grants in 2018.

JPB Foundation

The Corps Network received a three-year grant from the JPB Foundation to expand our training and technical assistance capacity. Among other activities, TCN will use this opportunity to provide additional guidance to new and emerging Corps and to help existing Corps expand into underserved communities.

Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The Corps Network signed a national cooperative agreement with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS). Under this agreement, Accredited member organizations of The Corps Network will be eligible to complete mission-critical maintenance and improvement work on FWS properties.

Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

The Corps Network received a two-year grant from the Department of Transportation to be used to encourage states and regional transportation planning agencies to partner with Service and Conservation Corps to perform projects under the Federal-Aid Highway Program; expand youth workforce development opportunities; and strengthen transportation career pathways.

AmeriCorps Transportation & Infrastructure Program

The Corps Network received a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to, from fall 2018 to fall 2019, engage more than 120 AmeriCorps members in public lands and transportation infrastructure projects in multiple communities across 13 states. Money from CNCS will be matched with funds from federal, state, and local resource management and transportation agencies.



EAP Spotlight: California Conservation Corps (CCC)

2018 was the deadliest and most destructive year on record for wildfires in California. Many EAP Corpsmembers in the CCC fought fires and provided critical basecamp support. In this photo, Corpsmembers from the CCC Camarillo Center march through a flame retardant drop to continue digging fire lines to defend homes.

California Conservation Corps

Education Award Program (EAP)

Supported by AmeriCorps

Since 2000, The Corps Network has operated an AmeriCorps Education Award Program (EAP) through a National Direct Grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service. EAP Corpsmembers focus on environmental, public lands improvement and disaster response service projects. EAP Corps partner with federal, state, and local resource management agencies, including the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, state departments of natural resources, and city departments of parks and recreation. With their broad geographic reach and the comprehensive training they receive, EAP Corpsmembers help extend the capacity of overburdened resource managers. Across the country, EAP Corpsmembers can be found addressing backlogged maintenance needs at parks; increasing access to outdoor recreational opportunities; improving ecological conditions for native species; and improving the resiliency of our public lands and communities to natural disasters.

Overview

# of Corps involved, serving across 33 states, DC and Puerto Rico	35
# of Corpsmembers enrolled	2,721
total education award (scholarship) funds Corpsmembers had the potential to earn for the '17-'18 term	>\$6.5 M

Corpsmember Training Snapshot

trained in wilderness first aid	1,372
received OSHA 10-hour training	1,116
trained as energy auditors	847
trained in green building/construction	715
certified in emergency response	377

Project Outcomes Snapshot

acres of public lands mapped/surveyed	365,668
trees planted	123,885
acres of invasive species treated	14,094
miles of trails and waterways improved	6,432
acres of fire fuels treated	1,646

EAP Reflection:

James, Northwest Youth Corps

"Despite the [rain], and all the downed trees that needed to be removed, we prevailed and remained in high spirits and cleared most of the trail that day...The team pretty much stayed wet for the remainder of the hitch, but as conditions worsened, our teamwork grew. We fed off each other's energy and accomplished the objectives of the hitch."



Operation Fresh Start (based in Madison, WI); Youth Conservation Corps (Waukegan, IL)

Opportunity Youth Service Initiative (OYSI)

Supported by AmeriCorps

"Opportunity Youth" is a term that describes young people ages 16 – 24 who are out of school and out of work, but who have enormous potential if empowered with the tools and support to get back on their feet. Launched in 2013, The Corps Network's Opportunity Youth Service Initiative (OYSI) is an AmeriCorps program designed to engage youth from disadvantaged backgrounds (e.g. economically disadvantaged, unemployed, past court involvement, physical or learning disability) in education and conservation-focused service. During their term, OYSI Corpsmembers develop job skills, earn certifications, complete their high school requirements, and receive assistance in transitioning to postsecondary education or the workforce.

Overview

# of Corps involved, serving across 16 states (AZ, CO, FL, ID, IL, LA, MD, MI, NM, NY, OR, SC, TX, VT, WI, WA)	14
# of Corpsmembers enrolled	704
collective service hours performed by OYSI members	~600,000

Project Outcomes Snapshot

acres of invasive species treated	33,650
trees planted	10,080
low-income homes weatherized/retrofitted to improve energy efficiency	1,027
energy audits conducted	783
miles of trails and waterways improved	470

Corpsmember Training Snapshot

received OSHA 10-hour training	150
trained in carpentry	144
certified in wilderness first aid	137
trained in emergency response	31

OYSI Reflection

Nataja, Operation Fresh Start

"Operation Fresh Start taught me to take responsibility for my life, my education, and my path. They pushed me, gave me confidence, and put me on track. I have learned to never give up on something that seems hard. I know that by being here, I have a great opportunity to do whatever I want in life and be whoever I want to be."

