



PROUDLY SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

ORANGE COUNTY CONSERVATION CORPS



2019-2020

ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends: The Orange County Conservation Corps (OCCC) works every day to fulfill our mission of serving young, at-risk adults through training, skills development, employability, and educational programs that build self-sufficiency and benefit the community through conservation-driven projects. To say that this past year presented its challenges is an understatement. Still, our incredible staff and Corpsmembers went above and beyond to provide for their community and learn valuable career skills along the way.

The OCCC was fortunate enough to assist at food/water distributions and COVID-19 testing sites throughout Orange County, playing an integral role during the pandemic while maintaining our normal conservation operations. We were so thankful for the partnerships that allowed us to be at the frontlines of this crisis and for the hard work our Corpsmembers put into their communities. I hope this report will enable you to fully understand our efforts and the incredible work our Corpsmembers have accomplished throughout the year.

Sincerely,
Katharyn O. Muñiz
Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Katharyn O. Muñiz, *Chief Executive Officer*

Tony Huynh, *Chief Financial Officer*

Josh Volp, *Director of Operations*

Susan Soria, *Senior Manager,
Corpsmember Leadership & Development*

Board of Directors

Jose Sandoval, *Chairman*

Mark Yarter, *Vice Chair*

Richard R. Licerio, *Treasurer*

Barbara Whitney, *Secretary*

Henry Barbosa

Pearl S. Boelter

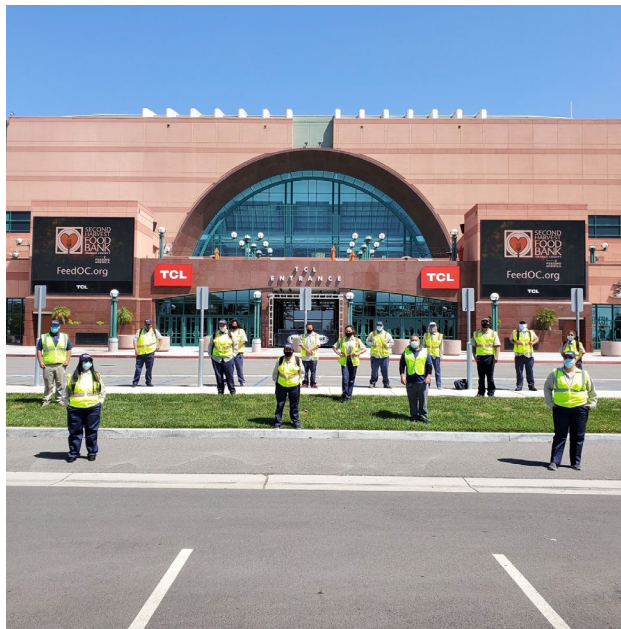
Dan Harden

Silvia Ichar

Genoveva Meza Talbott

Kris Murray

Daisy Sarmiento



SUPPORTING ORANGE COUNTY'S YOUNG ADULTS

In the spirit of our mission, the OCCC supports at-risk young adults from communities throughout Orange County. They wish to change their path in life and build the skillset and experience needed to create prosperous futures for themselves and their families. These young adults are often the primary breadwinners for their families. They have chosen to better themselves and do so while supporting their communities through numerous conservation and emergency services projects throughout the year. Their work with our organization has a positive direct impact on their daily quality of life and their future.

