



LA CONSERVATION CORPS

## OVERVIEW

The Los Angeles Conservation Corps is the nation's largest urban conservation corps, providing more than 900 young adults and teenagers with life skills, work experience and marketable job skills each year. Founded in 1986 by former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Mickey Kantor, the LA Conservation Corps has led the way in a national conservation and service corps movement that is more than 35 years old and now encompasses more than 100 corps in every state and the District of Columbia. Present-day conservation and service corps are modeled on the depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps which provided meaningful environmental work to thousands of young men during one of our nation's most difficult economic times.

## OUR PROGRAMS

### Conservation

**Young Adult Corps** A youth and workforce development program provides 18 to 24 year olds with alternating sessions of school and work, giving corpsmembers the opportunity to gain invaluable paid work experience while working towards their diploma at the on-site Saito High School.

**Clean & Green** A youth development program that gives 300 middle and high school youth annually the opportunity to gain environmental work experience—which includes trash and graffiti removal and tree planting projects—during school and vacation periods.

### Education

**After School Program** An after-school enrichment program that offers tutoring and mentoring services to 8,000 elementary and middle school students at 16 Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) campuses each year.

**SEA Lab** A marine conservation and education program, operating from a hands-on science center located in the City of Redondo Beach, trains corpsmembers to educate over 8,000 youth annually about marine life and the importance of protecting our oceans.

### Corpsmember Development

**Support Services** Includes a dedicated team of case managers and support staff who provide counseling and assistance to help our corpsmembers address challenges and remain enrolled in our work and education programs.

**Career Pathways** Career-readiness education and training that ensure graduating corpsmembers are ready to move into the working world.

**Scholarship Program** To date, we have awarded over \$2 million in scholarships to our graduates scholarships to help them pursue college education and vocational training.



## OUR MISSION

To provide at-risk young adults and school-aged youth with opportunities for success through job skills training, education and work experience with an emphasis on conservation and service projects that benefit the community.

### For More Information

#### Bo Savage

Deputy Director of Operations

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LA CONSERVATION CORPS

## Young Adult Corps

A program of the LA Conservation Corps

The Corps' hallmark youth and workforce development program offers conservation and environmental work projects to our youth. Corpsmembers gain on the job training that will lead them toward future employment.

Today, our longest-running youth and workforce development program serves approximately 500 18- to 24-year-old corpsmembers each year. Roughly 80% of the corpsmembers enter the program without a high school diploma and participate in our school/work model alternating two-month blocks of high school classes at one of our partnering charter school sites and paid on-the-job training on work projects throughout Los Angeles County.

The Corps' unique program model helps corpsmembers graduate from high school and prepare to enter the working world. We integrate academic education with life skills training,

job training, paid work experience and case management, including post-program transition services.

To date, the Young Adult Corps has prepared 5,189 young people for good-paying jobs, many of whom have participated in one or more of the following individual work programs as follows: Community Enhancement, Urban Parks, Urban Forestry, Recycle Across LA, LA River Corps, Habitat Restoration, YouthBuild, and Environmental Workforce.



### Last year, our Young Adult Corps teams:

- Planted and maintained **3,000+** trees
- Recycled **200** tons of beverage containers
- Disposed of **600** tons of litter and debris
- Abated **1,000,000** square feet of graffiti
- Constructed **5** new community gardens and parks
- Restored **80** acres of natural habitat
- Built and maintained **65,000** linear feet of trails

*\*Statistics from FY14-15*



**For additional information about the LA Conservation Corps' Young Adult Corps program, please contact:**

**Bo Savage, Deputy Director**

213-362-9000, ext. 238 or [bsavage@lacorps.org](mailto:bsavage@lacorps.org)

<http://www.lacorps.org/programs/young-adult-corps>



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

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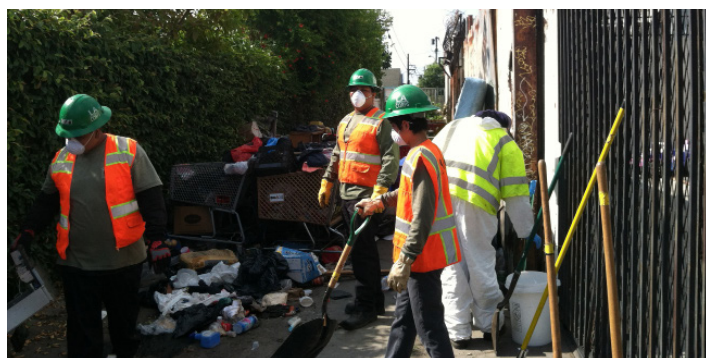
## Clean & Green

A program of the LA Conservation Corps

For over two decades, Clean & Green has been providing paid training to hundreds of middle and high school students across greater Los Angeles each year. It employs 300+ young people between the ages of 14 and 21 annually to work on community beautification projects. Clean & Green allows young people from low-income neighborhoods to learn professional skills – they are required to show up to work on time, in uniform and ready to work as part of a team – while helping their families by earning a paycheck.

