Dear Friends of the Corps,

Welcome to the 2014-15 edition of the LA Conservation Corps Annual Report. The last year was filled with some exciting initiatives and partnerships, as well as some bittersweet transitions.

We entered into a new partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service that offers our Corpsmembers with an elite experience. As part of this program, they can participate in a variety of educational events, receive specialized training, and learn about environmental careers with the U.S Fish & Wildlife Service and other conservation organizations.

To ensure residents can safely navigate their neighborhoods, the Corps also entered into a partnership with the City of Los Angeles to begin repairing countless sidewalks in and around the city. Plus, we successfully completed several high-profile water conservation projects to counteract the efforts of this historic California drought.

In the last fiscal year, we are happy to announce that we also started operations at our Compton site (located at the Compton Creek Natural Park), put the finishing touches on our Valley site (located at the Sunland-Tujunga Municipal Building), and began preparations for our 30th Anniversary, which we will celebrate in 2016.

While we had some impressive feats this year, we also said goodbye to two long-time leaders at the Corps. Bruce Saito, who had previously moved away from day-to-day operations, stepped down as Executive Director Emeritus. We are happy to announce that Governor Jerry Brown appointed Bruce to be the Director of the California Conservation Corps. So, we are glad to know that he’s still in the Corps family, and that we will still have an opportunity to engage with Bruce going forward.

In addition, Dan Knapp, Deputy Director, resigned to pursue other opportunities. Like Bruce, though, Dan will remain in the Corps movement!

We are ecstatic about the progress we’ve realized in the last fiscal year and cannot wait to share with you what’s coming up in the next few months. In the meantime, we want to thank our donors, supporters and volunteers who continue to stand by us. Without you, we would not be able to provide second chances to our Corpsmembers or to make much-needed improvements throughout the City of Los Angeles.

Wendy A. Butts
Mercedes Morton
As a young teen growing up in Boyle Heights, Isaac Lopez did not have it easy. There was a lot of negativity, drugs and violence that surrounded him. The LA Conservation Corps’ Clean & Green program not only served as a safe haven for Isaac, but it also provided him with a sense of direction, and an opportunity to paint and to be outdoors – which he loved.

Isaac then went to high school, but after losing his way, he decided to drop out. Upon dropping out, he remembered that the Corps had a young adult program where he could receive a high school diploma. He decided to apply and a new world opened up for him.

As a new Corpsmember, Isaac immediately felt like he found a second home; a family. Every supervisor, case manager and coordinator helped him with everything and anything he needed. This new family always emphasized the importance of building a good work ethic, being punctual and to follow through on every task.

In 2005, Isaac graduated from the LA Conservation Corps and joined the Cement Masons Union Local 600. As a Cement Mason, Isaac helped to build some of today's most recognizable Los Angeles landmarks, such as the Microsoft Theatre, JW Marriott Hotel, the Metro Gold Line, and USC's Galen Center.

However, after ten years of using his skills to build Los Angeles, Isaac decided it was time to give back to the Corps – an organization that helped him build up his confidence. So, in 2015, Isaac joined the Corps as a Supervisor at our East LA site.

In this role, Isaac not only imparts his extensive knowledge, but he also encourages Corpsmembers who are now where he once was. He reminds them that no matter how hard life can get, that they should never give up; they should keep pushing forward and keep their head high.
Valerie Salcedo

