



# The Corps Network

Strengthening America through  
service and conservation

**Building Capacity and  
Youth Leadership:**

**Working with Young People to Implement  
Safe Routes to School Projects**

**2019 Safe Routes to School National Conference**

**November 12, 2019**

# What is The Corps Network?



**The  
CorpsNetwork**

Strengthening America through  
service and conservation

- National Association of Service and Conservation Corps
- Founded in 1985
- Based in Washington, DC

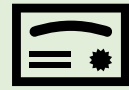
## What we do

- Advocate on behalf of Corps
- Provide Corps access to funding, project opportunities
- Offer expertise in Corps operations, best practices
- Offer range of association benefits for members

# What are Corps?



Based on model of Civilian Conservation Corps of the New Deal Era (1930s – 1940s)



Comprehensive service and workforce development programs  
*(some Corps also offer GED / high school diploma program)*



Operated by nonprofits or units of state and local government



Participants – “Corpsmembers” – include young adults age 16 – 30, veterans up to age 35



Service projects address environmental, community and disaster response needs

# The Corps Model



## Each Corps is a little different, but they all share common elements

Corpsmember  
transitional support and  
follow-up services

Engage Corpsmembers in  
crews or Individual  
Placements

Corpsmembers work  
under supervision of  
trained Crew Leaders  
and mentors

Intensive Corpsmember  
and Crew Leader  
orientations and  
trainings

Paid service-learning and  
work experience

Individualized  
Corpsmember  
assessments and  
personal planning

Workforce and  
leadership development

Civic engagement



## Contracting with Youth Conservation Corps

- Matching funds
  - Capability to leverage additional revenue sources
- Budget customizations per project/partner,
  - scope of work analyses, annual audit review and report completions; and cost efficient programming
- In-house recruitment, project site visit teams, orientation and training for Corpsmembers
- Executive, program, and administrative oversight & support
- Tools, equipment, materials & supplies, uniforms, etc.
- General Liability, Workers Compensation Insurance
- Skilled, professional Supervisors

*Photo: New Jersey Youth Corps-Phillipsburg / New Jersey*

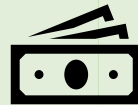
# What Do Corpsmembers Gain?



Job Training



Hands-on Work  
Experience



Stipend / Living  
Allowance



GED, High School  
Diploma /  
College Prep



AmeriCorps  
Education  
Award



A Stronger  
Connection to  
their Community

# What Can Corps Do?

## *Just a few examples...*

### **Enhance neighborhoods & community public spaces**

- Build & maintain parks, playgrounds
- Landscaping, tree care
- Reclaim abandoned lots, brownfield remediation
- Build & maintain trails
- Build & maintain urban farms, gardens
- Trash and recyclable collection
- Graffiti abatement
- Provide educational programming on conservation-related topics for youth, community members
- Constructing, improving park shelters, benches, signage

### **Protect/restore habitats**

- Invasive species removal/reintroduction of native species
- Water quality and species monitoring
- Fencing installation
- Construction of nesting boxes,
- Wetland & coastal restoration

### **Disaster preparedness/response**

- Erosion and flood control measures
- Installing/maintaining storm water management infrastructure
- Volunteer management
- Wildfire mitigation and response
- Debris removal, mucking/gutting

### **Help conserve resources**

- Weatherizing/retrofitting homes and public structures
- Conducting energy audits
- Installing insulation, sealing air flow, replacing windows
- Installing solar panels

### **Preserve historic structures**

- Foundation stabilization
- Masonry
- Carpentry
- Tuckpointing

# What Can Corps Do?

## SRTS-Type Projects Performed by Corps

### Construction of New Pedestrian Pathways and Trails

Sidewalk Construction

ADA-compliant Ramps and Walkways

Pedestrian Bridges and Boardwalks

Bike paths and Pedestrian Trails

### Safety and Signage

Signage Installation

Installation of solar powered lighting and panels

Assessment of Trail and Corridor Conditions

### Trailside Facilities and Sidewalk Corridors

Parking Lot Improvements

Construction of New Sidewalk Facilities

Trail and Pathway Vegetation Management

Landscaping

Construction of Curb, Gutter, and Curb Ramps

### Maintenance and Restoration

Sidewalk Improvements / Restoration

Trail and Walkway Corridor widening

Management of Retrofitting walkways/trails with asphalt, concrete, and rock composites.

