LA CONSERVATION CORPS
Transforming Youth. Enhancing Communities.

2017–2018

Gratitude Report
Dear Friends of the Corps,

Thank you for being part of the Corps over the last year. The Corps is all of us—Corpsmembers, staff, and you! Everyone who has supported our work, attended an event, followed our social media, volunteered to speak to Corpsmembers, given a young person a job, sponsored a Corps project in their neighborhood, complimented a Corpsmember on a job well done, or spread the word about the work we do is part of the Corps.

The Corps is bigger than any one person or place. We hope that the stories we share with you here illustrate the breadth and the depth of the Corps’ impact on people and places throughout the greater Los Angeles area.

So many Corpsmembers have told us that one of the best things about being in the Corps is being part of something bigger than themselves. They are proud of the impact they are having on their communities. They are inspired by the work that their fellow Corpsmembers and supervisors are doing in other neighborhoods. They know that there are crews of young people just like them all over the region working just as hard as they are. That sense of belonging, of someone relying on them, of having people to trust and who trust them, and of responsibility may be the most powerful thing we—us and you—give to Corpsmembers.

You are part of the Corps. You, too, are part of something bigger. Your impact is spreading farther than you may have imagined. The self-esteem and feeling of power that comes from being part of the Corps is contagious. Together we can spread that message to more and more people who need to be part of something bigger...something that is changing lives.

Thank you for stepping up to be a part of the Corps. We know you are up to the challenge!

Sincerely,

Wendy Butts
CEO

Bryan LeRoy
Board Director
We would like to thank Micah Ali, Jimmie Cho, and Gary Dunn who retired from the LA Conservation Corps Board as of June 30, 2018. We are grateful for their years of service to the Corps.
Alumni Spotlight

Corpsmember alum Adam Guerra activated this network when he signed up for a 6-month internship with the Los Angeles State Historic State Park at the end of 2017. The Park has been offering internships to experienced Corpsmembers for several years. During Adam’s internship he gained hands on experience in planting and cultivation, park management, greenhouse and building maintenance, tree care, and structure defensible space. He was also introduced to the larger California State Parks system and the career opportunities now open to him.

During his time with LASHP, Adam decided that he was ready to commit to a career as an Arborist. He tapped into the Corps network again when he accepted a position with North East Trees, a longtime friend and partner of the Corps, as a Tree Planting Supervisor. He is studying to take the ISA Certified Arborist exam, and he feels strongly that his internship was instrumental in his development as a confident and professional leader.

When a young person joins the Corps looking for a job and some support on their professional and educational path, they may not realize the network of partners, agencies, and opportunities they are joining.
AmeriCorps Education Awardees

223 Clean & Green Corpsmembers

415 Young Adult Corpsmembers

232,875 hours of job training and work experience

96% of Corpsmembers who complete the program find jobs when they leave

4,800 trees planted = taking 576,000 cars off the road

10 football fields of fire fuel cleared from the urban-wildlife interface

Provided $122,000 in financial assistance to Corpsmembers in need

209 Vocational training certifications

49,000 Illegally dumped bulky items collected

34 Russell Kantor Next Steps Fund Awardees

64 AmeriCorps Education Awardees
For almost 20 years, the Corps has been a proud participant in the YouthBuild USA program. With funding from the US Department of Labor, our YouthBuild USA partnership allows the Corps to offer program participants hands-on work experience on an actual construction site and classroom training in industry-recognized MC3 or NCCER curricula.

The redevelopment boom in metro Los Angeles, particularly Downtown, and the continuing nationwide need for entry-level, single-family homes mean that there are lots of jobs for qualified workers. There is also a need to empower young women by providing pathways to non-traditional employment in construction and manufacturing. YouthBuild helps to remove those barriers.

YouthBuild provides opportunities for success to underprepared young adults while helping to create more affordable housing in the community. Because YouthBuild is a recognized pre-apprenticeship program, program graduates can join the trades through apprenticeships offered by unions and enter the workforce at a higher level. Through a partnership with AmeriCorps, YouthBuild program graduates perform additional hours of community service and earn a Segal Education Award for vocational training or college.