[pictured above on far left]



Photo by Mike Dumas for The Nature Conservancy, Conservation Corps of the Forgotten Coast

Gulf Operations

Building Resiliency in Coastal Communities & Habitats

GulfCorps

GulfCorps officially launched in August 2017 with \$7 million in funding provided by the RESTORE Council and administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This funding allowed The Nature Conservancy to partner with The Corps Network to engage local young people in projects to protect and restore vulnerable coastal areas in the five states bordering the Gulf of Mexico (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX). In January 2018, GulfCorps placed one crew in each of these five states, creating service opportunities for 50 young people. The five original member Corps were American YouthWorks (TX), Climb CDC Conservation Corps (MS), Conservation Corps of the Forgotten Coast (FL), Limitless Vistas, Inc. (LA), and the Student Conservation Association (AL). In August 2018, American YouthWorks fielded a new crew in Louisiana, and Conservation Corps of the Emerald Coast and American Conservation Experience respectively added Corpsmembers in Florida and Texas. This brought the total number of Corpsmembers engaged in 2018 to 100. GulfCorps members participated in projects that directly addressed the impacts of storms and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, including planting native vegetation, removing invasive species, and restoring living shorelines. Corpsmembers also received employability skills and had the opportunity to earn various industry-recognized certifications. Crews exceeded the total targeted number of acres worked on by 866 percent.

Disaster Readiness Corps

A grant from the National Academy of Science created an opportunity to develop a regional "Disaster Corps" to train and certify local young people to respond to disasters. Corpsmembers from Climb CDC (MS), Conservation Corps of the Forgotten Coast (FL), and the Children's Home Society of South Florida received FEMA training and certification. These crews deployed following Hurricane Michael to clear debris, remove fallen trees, distribute supplies, and check on vulnerable residents.

FY18 GulfCorps Snapshot

acres of wetlands enhanced	367
acres of invasive species treated	62
number of training hours (50 Corpsmembers)	8,725
hours of field experience (50 Corpsmembers)	>37,600



Northwest Youth Corps, Portland Youth Community Crew working on invasive species removal

Moving Forward Initiative (MFI)

Promoting Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Launched by The Corps Network in 2017 with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Moving Forward Initiative seeks to expand career exposure and increase employment in conservation and resource management for young people of color. Through this effort, TCN is exploring unconscious bias and structural racism within our own organization, our member Corps, and America's land management agencies. TCN is also providing tools and education to our staff, our member Corps, and staff at America's federal resource management agencies to make all parties better prepared to address bias and racism. Below are 2018 highlights.

Community of Learning

By the end of 2018, representatives from 12 Corps (in addition to TCN staff) have engaged in the full "Undoing Racism" training by the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond (PISAB). Working with Dr. Juanita C. Brown, a scholar of racial equity and healing, TCN helped develop an online space where training participants can dive deeper into understanding racism and inequity through reading, writing, and video assignments.

Corpsmember Development

In the summer of 2018, TCN and representatives from several Corps attended the Critical Mentoring Summit to learn about a mentoring approach that incorporates the youth voice and fully considers race, ethnicity, gender, class, and sexuality. With this information, The Corps Network is moving into a phase of the MFI in which we aim to engage more Corpsmembers in a critical examination of race.

MFI Blog

The Corps Network continues to publish a blog series to explore racism and inequity in the United States, particularly as these problems relate to conservation and the outdoors. In tandem with the blog series, TCN published an updated online resource library focused on furthering education about racism and inequity and ways to address these issues. [View blogs at http://bit.ly/MFIBlog](http://bit.ly/MFIBlog)

Diversity Joint Venture (DJV)

The DJV is a partnership of federal and state agencies, universities, non-profits, foundations, and professional societies working together to engage more women and people of color in the conservation workforce. TCN became an active member of this partnership: staff helped create the DJV website and participated in the DJV's second working meeting in the fall.

TCN National Conference MFI had a strong presence at the Conference, where more than 80 attendees engaged in an "Undoing Racism" workshop with PISAB. Also, preeminent environmental justice scholar Dr. Dorceta Taylor presented her research. Other MFI-related sessions included workshops focused on mentoring, personal awareness, and emotional intelligence.