Drainage System Design and Repair



# Our Impact - Nationally

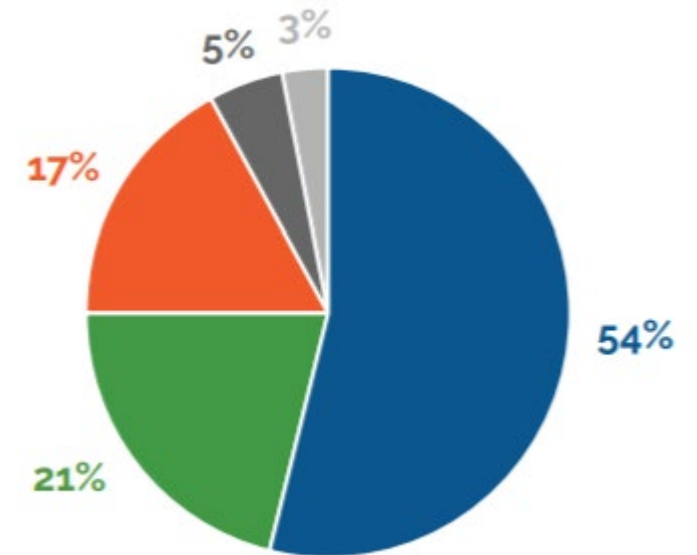


## Corpsmember Demographics in 2018

### Corpsmember Race and Ethnicity

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

\*15% Identified as Hispanic or Latino



### Corpsmembers

<b>24,093</b>	Total number of Corpsmembers
<b>56%</b>	Identify male
<b>43%</b>	Identify female