In 2018, the Corps’ YouthBuild crew helped to complete San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity’s Desiderio Homes below the Colorado Street Bridge in Pasadena, which welcomed nine happy veterans’ families this past summer. Over three years, trainees learned job skills in the construction and finishing of these Craftsman-style homes. Trainees also applied their knowledge by leading teams of volunteers organized by Habitat for Humanity. In addition to helping individuals achieve self-sufficiency, YouthBuild benefits the community by increasing affordable housing stock for people who need it the most. The next construction site is the Lomita Homes project in Glendale. These townhouse-style homes will afford new learning opportunities for eager trainees.
As part of the LA Conservation Corps’ commitment to education, its After School Program (ASP) has impacted generations of children’s lives since 1999. The program serves 13 local middle and four elementary schools with extended day academic enrichment and recreational activities after school until 6pm, helping to meet the needs of students, parents/guardians, schools and communities. Each day, the team of educators serves over 2,500 children throughout diverse communities in LA.

The ASP’s mission to extend the school day in fun and exciting ways helps to cultivate critical thinking in young minds and is accomplished through visual arts programs, music activities, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) learning experiences, performing and visual arts, eSport videogaming, Reader’s Theater, indoor and outdoor sports, math with LEGO’s, field trips and much more. Students benefit from ASP’s safe and worry-free environment, in addition to student-inspired enrichment activities, tutoring and mentoring services at their schools. Program participation is free to families, thanks to ongoing funding from the California Department of Education and the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Students engage in activities that boost their love of learning, as well as provide physical education and recreation. They participate in activities that help them learn through teamwork, build social skills, enhance their self-awareness and self-management, make responsible decisions, build healthy relationships, share their talents, plus become more well-rounded, confident and self-expressive.

Over 150 ASP educators attend in-depth orientation sessions, ongoing skill building programming, and interactive boot camp trainings to be ready for each school year. Staff weave into their daily activity plans the principles of active, collaborative and meaningful learning to enhance their students’ mastery of learning with the goal to help expand the horizons of each child enrolled. In all, they provide over 180 hours of academic assistance to students and more than 360 hours of enrichment that connects academic learning and club activity in creative, innovative and fun ways.
The Corps is a part of several different neighborhoods around Los Angeles County. Some we are just getting to know, and others we have been a part of for many years. Neighborhoods, like people, grow and change, and this year the Corps made a change to better serve all of the communities we work in.

In 2018, the Corps undertook a major renovation to its building in Northeast Los Angeles, near Chinatown and across the street from the LA State Historic Park. With updates to the interior spaces, the Corps was able to move all of its administrative staff out of an office downtown and into this site to work shoulder to shoulder with the hard working staff running our Clean & Green Program and some of our Corpsmember Development case managers among many others.

The renovation efforts received major funding from the offices of LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis and LA City Councilman Gil Cedillo. Longtime friend of the Corps, Renee Dake-Wilson and Dake Wilson Architects, provided the design. Margaux Rotter of BLVD Companies provided stellar project management, and TELACU Construction brought everything to life.

To celebrate the big move and renovation, the Corps threw an open house and dedication for partners, community members, and friends in September. The space was dedicated to our longest-serving and Founding Board Member, the late John Van de Kamp. Mr. Van de Kamp is remembered as a quiet but distinct and dedicated presence, but also a towering political giant. He had a storied career in public service, serving as public defender in Los Angeles, then as LA County District Attorney, followed by a six-year term as California Attorney General.

“We’re so proud to honor John Van de Kamp with our new building. It really did take a village to complete the project,” expressed CEO Wendy Butts. Mr. Van de Kamp’s widow Andrea and daughter Diana Van de Kamp attended the dedication event, joined by LA Corps Founder Mickey Kantor who remembered his friend and the vision they shared for the Corps.

