CORPSRESPONDENCE

SUMMER 2020



In response to COVID-19 and the ensuing shelter-in-place orders, CCNB leadership leapt into action to do as much as possible to keep the organization stable. Because of the staff's hard work and the support of our generous community and partners, CCNB has been able to stay agile to take on new jobs, provide food and other resources to our corpsmembers, and remain flexible as the needs of our communities continue to change.

We have had limited work available for our corpsmembers. As of printing, about 80% of our corpsmembers are back to work. Our crews are servicing some waste collection routes in parks that are still open, picking up illegally dumped tires when the community calls in, and working in distribution at community food pantries in Marin. Crews are also doing essential fire fuel reduction as we head toward the summer and expect work to pick up in June when we already have work scheduled all over the North Bay. The corpsmembers pictured here are practicing social distancing while doing fire fuel reduction work with our longtime partners at the Sonoma Resource Conservation District.

CORPSRESPONDENCE

THE PEOPLE MAKE THE PLACE

Jordan Mimms first heard about CCNB from a neighbor in his apartment complex. In March 2019, he joined one of our Natural Resources crews. In his six months on the crew, he tackled all types of projects from building trails to reducing fire fuels. His favorite projects were building stairs on trails and cutting brush, where he finds the "before" and "after" pictures are especially satisfying proof of everyone's hard work.

In September, Jordan joined the Marin Zero Waste crew. He especially enjoys going out on routes to our gorgeous sites such as Angel Island, Stinson Beach, and Monte Rio to collect beverage containers for recycling. Jordan says his favorite part about working here is getting to work with the people at CCNB, both staff and corpsmembers. He says, "There's no favoritism or hierarchies... everyone gets along with everyone."

At past warehouse jobs, he could go an entire shift without talking to a coworker, which drained his spirit. Here at CCNB, he is recognized by his peers for his natural leadership and positive attitude as he continues to grow.



Everyone recognizes Jordan's infectious smile immediately upon meeting him. His supervisor says, "Jordan is always offering practical and logical ideas for projects, making jobs easier, safer, and more enjoyable for our crews." Jordan hopes to take these skills and personality traits into the field of plumbing and explore apprenticeships after he completes our program.

GIVING BACK WHILE WORKING HARD



We are contracting through the County of Marin to assist in food distribution with community partners to package and distribute food to residents. Corpsmembers have been onsite at emergency food pantries working with our partners at Canal Alliance and the Marin Community Clinics, distributing 400-500 bags of food a day in a span of less than two hours. Not only are our corpsmembers thankful to have work, but they get to work in their very own communities; they get to see firsthand all of the appreciation from the partners and people who come to receive food. "Thank you so much for being here," is a quote we hear a lot.

We are also working to help our corpsmembers who are ineligible for unemployment benefits because they participate in a job training program. Many of them are providing for families in addition to themselves, so CCNB staff have ramped up our provision of resources. Our staff has doubled the amount of food we get from local food banks for our corpsmembers, and, thanks to donor support, we are able to provide food, medicine, diapers, cleaning supplies, and water.

These efforts to help our corpsmembers have been radically amplified by the support of our community. Redwood Credit Union, Sonoma County Vintners Foundation, and the San Francisco Foundation have generously contributed to our fight to provide for our corpsmembers' needs; an outpouring of individual donations have made it possible for our team to make constant trips to the supermarkets to purchase the supplies our young people need.

GREEN NOTES:

We are all struggling to keep our ecological footprint as small as possible while recognizing we will all create a lot more waste during the time of COVID-19. We have a tip that will save you a few paper and plastic bags every week: after purchasing your goods, simply put them back in the cart or basket. When you get to your car (or whatever your mode of transportation is) you can move the items from the cart into your personal bags, which you can keep safely germ-free in your own car. Your purchases will touch no more or less than if you had used the provided disposable bags!

SUMMER 2020

New Projects and Skills

For six months now, corpsmembers have been hard at work beautifying and upgrading all three of our office locations. Our Operations Coordinator has led two separate crews into work, one from each county. The crews have been able to work at all three locations, meeting even more of the staff members and working with industry experts from all over the North Bay.

Not only does the work update our facilities and make them more energy-efficient, eco-friendly, and aesthetically pleasing, it teaches our corpsmembers new marketable skills that they can carry into future careers. We are so grateful to the Tipping Point Community Emergency Relief Fund for making this project possible.

With this funding, we are able to do critical capital improvement work while serving our corpsmembers in innovative new ways. The projects include everything from painting walls and replacing ceiling tiles indoors to building a swale and drought-resistant front yard outside our Novato office. The landscaping includes a rubber footpath made of recycled tires and surrounded by native plants.

Other projects include replacing roofing, upgrading our alarm systems, and installing solar power. Wherever possible, we bring in local companies who are able and willing to teach our corpsmembers tricks of the trade usually our staff members learn a thing or two, too!

Most importantly, we want our corpsmembers to really have a stake in CCNB. Their hard work is what is improving our facilities and making the spaces easier and more enjoyable to use for everyone.

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR OUTCOMES

CORPSMEMBERS CONTINUING IN WORK OR EDUCATION AFTER LEAVING THE PROGRAM



WAGES AFTER JOB PLACEMENT

> Average wage: \$17.09 an hour 46% earn more than \$17 an hour







DID YOU KNOW?

In 2019, our crews planted over 6700 new plants all over the North Bay!



What Your Donation Provides:

\$25

HEALTHY SNACKS FOR A CREW FOR A WEEK A Month's Supply of Diapers **\$100** Protective Gear for One Corpsmember



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Авоит ССМВ

Since our inception in 1982, CCNB has helped thousands of young people break the cycle of poverty while serving our environment and communities. We provide year-round job training and education services to over 200 corpsmembers every year.

Our programs prepare young people from all corners of the North Bay to become environmental leaders, to develop an ethic of service and to enter the workforce with useful skills.

CCNB corpsmembers have performed nearly three million hours of work on 150,000 acres of public lands. If you haven't seen them throughout the region doing their work, you've seen the results of their labor in pristine trails, clear rivers and streams, reduced flooding, fewer wildfires, and a reduced carbon footprint.

Thanks to the support of our community, we give young people the tools they need to build a path to a better future.

CCNorthBay.org

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