Photo: Greater Miami Service Corps / Florida

# Our Impact - Nationally



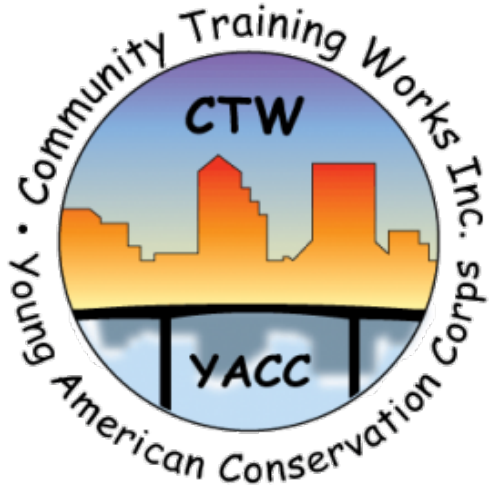
## Community Outcomes in 2018

### Corps in Numbers - FY18

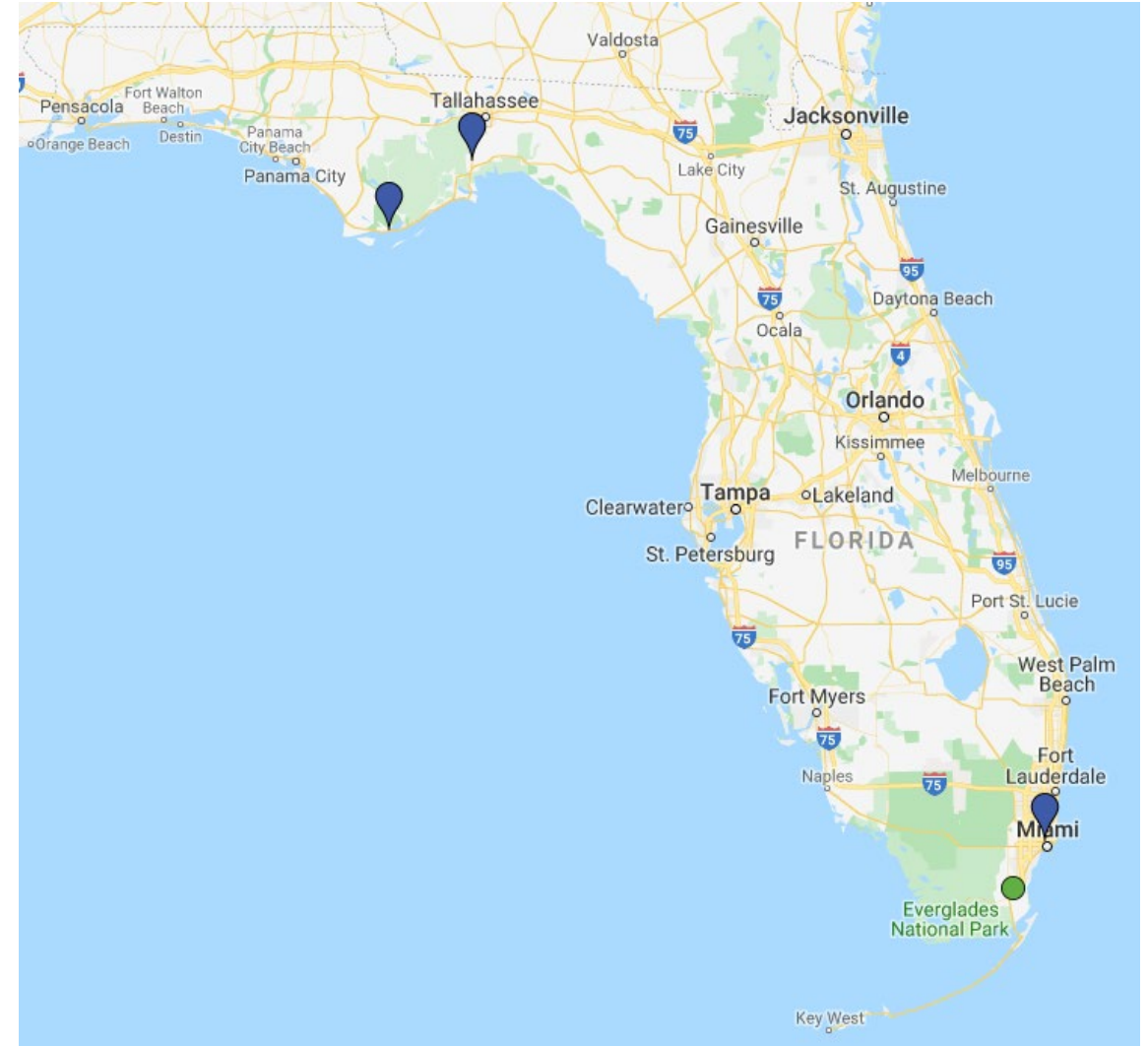
<b>31,574,000</b>	pounds of waste collected/recycled
<b>1,868,796</b>	square feet of graffiti removed
<b>1,400,478</b>	acres of habitat restored
<b>1,044,819</b>	trees planted
<b>67,984</b>	acres of invasive species treated
<b>36,029</b>	low-income homes audited and/or weatherized
<b>13,967</b>	miles of trails constructed/improved
<b>656</b>	disasters responded to