By involving students in planting trees, cleaning dirty alleys, and beautifying local neighborhoods, the Corps helps them develop an awareness of the impact they have on the world around them, resulting in an increased respect for their social and natural environments. They are taught to integrate this ethic of respect and responsibility into their everyday behaviors at school, at home and in their neighborhoods. As a result, school faculty often report that Clean & Green participants demonstrate improved attendance, increased class participation and model responsible behavior to their peers.

The program has grown to meet the changing needs of today's young people and now provides its participants with environmental education and leadership development. Additionally, to ensure that their academic and professional development continues long after their program participation, Clean & Green students – many of whom will be the first members of their family to earn a high school diploma – are offered instruction on preparing for college and are eligible to apply for scholarships through the Corps, eliminating some of the obstacles to post-secondary achievement.



### Last year, our Clean & Green teams:

- Cleaned **12,000** streets and alleys
- Abated **28,000** square feet of graffiti
- Planted and maintained **10,300** trees
- Cleared away **25,000** bulky trash items
- Disposed of **1600** tons of litter and debris

*\*Statistics from FY14-15*



### For additional information about the LA Conservation Corps' Clean & Green program, please contact:

**Lorena Umana**, Program Coordinator  
323-224-2550, ext. 508 or lochoa@lacorps.org

The application is available online at:  
<http://www.lacorps.org/clean-and-green>



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## Corpsmember Development

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**A**t the Corps, we know that it takes more than just providing our corpsmembers with work skills training in order for them to succeed. This is why we take great pride in our Corpsmember Development department for providing quality assistance to our youth in the aspects of their lives that they need the most. These services are imperative to the development of our corpsmembers into healthy and productive citizens beyond the Corps.

### Support Services:

Each corpsmember receives case management and life skills advising to ensure their success. LCSW and MSW case workers and MSW interns provide counseling and referrals for housing, mental health, healthcare, legal issues and child care.

### Career Pathways:

Corpsmembers receive academic advising through the Corps while they are enrolled in the program, even while in college, and can always return for more assistance as program alumni. Corpsmembers can also receive assistance transitioning to well-paying jobs including resume

development, interview prep and introduction to employers. We provide life skills education including driver's education, financial literacy and time management. Corpsmembers leave our program prepared for post-secondary education and for the working world.

### Scholarship Programs:

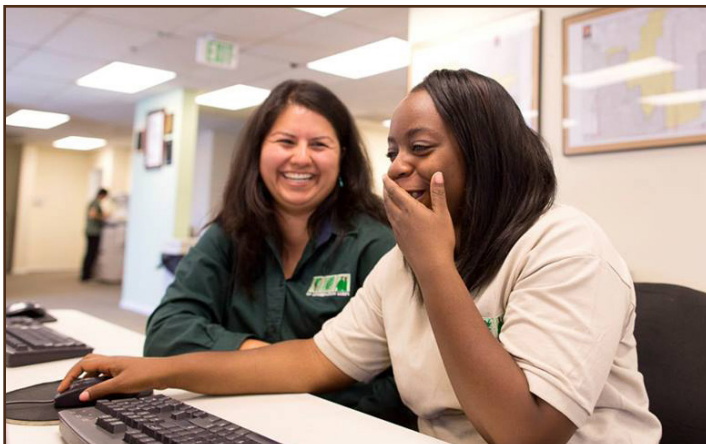
We offer scholarships to corpsmembers for their post-secondary education. These scholarships are raised through private contributions from foundation, corporate and individual donors each year. The Corps has awarded more than \$2 million dollars in scholarships over the past 30 years.



### Last year, Corpsmember Development:

- Helped **65** CMs transition into to jobs or college
- Awarded **70** vocational training certificates
- Trained **151** CMs in Financial Literacy
- Provided **731** CMs with case management
- Awarded **117** Russell Kantor Scholarships
- Enrolled **136** CMs in AmeriCorps Education Programs

*\*statistics from FY14-15*



**For additional information about the LA Conservation Corps' Corpsmember Development program, please contact:**

#### Justin Lee

Director of Corpsmember & Community Engagement  
213-362-9000, ext. 242 or [jlee@lacorps.org](mailto:jlee@lacorps.org)

[www.lacorps.org/programs/corpsmember-development.php](http://www.lacorps.org/programs/corpsmember-development.php)



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