Prior to joining the LA Conservation Corps, Valerie was working at a local warehouse while also going through a home-study program. She tried to manage both, but it became too difficult. She eventually stopped working at the warehouse and was dropped from her home studies program. Just as she was ready to give up on the opportunity to get her high school diploma, she learned about the LA Conservation Corps. Hearing about the Corps’ offerings encouraged her because she realized she could fit both school and work into her schedule. Valerie is currently handling street maintenance for our South Park LA Clean Team. Reflecting on her time at the Corps, Valerie says that the most important thing she’s learned here is how to be responsible for herself and her actions. This wasn’t a skill that came easily before, but the Corps has taught her the value of being accountable. Valerie believes that this is one of the skills that is going to help her later in life. Being at the Corps has also opened Valerie’s eyes to a career in environmental science. She plans to attend college and pursue this area of study because of how important this issue is to the global community.
Starting in Fall 2014 through Summer 2015, The LA Conservation Corps worked with the National Forest Foundation and the United States Forest Service to eradicate invasive species, restore critical habitats and reduce hazardous fire fuel loads in targeted recreation and developed areas of the Big Tujunga Canyon, located in the Angeles National Forest, that were damaged in the 2009 Station Fire. This experience was invaluable to the Corpsmembers. Not only did they learn proper use of hand tools and power equipment, the importance of working within groups, and expand their geographical knowledge of the Los Angeles area, but they also removed over 7.2 acres of Spanish Broom along the Josephine Fire Road. As a result of this work, they reduced the risk of catastrophic fire and helped to improve the habitat within the watershed.
In the face of the historic four-year drought, municipalities are being encouraged by the State to reduce overall water consumption to avoid facing hefty fines. As a result, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield partnered with the LA Conservation Corps in April 2015 to convert Council District 3’s West Valley Municipal Center and West Valley Branch Library lawns – the highest water use item in the landscape – to a low-impact, low-water use landscape which is better suited to the natural conditions of the area. Our crews, comprised of Corpsmembers and technical supervisors, landscaped more than 24,500 square feet of turf, installed a new, highly-efficient drip and point irrigation system which allowed for a 70% reduction in water usage, created a permeable hardscape, and planted 1,800 drought-tolerant native plants.
Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2015

Revenue and Support
General Agencies & Contracts $17,830,493
Contributions - Private & Corporations $1,599,770
Program Fees $268,668
In-Kind Revenue $440,892
Contributions - Individuals $160,071
Other Income $77,317
Investment Income $83,962
Total Revenue & Support $20,461,173

Expenses
Program Services $16,611,045
General and Administrative $3,661,736
Fundraising $175,511
Total Expenses $20,448,292

Net Assets
Net Assets - Beginning of Fiscal Year $6,773,666
Change in Net Assets $12,881
Net Assets - End of Fiscal Year $6,786,547
Accomplishments

- 66,491 Feet of trails built and maintained
- 595 Teens and young adults received work experience and job training through LA Conservation Corps programs
- 277 Tons of beverage containers recycled
- 3,059 Trees planted
- 107 Seniors graduated
Donors

■ Trailblazer
  Annenberg Foundation
  Boeing
  Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

■ Park Builder
  AEG
  American Chemistry Council
  Bank of California
  Carl and Roberta Deutsch Foundation
  Glen Dale
  Renee Dale Wilson and Brian Wilson
  Heidi Schuman and Mickey Kantor
  Walter J. and Holly O. Thomson Foundation
  The Walt Disney Company

■ River Guardian
  Edison International
  George Haog Family Foundation
  Ralphs Grocery Co.
  Southern California Gas Company

■ Habitat Restorer
  CBRE Group, Inc
  Comcast NBCUniversal
  FedEx
  Harman Family Foundation
  JP Morgan Chase Foundation
  Mayer Brown LLP
  Media Rights Capital
  Shell Oil Company
  Sony Pictures Entertainment
  Union Bank Foundation
  Wells Fargo Bank
  William C. Bannerman Foundation