Northeast Region Update

Facilitating partnerships between Corps and the National Park Service

Service and Conservation Corps have long partnered with the National Park Service (NPS) to complete mission-critical work on some of America's most iconic public lands and historic sites. By working with Corps, NPS sites can extend the capacity of park staff, address backlogged projects sooner, and can often save a significant amount of money on project expenses. To facilitate relationships between Corps and parks in the agency's Northeast Region (which includes properties from ME to VA), The Corps Network and NPS partnered to support a Youth Program Assistant position based out of the Park Service's Northeast Region office in Philadelphia.

FY18 Northeast Region Highlights

Member Corps of The Corps Network engaged 441 young adults in service at Northeast Region parks (a 10 percent increase from last year), accounting for more than 50 percent of all youth employed in the NPS Northeast Region for the year.



The Corps Network...

- Reviewed all NPS Northeast Region FY18 projects, determining which could involve youth
- Created and distributed Corps Information Sheets to Northeast Region parks to assist parks in selecting partners
- Created and utilized a new data-tracking system through which TCN, local Corps and parks could better monitor project progress

Resource Assistants Program (RAP)

Assisting the U.S. Forest Service in internship recruitment

The Resource Assistants Program is a rigorous, immersive, paid internship for individuals interested in careers with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). Resource Assistants (RAs) work under the supervision of Forest Service staff on mission-critical work. RAs who complete a minimum of 960 hours of qualifying work and receive at least a two-year degree are eligible for special hiring authority with the agency. The Corps Network is one of a handful of national organizations that work with USFS to recruit Resource Assistants. TCN collaborates with Accredited member Corps to help find eligible candidates and manage the RA's expenses, program engagement, and post-program transition. This partnership model allows USFS to reach a diverse pool of applicants across the country. In 2018, through an agreement with USFS, The Corps Network also launched an online Facebook community for RAs, allowing them to connect across different states.

FY18 TCN RAP Highlights

19	# of RAs engaged across 6 USFS Regions and the national office in Washington, DC. RA placement locations included Forest Service sites in AK, MS, NV, UT, MT, SD, ID, HI, NE)
10	# of RAs who received hiring authority certificates, providing them non-competitive hiring authority for USFS positions
4	# of RAs who received the "Excelling as a High Performing Agency" Award from USFS
18	# of research papers produced in FY18 by just one RA





Nevada Conservation Corps at Grand Canyon National Park, working on a project with Delaware North

Delaware North Project Partnerships

Helping maintain and improve important destinations

Delaware North is a global hospitality company, operating facilities at many national parks and other notable destinations. The Corps Network works with Delaware North to engage Corpsmembers in completing important work on Delaware North-managed properties. In the process, Corpsmembers gain valuable hands-on experience and learn new job skills.

FY18 Highlights

- Using native plants, Corpsmembers helped create and open a butterfly garden at the Kennedy Space Center in FL
- Crewmembers with Arizona Conservation Corps helped create elk exclosures and clear potential fire fuels around buildings at Grand Canyon National Park
- Also at Grand Canyon National Park, Crewmembers with Nevada Conservation Corps took part in fire fuel reduction, tree removal, erosion control, and stonework

Accreditation

Promoting excellence in the Corps community

The Corps Network's Accreditation program is administered by the Corps Center of Excellence (CCE): a committee of former Corps leaders, former federal land management agency staff, and other experts in workforce development programs. Accreditation is granted to Corps that demonstrate a high level of accountability to funders and donors, as well as the capacity to provide meaningful programming to Corpsmembers and quality results to project partners.

To become Accredited, a Corps must undergo an in-depth review of its operations and programming. The process involves a site visit as well as an assessment of the Corps' administrative documents and policies. Accreditation lasts for five years with the requirement that Corps provide an annual update to the advisory committee.

Officially Recognized in 2018

Climb CDC Conservation Corps	MS
Green City Force	NY
San Jose Conservation Corps & Charter School	CA

Successfully Completed Accreditation Process in 2018

PowerCorpsPHL	PA
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Annual Events

The Corps Network's two main events are our Great Outdoors Day of Service and National Conference

Being Good Stewards

Corpsmembers from several programs help remove invasive species at LBJ Memorial Grove in Washington, DC for the Great Outdoors Day of Service.