CORPS MEMBERS

HOURS

87,205

WAGES & BENEFITS

\$1.2 M+

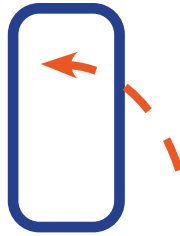
DEMOGRAPHICS



82% Male



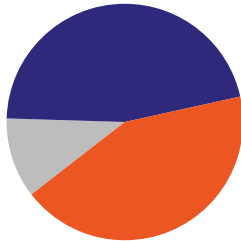
18% Female



18% Re-entry



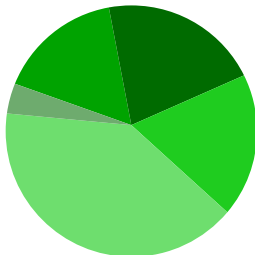
20% Homeless



Ages 18-20: 45%

Ages 20-23: 39%

Ages 24-25: 16%



Hispanic or Latino 74%

White 13%

Black or African American 6%

Asian 3%

Others (or chose not to answer) 4%

CORPSMEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Kyle Aparicio

Before joining the OCCC in December 2019, Kyle Aparicio worked at a warehouse and looked for jobs on Craigslist. Kyle wanted to join the OCCC because he saw it was for people in his age group, and they provided job training and opportunities. He started on the crew by picking up and clearing material, clearing trenches of dirt, using chain saws, pole saws, and pole hedgers. As time went on, Kyle's work expanded to clearing riverbed creeks, loading and laying sandbags down, homeless cleanup, fence setting, planting trees, graffiti cleanup, and many other jobs.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Kyle worked in the Second Harvest Foodbank warehouse in Irvine, where he helped load food boxes and trained fellow team members. He pulled orders with the stand-up forklift, helped with general maintenance/sanitation, and guided traffic control at the testing site at the Anaheim Convention Center.

"It was a great experience because I was helping my community during a very uncertain time," shared Kyle.

In 2021, Kyle was promoted to Staff Driver to work with the cities of Anaheim and Garden Grove on various street and park maintenance projects. He also takes Computer Information Systems courses at Rio Hondo College and has obtained a Desktop Technician Certificate, a Network Technician Certificate, an MD-100 Certificate for Windows Configuration, and a Red Hat Administration I Certificate.

Most recently, Kyle has been accepted into the California Conservation Corps and AmeriCorps Back Country Trails Program. He states, *"with the pandemic, I thought it was a really good time to go and pursue an opportunity that is going to challenge me, serve as a break from school and everyday routine."* Kyle began his journey to Mt. Shasta in April 2021 and is very excited to build new skills and gain this unique experience.

CORPSMEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Daphne Soto

While having difficulty finding employment during the pandemic, Daphne Soto heard about the OCCC through friends who shared that the organization accepted young adults from all backgrounds. Daphne knew that she had to explore this opportunity as she was a new mother who needed to provide for her infant daughter. OCCC helped her do just that.

As a Corpsmember, Daphne worked at a testing site during the COVID-19 pandemic.

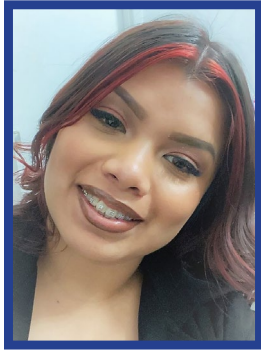
"Working at the testing site was a very fulfilling and humbling experience that I was extremely proud to be a part of. To be able to tell people in the future, especially my daughter, of the struggles that many faced during a pandemic are historical," said Daphne. "Knowing that we were part of a team working together for Orange County's health and well-being is something that I will always remember."

Daphne also supported several food drives and pantries throughout the pandemic, which helped her develop a greater appreciation for her work as a Corpsmember.

Her educational goals are to go as far as she can with her passion for Child Development. She hopes to eventually teach students who want to become educators at the university level. **Currently, she is in the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society at Fullerton College and plans to graduate with an Associate of Arts in Child and Adolescent Development in Spring 2021.**

With the OCCC, Daphne has gained the tools for success by connecting with the right employers to climb the ladder and reach her goals. Daphne said, *"thanks to my amazing case manager and the support from staff, I have accepted a position as a Job Coach with Goodwill Industries, an OCCC partner for over 10 years."*

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Araceli Aguilar

Before Araceli Aguilar came to the OCCC, she worked as a temp for a multilevel marketing company. She enrolled with the OCCC after hearing about it through a friend already working there. Her case manager informed her about the work and programs such as the Santa Ana WIOA Grant, which provided her the opportunity to receive many supportive services and to obtain a National Retail Federation Customer Service Certification.

Araceli's first work assignment was in the Recycling Department, where she focused on collecting tires, beverage containers, and e-waste. Araceli shared that she enjoyed learning about the environment, gaining customer service skills, and getting E-Waste certified. She went on to participate in many recycling activities around Orange County.

"We would set up booths and provide the public with information about the OCCC's programs and services. It was great to see people's excitement," said Araceli.