*Photo: Community Training Works / Florida*

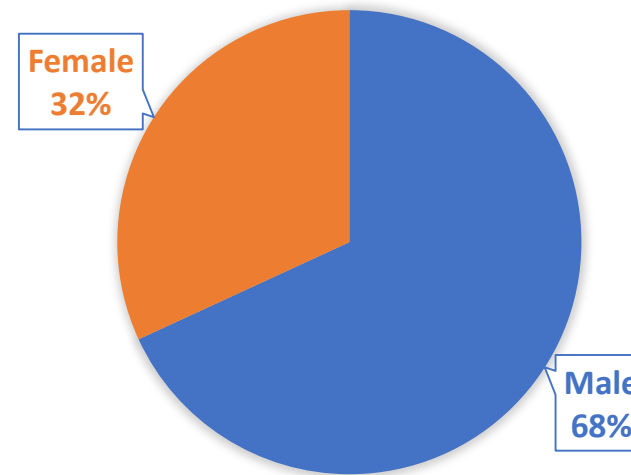
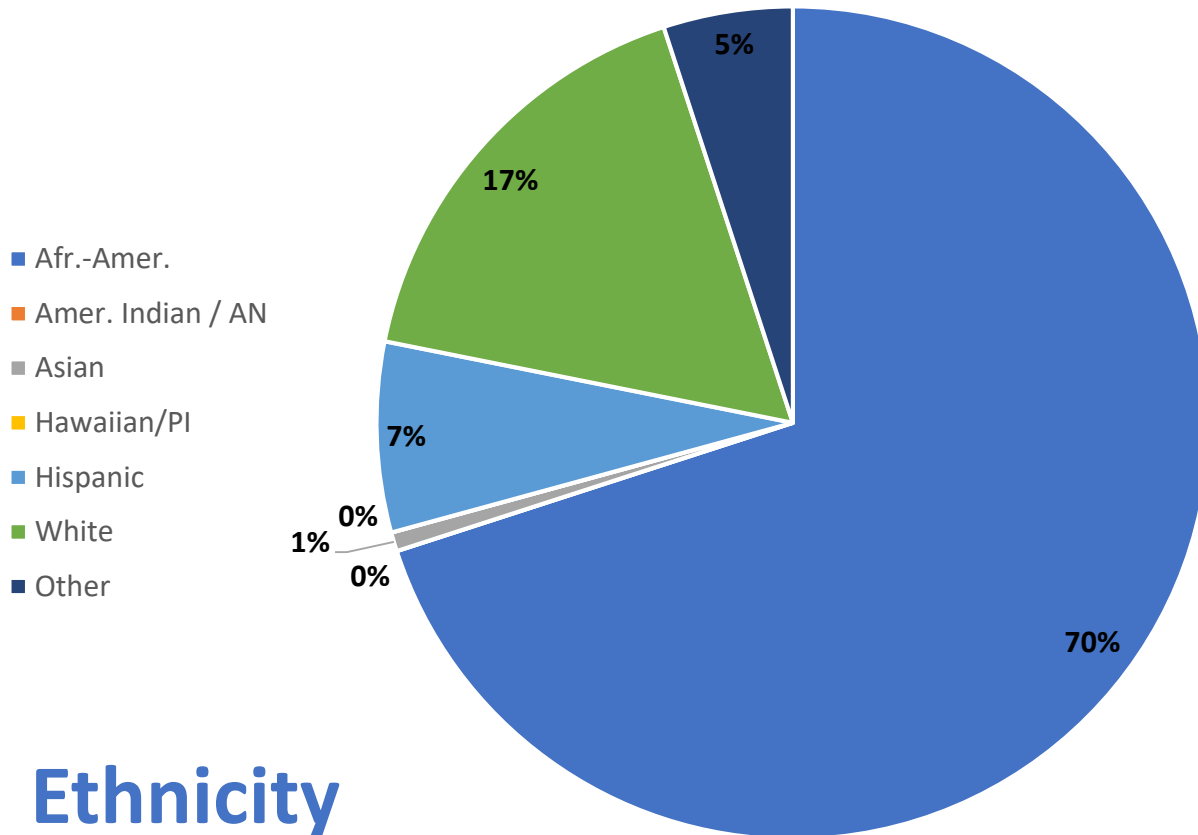
# Florida Serving Corps



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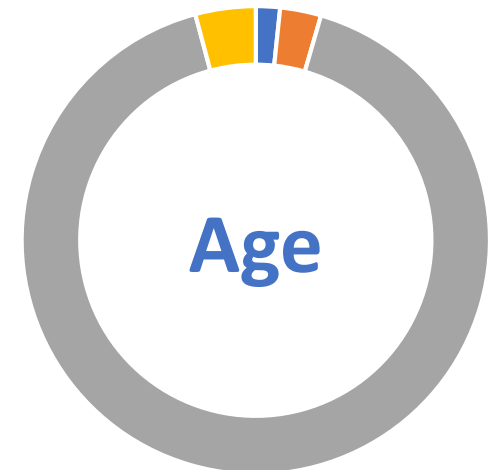
## Corpsmember Demographics in 2016 - 2018