Delaware State Parks Veterans Conservation Corps at the Great Outdoors Day of Service.

Great Outdoors Day of Service & Outdoor Stewardship Week

Celebrating service in maintaining and improving the Great Outdoors

June is Great Outdoors Month®: a nationally-recognized celebration of America's natural spaces and the many ways to enjoy them. The Corps Network celebrates Great Outdoors Month® with our annual Great Outdoors Day of Service in Washington, DC. This event unites local volunteers, including youth from Corps across the region, to help maintain iconic public lands in the nation's capital. The 2018 Day of Service was the largest yet, bringing together nearly 200 participants to clear invasive species at LBJ Memorial Grove. Speakers included Acting Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt (then Deputy Secretary); Barbara Stewart, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service; Dan Smith, Acting Director of the National Park Service; Leslie Weldon, Deputy Chief of the U.S. Forest Service; and Alex Romero, Superintendent of George Washington Memorial Parkway.

In the week leading up to the Day of Service, The Corps Network also led "Outdoor Stewardship Week": a social media campaign to inspire people to #ServeOutdoors. In less than one week, the campaign had over 10 million impressions.

[Thank you to our 2018 Day of Service Sponsors & Partners](#)

U.S. Forest Service
Guest Services
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Great Outdoors Month®
National Park Service, George Washington Memorial Parkway



The Trail Ahead

The Corps Network 2018 National Conference

The Corps Network 2018 National Conference took place February 11 - 14 in Washington, DC. The Conference annually attracts more than 200 Corps staff members and other professionals in workforce and community development; resource management; and national service. The theme of The Corps Network 2018 National Conference – The Trail Ahead – focused on both celebrating the ability of Corps to meet the changing needs of our communities, and positioning Corps to be leaders in solving growing concerns across the country. Among other speakers, the Conference included remarks from Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke; Former United States Representatives Martin Frost (D-TX) and Cliff Stearns (R-FL); Chester Spellman, Director of AmeriCorps; Mark Gearan, Vice Chair of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service; and Dr. Dorceta Taylor, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability.

Thank you to our 2018 National Conference Sponsors

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SUPPORTER

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- The Pew Charitable Trusts

SPECIAL THANKS to the W.K. Kellogg Foundation for support of Moving Forward Initiative content at the Conference



Left: Vermont Youth Conservation Corps Farm Corps members. Right: The Wiseburn Walking Path under construction. See below for a brief description of these 2018 Projects of the Year.

Congratulations to the 2018 Awardees

CORPSMEMBERS OF THE YEAR

- **Kiara Alexis** – Civicorps
- **Earl Bowman** – Delaware State Parks Veterans Conservation Corps
- **Esperanzita Castillo** – Greater Miami Service Corps
- **Holden Foley** – Conservation Corps of the Forgotten Coast
- **Senga Lukingama** – Urban Corps of San Diego County
- **Lance Tubinaghtewa** – Arizona Conservation Corps, Ancestral Lands

PROJECT OF THE YEAR

- **California Conservation Corps, *Save the Sierras, Tree Mortality Program***
A program to engage AmeriCorps members in reducing the wildland fire risk in the Sierra Nevada mountains by removing dead and dying trees.
- **Los Angeles Conservation Corps, *Wiseburn Walking Path***
A program that engaged Corpsmembers in transforming an illegal dumping ground into an ADA-Accessible path, complete with trees, benches, lighting, and playground equipment.
- **Southwest Conservation Corps & Montana Conservation Corps, *BLM Women's Fire Corps***
A collaborative project to train and certify young women in wildland firefighting skills.
- **Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, *Health Care Share***
A program to engage Corpsmembers in growing organic produce to be distributed through medical facilities to patients facing needs such as food insecurity or diabetes.

LEGACY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- **Reginald "Flip" Hagood** – Student Conservation Association (SCA)

Photos on opposite page, clockwise from upper left: Superintendent Terry Brown of Fort Monroe National Monument gives keynote; 2018 Corpsmembers of the Year. Left to right: Holden, Senga, Kiara, Esperanzita, Lance, Earl; Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) with representatives from Conservation Legacy and Rocky Mountain Youth Corps - New Mexico; Dr. Dorceta Taylor and author, activist and lawyer Gyasi Ross speak during the Moving Forward Initiative plenary session.