After working with the Recycling Department, Araceli was offered the opportunity to assist the OCCC staff as an Office Corpsmember. This allowed her to acquire Office Administration skills, which prepared her for the next stage of life. She studied for and earned a CTE Administration Assistant Certification and has worked for a dealership as their Office Administrator for the past two years.

"I truly appreciate the OCCC for working around my work schedule so I could complete my certification," said Araceli. "When I had struggles with my homework, my case manager and other staff were always there to support me."

Araceli plans to continue her professional growth in Business Administration and to become a manager one day. Araceli believes the OCCC is the reason she is currently working full time and earning a good income.

"The OCCC opened the doors for me, and I will always be grateful and recommend the organization to anyone seeking help with education and work."

COLLEGE AND CAREER PREPARATORY ACADEMY

2019-20



A major success for the College and Career Preparatory Academy (CCPA) during the 2019-20 academic year was completing the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC) accreditation process. The CCPA earned a six-year accreditation status through June 2026 and the approval for a five-year charter renewal through June 2025.

Although school sites were closed to in-person learning for the end of the school year due to the pandemic, CCPA was well-positioned to transition to Distance Learning. For CCPA, there was no break in learning continuity for students. Teachers utilized a broad array of Distance Learning resources, adapting tools to the needs of distinctive students, monitoring student progress, providing feedback on student work, and assigning credit for work completed. Every student was also provided a Chromebook and internet connectivity as needed.

A positive indicator of our academic program is that the average number of students graduating has increased over the past three years. As reflected on the 2019 California Dashboard, CCPA's graduation rate increased by 30%.

Overall, CCPA continued to meet its vision and mission to address the need to increase the graduation rate and decrease the dropout by providing students the opportunities to earn their high school diploma and become college and career-ready. The OCCC is proud of the partnership we have established with this wonderful program that benefits our Corpsmembers greatly in their education and career goals.

OUR CONSERVATION WORK

LAKE FOREST ALISO CREEK WATERSHED RESTORATION

The Orange County Conservation Corps Proposition 68 Development Project restored a portion of Aliso Creek in Orange County. A total of 32 Corpsmembers assisted with the removal of 5-acres of non-native/invasive species, litter and debris removal, and fuel load reduction. The site had become substantially degraded with Arundo, Tamarisk, Pampas Grass, Castor Bean, and Palms. The removal of these invasive species provided significant benefits to regionally important biological resources. The removal of these invasive plants also yields several non-biological benefits, including enhanced public access and improved wilderness viewsheds amid the urban sprawl.

Partners: The California Conservation Corps and the City of Lake Forest

Project Duration: Approximately 6 months

Project Outcome: Over 5-acres of riparian habitat restored and protected



E-WASTE & WASTE TIRE CLEANUP IN ORANGE COUNTY

In collaboration with Orange County cities, OCCC crews removed and recycled illegally abandoned E-waste and Waste Tires. A total of 15 Corpsmembers conducted inspections throughout alleyways, parks, and public lands to help mitigate the increase of illegal dumping. Driving assigned routes with agency partners, Corpsmembers would collect and recycle discarded material that degrades public lands. These efforts benefit the community and help our environment by eliminating toxic chemicals that can enter our groundwater systems.

Partners: The cities of Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Orange

Project Duration: Daily

Project Outcome: 124,455 lbs of E-waste & 4,839 Waste Tires Collected



2019-20 PROJECT STATISTICS



1,200

Native Plants
and Trees Installed



4,839

Illegally Abandoned Waste Tires
Collected



75

Miles of Public Roads
and Alleyways Improved



124,455

Pounds of E-Waste Collected



45

Miles of Public Trails
Maintained



565,249

Pounds of Beverage Containers
Collected



38

Acres of Invasive Vegetation
Removed



5,048

Pounds of Fiber Materials
Collected



28

Miles of Flood Channels
Improved



34

Communities Served



108

Certified Collection Center
Site Reviews

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!