**685**  
**Corpsmembers**

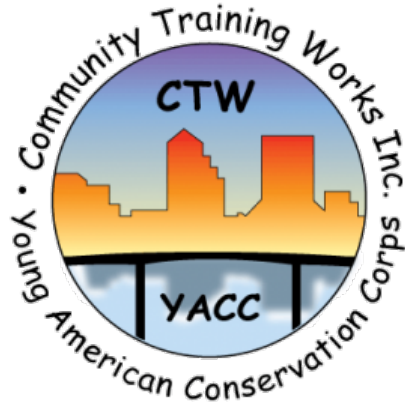
**Military Veterans**

**7**



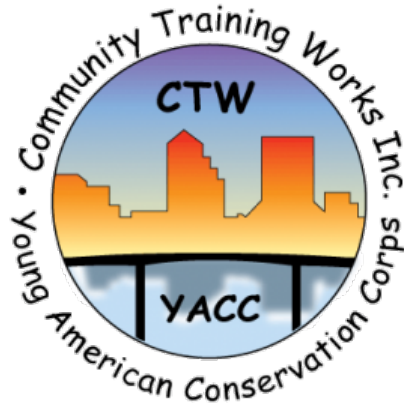
■ 16 and under ■ 16-17 ■ 18-25 ■ 25+

## Corpsmember Certifications: 2016 - 2018



First Aid / CPR	<b>222</b>
Forklift Certification	<b>42</b>
National Center for Construction Education and Research [NCCR]	<b>118</b>
Chainsaw/Sawyer Certification	<b>37</b>
Wilderness First Aid / Responder	<b>19</b>
Pesticide Applicator	<b>23</b>

## Social and Environmental Impact: 2016 - 2018



<b>Buildings or Housing Unit</b>	<i>Number of housing units assessed, rehabilitated, or renovated</i>	<b>161</b>
<b>Accessible Walkways/Ramps</b>	<i>Number of accessible walkways/ramps created</i>	<b>9</b>
<b>Community Public Spaces</b>	<i>Number of community parks, gardens, playgrounds, etc.</i>	<b>11</b>
<b>Acres of Habitat Restoration</b>		<b>16,913</b>
<b>Tons of Litter and Trash</b>	<i>Tones of litter and trash removed or recycled</i>	<b>81</b>
<b>Number of Public Facilities</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>Miles of Trails and Waterways</b>	<i>Miles of trails created, improved, or restored</i>	<b>200</b>
<b>Storm Responses</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Homes Assisted</b>	<i>Number of homes assisted following a natural disaster</i>	<b>30</b>

