

LA Conservation Corps Selected as Citi Foundation Youth Workforce Fund Grantee to Boost Access to Jobs Among Youth in LA

\$4 million Fund to Support Youth Employment Organizations Across 15 U.S. Cities

LOS ANGELES, CA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, November 8, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- -- The Citi Foundation recently announced that the [LA Conservation Corps](#) has been awarded a grant from the 2017 Youth Workforce Fund, as part of its Pathways to Progress initiative to provide youth both in the U.S. and around the world with the training and access to jobs, including paid apprenticeships and internships.

In partnership with America's Promise Alliance, 15 nonprofit organizations across the U.S. will expand their programming to provide a range of employment opportunities in areas including environmental sustainability to robotics and culinary arts to coding. Collectively, the Youth Workforce Fund is expected to reach more than 5,000 youth across the country.



The Corps will receive a grant of \$250,000 to help young people receive paid work experience, specialized job skills training, and industry-recognized certifications. “This grant gives us the opportunity to connect our young people to 21st Century careers,” said Wendy Butts, Chief Executive Officer of the LA Conservation Corps. “First-hand, real-world job training and experience in Los Angeles’ high-demand jobs with an environmental focus will have a significant impact on the lives of our [Corpsmembers](#) and contribute to the vitality of our city and its economy.”

“Los Angeles has created more green jobs than any city in America because we believe economic prosperity and environmental stewardship go hand in hand,” said Mayor Eric Garcetti. “This new grant will attract young, low-income Angelenos to environmental careers and help our City reach our goal of creating more than 72,000 green jobs by 2025.”

Access to apprenticeships, internships and vocational training is essential to empowering youth and preparing them to compete in today’s economy. According to the Citi Foundation’s Global Youth Survey 2017: Economic Prospects & Expectations, 78% of young people surveyed believe that internships and apprenticeships are critical for career success; however, 60% say there aren’t enough of these opportunities.

“While there is much focus on the skills mismatch among today’s youth and the jobs available, there are a lot of community organizations across the U.S. that are changing the dynamics around youth employment in their communities,” said Brandee McHale, president of the Citi Foundation. “Through the Youth Workforce Fund, we’re supporting those organizations that are expanding the skills of

young people, building their networks, and connecting them to jobs.”

America’s Promise Alliance, the largest coalition of youth-serving organizations across the United States, will help us promote the adoption of new ideas that arise from Youth Workforce Fund programming. “We know that for many youth there is not one straight line to success and that the more opportunities young people have to work in real-world environments, the better chance they have for future economic mobility and success” added John Gomperts, President & CEO of America’s Promise Alliance. “The programs supported by the Youth Workforce Fund reflect different pathways into the workforce that are essential for helping more young people beat the odds.”

About LA Conservation Corps

About the LA Conservation Corps

The LA Conservation Corps is an environmentally-focused youth development organization. We transform the lives of youth from disadvantaged communities through work and education. Work projects improve the quality of life for our communities and protect the environment for future generations.

About the Citi Foundation

The Citi Foundation works to promote economic progress and improve the lives of people in low-income communities around the world. We invest in efforts that increase financial inclusion, catalyze job opportunities for youth, and reimagine approaches to building economically vibrant cities. The Citi Foundation’s “More than Philanthropy” approach leverages the enormous expertise of Citi and its people to fulfill our mission and drive thought leadership and innovation. For more information, visit www.citifoundation.com.

About America’s Promise Alliance

America’s Promise Alliance leads an alliance of organizations, communities and individuals dedicated to making the promise of America real for every child. As its signature effort, the GradNation campaign mobilizes Americans to increase the on-time high school graduation rate to 90 percent by 2020 and prepare young people for postsecondary enrollment and the 21st century workforce. For more information, visit www.americaspromise.org.

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