■ Garden Cultivator
  The Nature Conservancy
  Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
  Blue Shield of California
  BNSF Railway Company
  Chevron
  City of Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
  Carrie Estelle Dobhey Foundation
  Jason and Jenna Grosfeld
  Jacob & Valeria Langeloth Foundation
  Bruce Karatz Family Foundation
  LA Sanitation
  Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
  Mitsubishi Corporation (Americas)
  Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP
  Walter D. Renzi
  The Rose Hills Foundation
  Bruce Saito
  Swain Barber Foundation
  Temescal Canyon Association
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Green Wish
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Amanda and Martin Ibarra
Len Jacoby
Ron and May Kato
Kris Kellaway
John Ketcham
Kier Consulting
Andrea Klein
Judy and Daniel Knapp
Susan and Chris Koch
LA Urban Homes
Stuart Lafla
Mark and Liza Landrini
Adi Liberman
Little Tokyo Service Center
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust
Diane Luong
Jennifer M. Lynch
M Advisors, LLC
Natalie and Mike Mahdesian
Tracy Mallory
Antonio Manning
Mark & Carolyn Guidry Foundation
Mariborough School
Lindy McCullogh
Paul McLain-Lugowski
Mike Menas
Janice C. Mendel
J. Michael Mendez
Yasmin Mero-Corona
Millie Meyers
Mia Lebrent + Associates
Heather Muench
Dorsey Moore
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Trina Nguyen
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Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps
Salesforce.com Foundation
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Elizabeth Savage
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Laura and William Start
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SingerLewak LLP
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Gerald and Dr. Linda Stern
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SunEdison
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United Way of California
Urban Corps San Diego County
Da’Lana Walker
Ware Disposal Inc.
Dwight Washabaugh
Waste Management
Jodi and Ian Weinigarten
Laurie Becklund and Henry Weinstein
Roxanne Weiss
West Basin Municipal Water District
Kimberly and John Williams
Jaconeline Wilson
Suzanne Wilson
Anne Wysocki and Dennis Lynch
Wing Yi Yeo
YouthBuild Charter School of California
Christina Zilber

We apologize for any omissions. If you do not see your or your organization’s name listed above, please contact Tiffany Leung (tleung@lacorps.org) to have this corrected.
Thank you to all of our government partners who continue to support us and our mission!

| AmeriCorps | City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department |
| Baldwin Hills Conservancy | City of Norwalk |
| California Coastal Conservancy | City of Pasadena |
| California Conservation Corps | City of Rancho Palos Verdes |
| California Department of Fish and Wildlife | City of Redondo Beach |
| California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) | City of Torrance |
| California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) | Compton Unified School District |
| California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) | County of Los Angeles Beaches and Harbors |
| California Natural Resources Agency | County of Los Angeles District Attorney's Office |
| California State Parks | County of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation |
| Central Basin Municipal Water District | County of Los Angeles Regional Park and Open Space District |
| City of Artesia | County of Los Angeles Supervisor Don Knabe |
| City of Azusa | County of Los Angeles Supervisor Hilda Solis |
| City of Bellflower | County of Los Angeles Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas |
| City of Calabasas | County of Los Angeles Supervisor Mike Antonovich |
| City of Downey | County of Los Angeles Supervisor Sheila Kuehl |
| City of Inglewood | First 5 Los Angeles |
| City of LA General Services Department | LA Sanitation |
| City of La Habra Heights | Los Angeles Unified School District |
| City of La Puente | Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) |
| City of Los Angeles Attorney’s Office | Metropolitan Water District (MWD) |
| City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works Office of Community Beautification | Mountains Rivers and Conservation Authority (MRCA) |
| City of Los Angeles Council District 1 | National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) |
| City of Los Angeles Council District 13 | National Park Service |
| City of Los Angeles Council District 15 | Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) |
| City of Los Angeles Council District 3 | U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) |
| City of Los Angeles Council District 7 | U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development |
| City of Los Angeles Council Districts (all 15) | U.S. Department of Labor |
| City of Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Councils (DONE) | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power | U.S. Forest Service |
| City of Los Angeles Youth Opportunity Movement | West Basin Municipal Water District |
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We’re grateful for the service of these board members who left the board in fiscal year 2015:
Scott Budnick, Stuart Laff, Chris Modrzejewski, and Ari Swiller
Thank You

Help us to continue transforming young lives and enhancing the Los Angeles community by **investing in our mission** today. Your support will enable us to positively impact more young lives whose efforts leave behind a legacy that we can all enjoy.

LA CONSERVATION CORPS