Outreach & Advocacy

The Corps Network is a voice for Corps in our Nation's Capital



Legislation

Supporting legislation that advances the interests of Corps

21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC) Act

The bipartisan 21CSC Act (S.1403, H.R.2987) would allow federal land and water management agencies to create formal, more flexible partnerships with 21CSC member organizations. Among other provisions, the bill would expand the number of agencies that can partner with Corps. In 2018, the 21CSC Act passed twice in the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources: once in January with unanimous bipartisan support, and once in April as part of the Recreation Not Red Tape Act. The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources passed the bill in early October 2018 with near-unanimous bipartisan support.

Farm Bill

The Corps Network secured language in the Farm Bill Committee Report, now signed into law, encouraging the U.S. Department of Agriculture to expand partnerships with Corps to meet locally-driven conservation goals; provide farmer and rancher outreach and technical assistance; complete conservation projects; and develop the next generation of local agriculture and conservation leaders.

Restore Our Parks Act

The Restore Our Parks Act (S.3172) and its companion legislation in the House, the Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Act (H.R.6510), would direct dedicated annual funding to address deferred maintenance at national parks (Senate version) as well as other DOI properties (House version). The Corps Network mounted an advocacy campaign in support of this legislation in the House and Senate Natural Resources Committees, helping secure bipartisan co-sponsors.

Maryland Conservation Corps working on a trail at Palmer State Park.
The Corps Network works to sustain AmeriCorps funding for programs like this.



Administration Engagement

Working with federal agencies and Departments to support Corps

The Corps Network is an important voice for the Corps community with federal agencies. To help ensure Corps projects are developed and approved in a timely manner, TCN worked closely with the Department of the Interior (DOI) in 2018 to navigate the new review process for Corps projects on DOI-managed lands. TCN encouraged federal partners to issue guidance to ensure smooth project development, and submitted recommendations to leadership suggesting improvements to the agreement review process for FY19.

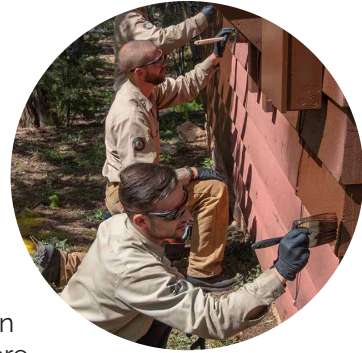
Also working with DOI, The Corps Network produced a report, at the request of the Secretary of the Interior, detailing a strategy for doubling the number of projects Corps complete on DOI lands. TCN also wrote a proposal for DOI on how to utilize Corps to engage more veterans and military families on public lands as part of Interior's larger veterans initiative. Finally, TCN developed a proposal outlining the creation of a Recreation Enhancement Conservation Corps (REC Corps) to address access to outdoor recreation infrastructure. This has already resulted in a new partnership for supporting infrastructure development at Rocky Mountain National Park, and is being looked at as a model for expansion.

In addition to our work with DOI, The Corps Network provided comments to the U.S. Forest Service on their 10-Year Sustainable Trails Stewardship Challenge, an effort to improve collaboration between the agency and partners to improve long-term trail maintenance. TCN's comments emphasized increased engagement of Corps as a partner in recreational enhancement.

Events

National Public Lands Day in the Grand Canyon

Held annually on the fourth Saturday in September, National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer event for public lands. In 2018, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke coordinated with The Corps Network to spend National Public Lands Day with Corps. On September 22, the secretary joined AmeriCorps members from Arizona Conservation Corps and American Conservation Experience at Grand Canyon National Park to help restore cabins constructed in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps.



Disaster Response Workshop, AmeriCorps State and National Symposium

Service and Conservation Corps have become increasingly involved in disaster response and mitigation projects. The AmeriCorps Disaster Services Unit (DSU) coordinates the deployment of national service members to recovery zones through the AmeriCorps Disaster Response Team (A-DRT) program. The majority of AmeriCorps members deployed through A-DRT come from Corps. At the 2018 AmeriCorps State and National Symposium outside Washington, DC, The Corps Network partnered with DSU and American YouthWorks, an A-DRT program, to discuss ways to engage national service members in the disaster cycle, as well as opportunities for joint trainings and increased collaboration among programs involved in disaster response.

Budget and Appropriations

The Corps Network participated in appropriations advocacy efforts for 20 different federal funding accounts. FY18 and FY19 saw proposed budget cuts to numerous accounts and programs important to Service and Conservation Corps. The president's FY18 and FY19 budgets both called for the elimination of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), as well as major cuts to federal resource management accounts that fund project partnerships with Corps.



