

THREE YEARS OF RECOVERY

CCNB crews have made a significant impact on the North Bay in the wake of the 2017 wildfires, starting with supporting erosion control and replanting native plants in the charred lands near Glen Ellen. The increase in concern and knowledge around wildfire prevention has fostered partnerships between public agencies and other organizations like Conservation Corps North Bay. Our crews have been hard at work in the lands impacted by the Tubbs Fire since the first months of recovery and have cut back hundreds of acres of grasses and woody plants a year, mitigating potential fuel for wildfires.

One of CCNB's longest-standing projects is with the Sonoma Resource Conservation District. Nearly a year ago, a day before the Tubbs Fire's second anniversary, crews began work on the slopes along Mark West Creek, just north of Santa Rosa. Corpsmembers have been eradicating standing fuel in a high-risk fire area and improving the forest's health by culling smaller trees and shrubs. Work with Sonoma RCD has allowed our crews to gain new environmental conservation knowledge while also getting hands-on experience with new skills.

This winter, corpsmembers improved their chainsaw skills working in the Mark West Spring headwaters. One of the biggest projects is cutting down smaller trees and making piles of wood to burn during wetter months. Corpsmembers learn best practices in the forestry and conservation industries and how to safely measure, cut, and fell dead, sick, and small trees and remove offshoots from healthy trees.

The work is far from complete but we are so glad our crews can be a part of rebuilding a healthy and resilient landscape in their own community.



IMPROVEMENTS FOR OUR FUTURE

CCNB has three job training and education facilities in Marin and Sonoma Counties—our San Rafael, Novato, and Cotati locations are the heart of our youth development programming and environmental community services. CCNB's buildings were constructed in 1974, 1983, and 2003 respectively and were in need of critical upgrades. The roof on Novato job training facility had deteriorated and leaked during heavy rains, and the flooring was worn and in need of repair. In addition, the San Rafael and Cotati buildings needed energy retrofits to improve efficiency and ensure a comfortable environment for both corpsmembers and staff.

With the help of our donors, CCNB launched a campaign to complete much-needed building renovations and improvements at our job training facilities by the end of this year. So far we have installed drought-resistant landscaping and a new roof made of recycled tire material in Novato, reconfigured the San Rafael parking lot with new fencing and gates, and added solar panels in San Rafael and Cotati while upgrading HVAC, security, lighting, electric systems, and interior paint at all three locations. Wherever possible, corpsmembers gained valuable hands-on training by working alongside contractors and CCNB staff. Work will resume in late fall with projects including kitchen and bath renovations, upgraded corpsmember lockers, and the installation of water filling stations.



From a logistical standpoint, CCNB has learned to be flexible while working with contractors in the midst of a pandemic. With most staff working remotely due to COVID-19, there was limited disruption to business operations while the Novato roof project was underway. From a programmatic standpoint, the CCNB team has learned to be creative in finding hands-on learning opportunities for our corpsmembers. While some regular work projects were suspended with the shelter-in-place orders, some corpsmembers were redeployed to help with lighting and electrical projects that needed completing while the roof was under construction.

“CCNB has helped me a lot while growing as a person and with the help of them, I am thankful for the opportunities that have been given to me.”

~ Corpsmember Fabian T.

Completing these important improvements will enable CCNB to invest money that would have been spent on high utility bills and ongoing repairs and maintenance into direct services for low-income young people who are working to better their lives. New solar panels will enable CCNB to generate its own electricity without emissions and are expected to nearly “zero out” CCNB’s annual energy bill. The new smart thermostats automatically adjust building temperatures to save on heating and cooling. Lighting has been converted to efficient LEDs, and new drought-resistant landscaping is already reducing our water usage. We cannot wait to welcome you to our improved office spaces as soon as it is safe to do so!

AWARD-WINNING SERVICES



**2020 WINNER OF THE OUTSTANDING
ELECTRONIC RECYCLING AWARD**

CCNB and Zero Waste Sonoma are the joint recipients of the 2020 California Resource Recovery Association's Outstanding Electronic Recycling Award!

This partnership has been providing electronics recycling to Sonoma County residents for free for over four years. Events are held monthly all over Sonoma County to ensure equal access for all residents.

Event attendees can opt to donate functioning electronics to their lower-income neighbors instead of recycling them prematurely. All collected items are recycled responsibly in California with an E-Steward and R2 Certified E-waste Recycler partner. Zero Waste Sonoma provides the funding for event spaces and advertising leading up to events while CCNB provides the people-power to staff the events and manage the E-waste.

In total, this partnership has kept 1,114,847 pounds of E-waste out of the landfill and served a total of 14,114 Sonoma County residents and we are excited to improve on those numbers!



CONSIDER LEAVING A LEGACY

"I believe strongly in CCNB's job training, Natural Resources, and Zero Waste programs and take comfort in knowing that our investment will continue for years to come."

- Board Chair Michael Glass

To learn more, call our Director of Development and Communications: (415) 763-3105

DID YOU KNOW?

The federal CARES Act allows you to deduct up to \$300 in charitable contributions.

Charitable donations (up to \$300) made between Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2020 to qualifying nonprofits may be deducted from taxable income without the need to itemize the deduction.



CONSERVATION CORPS NORTH BAY

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ABOUT CCNB

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 working throughout the region, you certainly have 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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