

New Jersey Youth Corps of Phillipsburg



About the program:

The New Jersey Youth Corps of Phillipsburg is Warren County's only full-time service and conservation corps. Founded in May of 1998, we provide municipal support to the Town of Phillipsburg & Warren County providing hundreds of youth the opportunity to earn their High School Equivalency (HSE) while providing valuable services to their community. Funded through the [New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development](#), the Youth Corps is a 'second-chance' program for young adults aged 16-25 that did not complete high school. Through a balance of academics and Service Learning, we provide the foundation upon which to build a brighter future.



Over the years, we have put our Corpsmembers in service opportunities with an educational component. Environmentally themed service projects have predominated. It has led us to develop partnerships with the Warren County Dept. of Land Preservation ([landscaping & Trail construction/maintenance](#)) and the NJ Audubon ([ecological/habitat restorations](#)) – the latter of which is bolstered by a [credentialed training program](#) providing introductory lessons on habitat restoration and worksite safety instruction. We've even delved into the realm of Historic Preservation, being [recognized nationally](#) for our efforts restoring the Park HQ Porch at Gateway National Recreation Area's Sandy Hook Unit!

We engage in these projects so that Corpsmembers can feel a sense of personal and civic pride but also to demonstrate the metaphoric aspect of the work; that bad practices can be corrected and damage can be undone. The work also demonstrates that these processes take time. Much like the changes our Corpsmembers must make in their lives, the impact of their experience – and the resultant effects of their work -cannot be overstated. As a member Corps in [the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps \(21CSC\)](#) and with the support of [the Corps Network](#), we hope to provide pathways to careers in the environmental field, building on a foundation of education and service - toward a lifetime of sustainability.

Some of our partner programs:



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Strengthening America through
service and conservation



Program Statistics:

- Enroll 50 'at-risk' youth annually
- 85% successfully complete program
- 90% of completers obtain at least 1 form of Positive Outcome (*HS Diploma, Employment, OJT, etc.*)
- Program Participants collectively provide over 7,000 hours of service valued at over \$180,000 annually.
- Corpsmembers also receive personal and career counseling while enrolled.

Impact on Participants:

This experience was amazing. All of the staff has an amazing heart and will help you the best that they can. I have met amazing people and worked in places I never thought I would be. This is the best place for people who need a second chance at making the most of their future."

Danielle Rosario



My experience here at Youth Corps was awesome! I had a great time. It was an opportunity that comes once in a lifetime and I'm glad I took advantage of it. I made new friends and connected with some old ones. This program has helped me in so many ways. I'm so thankful for this experience.'

-Philip Young