The building features bright new colors, eco-friendly interior design, as well as large colorful portraits of Corpsmembers on each floor. Alumni Corpsmember Irvin Centeno, who used his Russell Kantor Next Steps Award to open his own small business, hand painted room signage, adding a personal touch to the space makeover. The Corps believes that the upgrade of its headquarters, which stands across the street from LA’s State Historic Park in Chinatown, is an added bonus to the neighborhood and can help attract future developments to come.
The LA Corps continues to be known for its hands-on training, ability to build strong, confident and cohesive teams, and the countless opportunities its staff and funders help provide so that Corpsmembers can gain marketable knowledge and skills to secure promising career pathways to success.

Since 2005, the Corps has been one of a handful of organizations nationwide that are awarded competitive funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency to train low-income, underemployed and unemployed adults in environmental remediation, better known as Brownfields clean-up. To date, the Corps has graduated more than 500 Brownfields Program trainees from this Environmental Workforce Job Development Training.

Through this program, which is offered four times a year, trainees spend 6 weeks in lectures and interactive classes focused on environmental remediation, hazmat, lead renovation and repair, mold remediation, OSHA, CPR/first aid, asbestos abatement, refinery education and other useful skills.

The Corps has collaborated with organizations like Canoga Park-South Valley WorkSource Center, Heat & Frost Insulators Local 5 Joint Apprenticeship Trust, GRID Alternatives and IQ Personnel to place program graduates in jobs after the program.

“As a Corpsmember, I always try to thrive and learn anything that can increase my job skills...knowledge is power, and it is a great asset to make us better people and have better futures. During the Brownfields training, we learned about the removal of hazardous materials and safety practices when doing the job to protect ourselves and others. The experience was great, especially when doing hands-on training, which was my favorite. I’m looking forward to a long-time career as a heat and frost installer,” described Corpsmember Esteban.
After spending a few years taking on new work projects in the San Fernando Valley and building new partnerships, the Corps officially set up shop in the Tujunga-Sunland area in June 2017 and in Reseda in July 2018.

With office space generously donated by LA City Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez and Councilman Bob Blumenfeld, respectively, we are able to offer the full Corps experience to new communities of young people who were previously unable to join due to geography and transportation challenges.

Over the past year and a half, several dozen young men and women from the neighborhoods around these offices have enrolled in the Corps. They have done an extensive amount of urban greening, community beautification, and some fire cleanup work in the neighborhoods where they live. Local partners like Youth Policy Institute and Alliance for Community Empowerment are referring young people in their alternative schools who are looking for meaningful work to the Corps.

Over the past year, the Corps has also been laying the groundwork for two exciting new projects that will be run out of our Valley sites. The first is a food waste recovery program in cooperation with nonprofit partner MEND—Meet Each Need with Dignity—and funded by the state’s CalRecycle program. Corpsmembers will be helping to deliver food from grocery stores, restaurants, and other venues to MEND’s network of food banks and shelters or to an anaerobic digester. This prevents good food from ending up in landfills. Additional support is being provided by SoCalGas.

The second is the Corps’ participation in the Green Together Collaborative, a group of nonprofit and city partners who have received $23 million from the California Strategic Growth Council’s Transformative Climate Communities Program. This grant will fund multi-benefit green infrastructure projects in Pacoima like parks and greening urban spaces to protect the community from heat and flooding, while also funding projects that improve clean transportation options and provide renewable energy sources. The Green Together project also will also focus on workforce development and land-use policies to mitigate against displacement of low income families.
## Year Ended June 30, 2018

### Statement of Activities

#### Revenue and Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Agencies &amp; Contracts</td>
<td>$18,253,787</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions - Private</td>
<td>$891,345</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions - Corporate</td>
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<td>Program Fees</td>
<td>$167,530</td>
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<td>In-Kind Revenue</td>
<td>$660,407</td>
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<td>Contributions - Individuals</td>
<td>$46,723</td>
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<td>Special Events Revenue</td>
<td>$430,551</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income (loss)</td>
<td>($62,747)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue &amp; Support</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,158,836</strong></td>
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#### Expenses

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$17,178,158</td>
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<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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#### Net Assets

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Net Assets - Beginning of Fiscal Year</td>
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<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>$549,551</td>
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<td>Net Assets - End of Fiscal Year</td>
<td>$7,489,573</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thank you to all of the individuals, corporations, foundations, and government partners who supported Corpsmembers and our mission between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. This list includes gifts and grants to our programs and general operations. Your generosity helps make our work possible.

