YOUTH GREEN CORPS

Presented by

Chukundi Salisbury
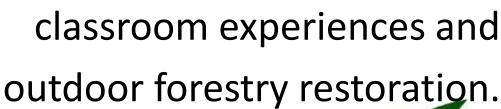
YOUTH GREEN CORPS

Chukundi Salisbury—Program Coordinator 684-4122—trails@seattle.gov

WHAT IS THE YOUTH GREEN CORPS?

The **YOUTH GREEN CORPS (YGC)** is a partnership between Seattle Parks and Recreation and Seattle Goodwill that educates and trains young adults (18-24) through a mix of classroom experiences and outdoor forestry restoration.

WHAT IS THE YGC?

A 9-Month program that consists of 11 Corps Members. Members split time between Goodwill, Forest Restoration and Trail work in Seattle Parks for educational and career training. Participants are ages 18-24 and receive a $1,200 per month stipend.

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SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION

Goodwill Because jobs change lives

Why Seattle Parks?

In an effort to address youth employment and
create a pathway into green jobs, Parks teaches site
management, restoration skills and management, tool
safety, native plant species, invasive plant identification, and
environmental stewardship to the participants in the Youth
Green Corps while working in Seattle Parks.

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Why Seattle Goodwill?

- Goodwill offers training and classes such as GED preparation, basic computer skills, reading and writing, and/or ESOL. Goodwill also offers classes to customize soft skills, review basic career skills, and job search classes.

- In the final session of the program, participants will participate in the Community College 101 class where up to the first 2 Quarters of Community College will be paid for.

Why YGC?

Parks and Goodwill have been running summer high school programs that focus on training and forest restoration for the past 3 years.

The Youth Green Corps is the next step and continuation of those efforts for those over 18.

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HOW?
Typical Weekly Schedule

MONDAY:

7:30AM to 1:30PM – Classroom (GED Prep)

TUESDAY-THURSDAY:

7:30AM to 12:30PM – Service in Parks

1:00PM to 4:00PM – Classroom

FRIDAY (some SATURDAY'S)

7:30AM – 4:00PM – Service in Parks

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Youth Green Corps at Cheasty Greenbelt with Parks Superintendent **Christopher Williams** and Goodwill Seattle CEO **Ken Colling**.

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Youth Green Corps at Cheasty Greenbelt to remove Invasive Species (Blackberry) and restore the area with Native Species (Ferns, Oregon Grape) as part of the Green Seattle Partnership's plan for the area.

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Youth Green Corps Trails Project at the Mountain View area of the Cheasty Greenbelt.

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How do we Pay for the YGC?

The stipends for the YGC are funded through the CIP in the Urban Forestry Unit, specifically the Trails Program and the Green Seattle Partnership.

Traditionally contractors and/or other Corps are used to complete this work. With the creation of the Youth Green Corps we are able to better leverage these dollars in the community.

Goodwill is contributing the classroom components, case management, trainings, and administrative overhead of the program.

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Measures / Outcomes?

PARKS

- The number of acres of forest restored
- The distance of trails maintained and/or built
- Hours of service for crew
- Hours of service for volunteers led by the crew

GOODWILL

- Completion of Individual Goals (i.e. GED, ESL)
- Enrollment in Community College
- Job placement
- Number of students who complete the program

Each Partner will measure the success of the YGC in different ways

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Next Steps

2012/13 Funding

- The current funding of the program restricts the work the corps can engage in to Urban Forestry and Trails.
- Expand funding from other areas in Parks and City to expand crew and areas of work.

Curriculum (Goodwill)

- The current program integrates into the existing classes and curriculum at Goodwill. Next year the program will have a dedicated instructor to provide even greater customized training.

Partnerships

- We are working with agencies such as the Forest Service and Park Service to create pathways from this program into careers.

Revenue

- Following the lead of other Corps such as CITY YEAR we are looking
- into sponsorships and other ways to generate revenue through this program.

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MORE INFO

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