The Orange County Conservation Corps (OCCC) officially celebrated our 25th Anniversary at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel and Spa on October 17, 2019. The luncheon featured a keynote presentation by State Senator Tom Umberg, 34th District. The celebration also included silent and live auctions, presentations by OCCC Corpsmembers, an overview of OCCC's first 25 years, and a video commemorating the five-year anniversary of Orange County's Adopt-A-Channel program. Phillip Palmer, Weekday Morning Anchor, ABC7 Eyewitness News, did a tremendous job serving as master of ceremonies. The OCCC is so thankful to the many businesses, government officials, public agencies and other community members who supported the event and celebrated our organization's milestone with us. Many thanks for helping us celebrate a quarter century of success and the over 8,000 young people we have impacted along the way. Here's to another 25 years of serving our Orange County communities!



THANK YOU FOR A SUCCESSFUL 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Thank you to all of our generous donors, partners, and sponsors who contributed to the success of our 25th-anniversary celebration! Together, we raised **\$100,000** that allowed our organization to enhance the programs and work experiences offered to our dedicated Corpsmembers as they work towards their education and career goals.

Honorary Event Co-Chairs

Congressman Gil Cisneros
 Congressman Lou Correa
 Congressman Alan Lowenthal
 Congresswoman Katie Porter
 Congressman Harley Rouda
 State Senator Patricia Bates
 State Senator Ling Ling Chang
 State Senator John M.W. Moorlach
 State Senator Tom Umberg
 Assemblyman William P. Brough
 Assemblyman Steven Choi
 Assemblymember Tom Daly
 Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris
 Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

Lisa A. Bartlett, Chairwoman, Orange County Board of Supervisors
 Todd Spitzer, Orange County District Attorney
 Anaheim Mayor Harry S. Sidhu, P.E.

OC Conservation Corps Sponsor Disneyland Resort

Healthy Ocean Sponsors

Angels Baseball Foundation
 Michael Young Family Foundation
 Poseidon Water
 Samueli Foundation
 Wyland Foundation

Habitat Restoration Sponsors

Atomic Investments, Inc.
 First Choice Back
 Orange County Water District
 Local 652: Orange County Laborers Union

Recycling Sponsors

College and Career Preparatory Academy
 IBEW Orange County, Local 141
 Irvine Ranch Water District
 MesaWater District
 Mouton Niguel Water District
 Republic Services
 Santa Margarita Water District

Conservation Sponsors

Anaheim Chamber of Commerce
 Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
 City of Anaheim, Public Utilities
 City National Bank
 Peggy Doughtery
 Ron and Christina Vera
 Smile Brands Inc.
 SoCalGas
 Vincente Sarmiento
 West Coast Arborists, Inc.

Auction Donors

Ana & Henry Barbosa
 Anaheim City Council Member Denise Barnes
 Anaheim City Council Member Jordan Brandman
 Anaheim City Council Member Jose Moreno
 Anaheim City Council Member Stephen Faessel
 Anaheim City Council Member Trevor O'Neil
 Anaheim Ducks
 Anaheim Mayor Harry Sidhu
 Anaheim Mayor Pro Tem Lucille Kring
 Angels Baseball
 Barbara Whitney
 Beauty With Intuition
 Calloway Vineyard & Winery
 Cedar Creek Inn Brea
 City of Anaheim Fire Dept.
 Congressman Lou Correa
 Daisy Sarmiento
 Disneyland Resort
 Edge Education Centers
 ESPN
 Frank & Anita Marquez
 Ganahl Lumber
 Hector's Restaurant

Hornblower Cruises
 Irvine Lanes
 James & Joan McBride
 Jose Sandoval
 Knott's Berry Farm
 Los Angeles Philharmonic
 Malibu Wine Safari
 Mark Yarter
 MVP Sports Group
 Nicole Miller
 North Orange County Chamber of Commerce
 Pacific Symphony
 Pasadena Play house
 Robert Schwenk
 Sasaki Advanced Aesthetic Medical Center
 South Coast Repertory
 Starr House Salon
 Teresa's Jewelers
 Tina Marie's
 Total Wine & More
 Villa Roma
 Wyland Foundation
 Yolanda & Jeff Sterns
 YouRaceLA

OCCC JOINS THE FRONTLINE

March - June 2020



The OCCC was awarded Mission Task Request Contracts from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Corpsmembers and staff assisted at local food/water distributions and COVID-19 testing centers under the direction of the City of Anaheim.

