



Resources restored. Lives changed.

***"I feel as if I have been placed in the correct place in this world and I owe this to you.
You have no idea how much you changed my life."*** — La Vang, 2011 Youth Outdoors

Dear friends and alumni:

These words from a teenager in one of our youth programs echo what we hear countless times every year from participants in all our programs for young people. It reflects the way we fulfill our mission to **restore resources and change lives.**

Despite a challenging year in 2011, we carried out this mission with more than 500 program participants, up from 400 the previous year. Our biggest regret is that we could not hire the additional 1,800 applicants who we did not have the capacity to accommodate. During these times of record unemployment for the age groups we serve, it would make sense to expand programs like ours that offer work, education, skills training and personal development to young people, all in service of restoring our valued natural resources.

Unfortunately, though we were able to expand programs last year, upcoming funding cuts mean that we face the prospect of cutting programs. In 2011, the state legislature drastically reduced both general and Legacy funding for the Corps. By next year, almost half of our state general funds will be eliminated. **We need your help now more than ever.**

We met the challenges of 2011, including a state shutdown that temporarily suspended many of our programs and a devastating wind storm that left our Summer Youth Corps base camp uninhabitable, by maintaining the indomitable spirit of our predecessors in the Civilian Conservation Corps, whose motto was: **We Can Take It!** And we feel certain that with your help we can continue to offer – and expand – opportunities for youth and young adults.

Please partner with us in truly changing lives. Make a generous contribution to Conservation Corps today by donating online at conservationcorps.org or using the enclosed envelope. Know that you have made a real difference in the lives of young people and in the quality of our natural resources.

Thank you for your past and ongoing support!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Len Price".

Len Price, Executive Director

p.s. **Change even more lives by increasing your donation,** or contributing through an employer-sponsored program if you have one available. Thank you!

conservationcorps.org

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