To support the efforts of the coalition Voices for National Service, The Corps Network led Network-wide advocacy efforts – including submitting testimony and participating in Hill meetings – to support funding for CNCS (which includes AmeriCorps) and the federal land management agencies. These advocacy efforts contributed to several positive outcomes. On the national service side, AmeriCorps saw a \$26 million increase in FY18 and a \$13 million increase in FY19.

On the public lands side, the National Park Service Facility Operations and Management account saw a \$34 million increase in the President's FY18 budget, with specific increases for cyclic maintenance and repair/rehabilitation. For FY19, The Corps Network secured language in the House and Senate Interior Appropriations bill prioritizing partnerships with Corps for the U.S. Forest Service and Department of the Interior. Additionally, The Corps Network secured language requiring increased transparency of the budget negotiation process for the U.S. Forest Service Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers to ensure the Centers receive adequate funding from the Department of Labor.



Photos above: Top left - Conservation Corps North Bay; Top Right - Washington Conservation Corps participates in disaster response efforts.
Bottom - Los Angeles Conservation Corps

Photos on facing page: Top - For National Public Lands, members of Arizona Conservation Corps' Veterans Fire Corps program visited Grand Canyon National Park to rehabilitate cabins built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s.
Bottom - Members of Larimer County Conservation Corps remove invasive species at Rocky Mountain National Park.

Thank you to all the Corps that shared photos for this year's annual report!

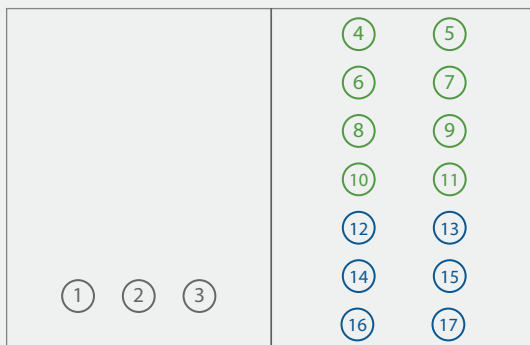
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Statement of Financial Position - September 30, 2018

Assets	2018
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	313,405.37
Cash Held for Others	-
Accounts Receivable	139,883.87
Grants and Contracts Receivable	2,010,515.15
Prepaid Expenses	42,021.17
Security Deposit	49,854.00
Total Current Assets	<u>2,555,679.56</u>
 Long-Term Assets	
Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment	63,139.73
Lease Improvement	10,074.20
Accumulated Depreciation	(41,091.75)
Accumulated Amortization	(3,816.36)
Total Long-Term Assets	<u>28,305.82</u>
 Total Assets	<u><u>2,583,985.38</u></u>
 Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	1,319,183.52
Amounts Held on Behalf of Others	-
Deferred Revenue	514,879.92
Other Current Liabilities	23,716.49
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,857,779.93</u>
Non Current Liabilities	226,730.73
 Total Liabilities	<u><u>2,084,510.66</u></u>
 Net Assets	
Unrestricted	573,054.39
Change in Net Assets	(73,579.67)
Total Net Assets	<u>499,474.72</u>
 Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u><u>2,583,985.38</u></u>

Statement of Activities - September 30, 2018

	Period Ending 9/30/2018
	Actual
Operating Revenue	
Core Revenue - HQ	
Grants Revenue	1,810,187.84
Membership Dues	368,829.67
Health Insurance Commission	115,643.70
National Conference Revenue	190,492.08
Contract Revenue	24,000.00
Membership Dues - PLSC	54,000.00
Donations	15,101.78
Accreditation Fee Revenue	18,910.00
Reimbursed Expenses	2,365.58
Advertisement Revenue	-
Miscellaneous Income	1,158.84
Total Core Revenue - HQ	<u>2,600,689.49</u>
Grant Revenue - Passthrough	4,583,168.42
Total Operating Revenue	<u>7,183,857.91</u>
Expenditures	
Expenditures without Indirect Costs	
Personnel Expenses	1,373,076.13
Contracted Services	554,281.07
Rent Expense	222,556.05
Meeting Expenses	145,589.18
Office Expenses	206,885.44
Travel Expenses	149,170.77
Total Core Expenses - HQ	<u>2,651,558.64</u>
Subgrantee Expenses - Passthrough	4,605,878.94
Total Expenses	<u>7,257,437.58</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u><u>(73,579.67)</u></u>

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