### Corporations
- AES Redondo Beach
- AmazonSmile Foundation
- BLVD Companies
- The Boeing Company
- California Resources Corporation
- Citibank, N.A.
- City National Bank
- Dake Wilson Architects
- Edison International
- FedEx Corporation
- Grow More, Inc.
- HCVT
- Los Angeles Rams
- Los Angeles World Airports
- Mission Math
- Mitsui & Co. (USA)
- Norbachi
- NRG El Segundo Operations Inc.
- Pacific Western Bank
- PaintNite
- Preservation Services LLC
- RB Vasquez and Associates Inc.
- REI
- Sony Pictures Entertainment
- SoCalGas
- STERLING FOODS, INC.
- Torrance Refining Company LLC
- Union Bank Foundation
- The Walt Disney Company
- Wells Fargo Bank
- Whole Foods Market

### Government Agencies
- Cal Recycle
- Caltrans
- City of Los Angeles City Council
- City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
- City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
- City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department
- LA Sanitation
- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
- Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services
- Los Angeles County Probation Department
- Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District
- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Forest Foundation
- National Park Service
- West Basin Municipal Water District

### Foundations & Community Organizations
- Annenberg Foundation
- California Community Foundation
- Dwight Stuart Youth Fund
- Entertainment Industry Foundation
- The Green Foundation
- Goodwin Family Memorial Trust
- Kaiser Foundation Hospitals
- Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation
- Liberty Hill Foundation
- Mark & Carolyn Guidry Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy
- National Foundation for Affordable Housing Solutions, Inc.
- The Robert Sprague Foundation
- Rotary LA
- Roy E. Crummer Foundation
- The Schwartz Rosman Foundation
- Shapiro Family Charitable Foundation
- Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
- Swain Barber Foundation
- United Way of California
- Walter J. and Holly O. Thomson Foundation
- Weingart Foundation

### Individuals
- Anonymous
- Rachel Alor
- Yolanda Arias-Ciaproni
- Edward J. Avila
- David Bernstein
- Paul Blodgett
- Clinton Boman
- Wendy & Steve Butts
- Daniel A. Cantor
- Jimmie Cho
- Teresa Cisneros Burton & Sean Burton
- Ann Dalkey
- Laura Darlington
- Rhonda & Farzad Dibachi
- Martha Diepenbrock
- Janet Dreisen Rappaport
- Marilee Eckert
- Patricia Eisenhauer
- Thomas Eisenhauer
- Anne Freiermuth & Christopher Gibson
- Mark Friedman
- Kathryn Fuller
- Stephen Goldberg
- Risa Green
- Cynthia Hubach
- Lisa Ingalls
- Lois Kelley
- Shannon Kicullen
- Sherry Lansing
- Maria Madrigal
- Michaela Marraffino
- Elisa McGhee
- Michelle Meghrouni
- Mike Mena
- Chris Modrzejewski
- Lindley Montoya
- Triha Muse
- Kate Oddo
- Neena Packing
- Adam Perry
- Rosa Santana
- Anne Silva
- Richard V. Simun Family
- Christopher Sisto
- Marna Smeltzer
- Stan Stahl
- Daniel Ueno
- Joe Viola
- Andrew Vogel
- Lloyd Wright
- Jonathan Zeichner
Thank you to everyone who joined us in May at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion to celebrate the amazing accomplishments of our Corpsmembers at our 2018 Spring Luncheon.

We are very grateful to everyone who has supported the 2018 Spring Luncheon Celebration. This list was updated as of April 12, 2018. We apologize for any omissions.
YOU CAN BE PART OF SOMETHING **bigger**.

Be a part of the Corps everyday by sharing our stories, supporting a Corpsmember’s journey, or joining in our efforts to transform youth and enhance communities. We are all the Corps and we are making a difference.

*Thank you!*