Feeding Orange County

To provide aid to Orange County communities, Corpsmembers assisted local food distributions by:

- Set up of canopy and tables
- Directing vehicles to parking spaces and queuing vehicles
- Unloading of food boxes
- Moving pallet
- Distribution of food boxes to vehicles
- Tear-down/cleanup
- Warehouse and logistics

COVID-19 Testing Super Site

Corpsmembers provided support for the COVID-19 testing super site and mask distributions by directing vehicles to stations and assisting with the in-take and registration process. This expedited the flow of traffic and enabled healthcare agents to ensure proper testing was completed.



PROUDLY SUPPORTING ORANGE COUNTY AND THE REGION IN 2020

OUR COVID-19 IMPACT



Since the pandemic began in 2020, the OCCC worked each day to serve Orange County's 3.2 million residents. Our daily operational support served as a critical safety net to those facing unemployment and food insecurity.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS, SPONSORS, AND SUPPORTERS THAT MADE THIS WORK POSSIBLE!

Anaheim Chamber of Commerce

Anaheim Ducks

Anaheim Public Utilities

Anaheim City Council Member Denise Barnes

Anaheim City Council Member Jordan Brandman

Anaheim City Council Member Jose Moreno

Anaheim City Council Member Stephen Faessel

Anaheim City Council Member Trevor O'Neil

Anaheim Mayor Harry Sindhu

Anaheim Mayor Pro Tem Lucille King

Angels Baseball Foundation

Ana & Henry Barbosa

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

Atomic Investments, Inc.

Barbara Whitney

Beauty with Intuition

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire)

California Conservation Corps

California Department of General Services (Cal OSES)

CalRecycle

Cedar Creek Inn Brea

City National Bank

City of Anaheim

City of Anaheim Fire Department

City of Anaheim Workforce Development Board

City of Fullerton

City of Garden Grove

City of Huntington Beach

City of Irvine

City of Laguna Beach

City of Lake Forest

City of Mission Viejo

City of Orange

City of Santa Ana

City of Santa Ana Workforce Development Board

City of Stanton (North Orange County Public Task Force)

Congressman Lou Correa

County of Orange

Daisy Sarmiento

The Disneyland Resort

Edge Education Centers

ESPN

Fire Safe Council East Orange County Canyons

First Choice Bank

Frank & Anita Marquez

Ganahl Lumber

Hector's Restaurant

Hornblower Cruises

Irvine Lanes

Irvine Ranch Water District

James & Joan McBride

Jose Sandoval

Knott's Berry Farm

Laguna Canyon Foundation

Local Laborers' Orange County

Malibu Wine Safari

Mark Yarter

Mesa Water District

Metropolitan Water District

Michelle Young Family Foundation

Moulton Niguel Water District

Moulton Niguel Water District

MVP Sports Group

Nicole Miller

North Orange County Chamber of Commerce

Orange County Community Resources (OC Parks)

Orange County Department of Education

Orange County Water District

Pacific Symphony

Pasadena Playhouse

Peggy Dougherty

Poseidon Water

Republic Services

Robert Schwenk

Ron & Christina Vera

Samuel Foundation

Santa Ana Development Board

Santa Margarita Water District

Sasaki Advanced Aesthetic Medical Center

Sempra Energy

Smile Brands Inc.

SoCal Gas

South Coast Repertory

Starr House Salon

Yolanda & Jeff Stems

Teresa's Jewelers

Tina Marie's

Total Wine & More

Villa Roma

Vicente Sarmiento

Waste Management of Orange County

West Coast Arborists, Inc.

Wyland Foundation

YouRaceLA

FINANCIALS

Financials Fiscal Year Ending - June 30, 2020

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Grants from Governmental Agencies | 3,149,577 |
| Fee for Service | 1,466,719 |
| Other Contributions & Fundraising | 494,134 |
| | |
| Total Revenue | 5,110,430 |
| Program Services | 4,626,037 |
| General & Administrative | 568,096 |
| Total Expense | 5,194,133 |
| | |
| Increase in Net Assets | (83,703) |
| Net Assets, Beginning of Year | 5,290,148 |
| Net Assets, End of Year | 5,206,445 |

PROUDLY SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



Orange County Conservation Corps

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Anaheim, CA 92801

714. 956.6222

www.occorps.org



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