

March 20, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairs Granger and Murray and Ranking Members DeLauro and Collins,

The Partnership for the CCC appreciates the actions Congress has taken to address the need for disaster resiliency, infrastructure, and clean energy in our country. The passage of the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) in 2020, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) in 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) in 2022, shows Congress is clearly taking steps to address these needs. The GAOA, IIJA and IRA bring great potential to fund transformative projects throughout our country.

These transformative projects will improve community resilience, energy efficiency, and mitigate the impacts of natural disasters in our country. At the same time, our country's workforce is aging, these sectors' employment needs are growing rapidly, and we are experiencing an increasing frequency of catastrophic weather events year-over-year. This makes it plain that we need to train the next generation and engage people in communities around the country in order to build a workforce ready to address disaster resilience, infrastructure, and clean energy needs.

Both AmeriCorps (also known as the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)) and the Department of Labor (DOL) have longstanding partnerships with Service and Conservation Corps, State Service Commissions, AmeriCorps programs, and other workforce development programs. CNCS supports around 70,000 members who participate in paid service projects in communities across the country through local service organizations, such as Service and Conservation Corps, which are supported by Governor's State Service Commissions. DOL's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) provides employment and training services for youth participating in programs providing employment opportunities in associated industry sectors. These two agencies can help train this much-needed workforce, if provided adequate funding.

We are writing to encourage you to include funding in Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations that will help to address the hiring needs in the areas of disaster resilience, mitigation, and energy.

We are specifically requesting funding in the following accounts in the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill:

- At the Corporation for National and Community Service, also known as AmeriCorps, we ask that you support \$20,000,000 in the AmeriCorps State and National account for the express purposes of supporting national service positions to address disaster resilience, mitigation, and clean energy in partnership with other Federal agencies, including the Department of Labor.
- At the Department of Labor, we recommend that \$15,000,000 be included for Section 169 of WIOA under National Programs specifically for workforce development focused on paid training and national service opportunities for underrepresented populations in disaster resilience, mitigation, and clean energy in partnership with AmeriCorps.
- Additionally, for both AmeriCorps and Department of Labor accounts as referenced above, we respectfully request the committee's support for inclusion of Report Language and Explanatory Text expressing a priority for AmeriCorps State and National and DOL Section 169 funds to be used to support grantees providing hands-on service and work experience in the disaster resilience, mitigation, and clean energy sectors.

Again, we thank you for your dedication to our country and look forward to further working with you on the much needed investments in national service and workforce development that will help our country solve the challenging natural disaster and energy issues we are facing.

Sincerely,

The Partnership for the CCC

Members of the PCCC

National Organizations

- American Conservation Experience
- American Society of Adaptation Professionals
- America's Service Commissions
- CivicWell
- Center for Law and Social Policy
- Climate Mayors
- Conservation Lands Foundation
- Conservation Legacy
- Data for Progress
- Farallon Strategies
- GRID Alternatives
- Independent Sector
- Interstate Renewable Energy Council
- JFF

- KABOOM!
- Mt. Adams Institute
- North American Building Trades Union
- National Recreation and Park Association
- National Wildlife Federation
- National Youth Employment Coalition
- Next100
- SBP, Inc.
- Service Year Alliance
- Sierra Club
- States for Service Coalition
- Student Conservation Association
- Sunrise Movement
- The Corps Network
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Nonprofit Council
- University Corporation for Atmospheric Research
- Youth Jobs Connect

State-Based Organizations

- Anchorage Park Foundation, AK
- Arizona Conservation Corps, AZ
- GEM Corps, AZ, NM
- CA Association of Local Conservation Corps, CA
- CA Conservation Corps, CA
- California Volunteers, CA
- LA Conservation Corps, CA
- Civic Well, CA
- Larimer County Conservation Corps, CO
- Western Colorado Conservation Corps, CO
- Serve Colorado, CO
- Connecticut Commission on Community Service Board, CT
- Forum for Youth Investment, DC
- Community Training Works, FL & AR
- CASA, GA, MD, PA, VA
- Kupu, HI
- Volunteer Iowa, IA
- Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, IL
- Serve Kentucky, KY
- YouthBuild Louisville-Urban Conservation Corps, KY

- Reimagine Appalachia, KY, OH, PA, WV
- Louisiana Green Corps, LA
- Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity, MA
- Massachusetts Service Alliance, MA
- Break A Difference, MD
- Civic Works, MD
- Community Mediation Maryland, MD, LA
- Bicycle Coalition of Maine, ME
- Maine Conservation Alliance, ME
- Maine Conservation Voters, ME
- Maine Youth Action, ME
- The Climate Initiative, ME
- Volunteer Maine, ME
- EcoCorps SEEDS, MI
- Michigan College Access Network, MI
- Michigan Community Service Commission, MI
- Ampact, MN
- ServeMinnesota, MN
- Vessyll, MN
- AmeriCorps St. Louis, MO
- Missouri Community Service Commission, MO
- Watershed Conservation Corps, MO
- Montana Conservation Corps, MT
- Conservation Trust for NC, NC
- District C, NC
- VolunteerNC, NC
- NJ Office on Volunteerism, NJ
- NJ Youth Corps of Phillipsburg/Delaware River Climate Corps, NJ
- Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, NM
- Great Basin Institute, NV
- Nevada Volunteers, NV
- BlocPower, NY
- Green City Force, NY
- The Urban Wild, NY
- Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action, OH & WV
- ServeOhio, OH
- Geos Institute, OR
- Northwest Youth Corps, OR
- OregonServes Commission, OR
- OIC of America, PA

- Penn Future, PA
- PennSERVE, PA
- Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light, PA
- William Penn Foundation, PA
- SC Service Commission / United Way Association of South Carolina, SC
- CAC AmeriCorps, TN
- Green Spaces Chattanooga, TN
- Volunteer Tennessee, TN
- American Youth Works, TX, LA
- AmeriCorps Central Texas, TX
- Breakthrough Central Texas, TX
- Outdoor Pathways, Southern Utah University, UT
- Utah Conservation Corps, UT
- Virginia Service Commission, VA
- SerVermont, VT
- ReSOURCE: A Nonprofit Community Enterprise, VT
- Serve Washington, WA
- Operation Fresh Start, WI
- Serve Wisconsin, WI
- Coalfield Development Corporation, WV
- Stewards Individual Placements - Eastern Region, WV
- Volunteer West Virginia - WV
- ServeWyoming, WY