# Corps Projects

## Miami-Dade County Sidewalk Improvement Project / Greater Miami Service Corps





# Corps Projects

## Miami-Dade County Sidewalk Improvement Project / Greater Miami Service Corps



## Wiseburn Walking Path Project / LA Conservation Corps



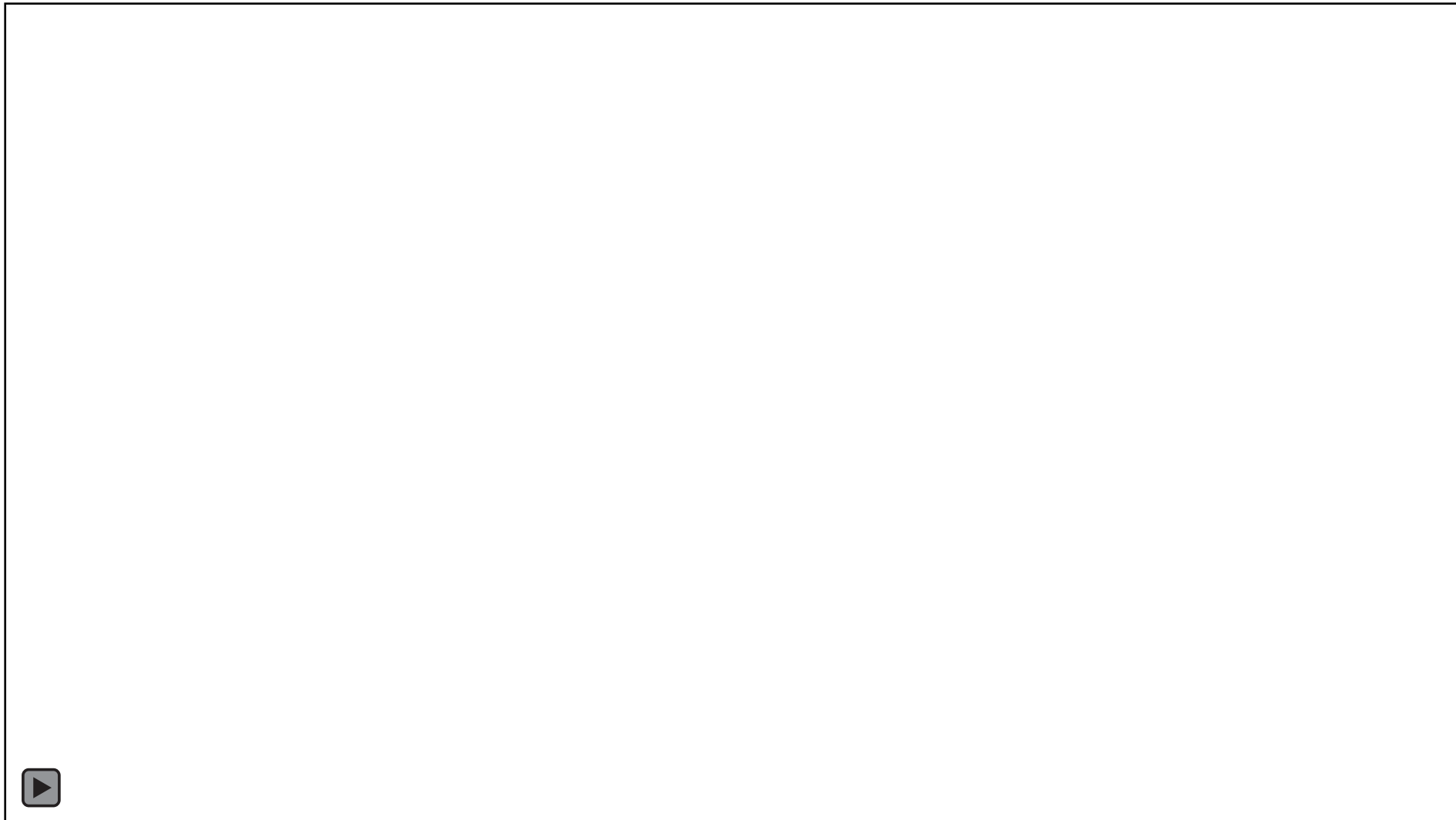
## Wiseburn Walking Path Project / LA Conservation Corps



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## Wiseburn Walking Path Project / LA Conservation Corps



# Save the Date



## Conferences and Webinars

<b>WEBINAR</b>	The Future of Transportation and Recreation Trail Projects Utilizing Youth and Conservation Corps	<b>Thursday, December 5, 2019</b> <b>1:00pm – 2:30pm ET /</b> <b>10:00am – 11:30am PT</b>	<a href="https://www.americantrails.org/training/the-future-of-transportation-and-recreation-trail-projects-utilizing-youth-and-conservation-corps">https://www.americantrails.org/training/the-future-of-transportation-and-recreation-trail-projects-utilizing-youth-and-conservation-corps</a>
<b>CONFERENCE</b>	The Corps Network 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference  <i>Thrive: The Power of Community</i>	<b>February 9-12, 2020</b>  <b>Washington, DC</b>	<a href="https://corpsnetwork.org/conference/">https://corpsnetwork.org/conference/</a>



# The CorpsNetwork

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service and conservation

**@TheCorpsNetwork | #CorpsWork**

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

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