



**Corps THAT** 2018 IN REVIEW



**BRIDGING THE DEAF AND OUTDOOR COMMUNITIES SINCE 2016  
AND SERVING THEM AS A 501(C)3 NONPROFIT SINCE 2018**





Dear Friends of CorpsTHAT,

Not a long time ago, when we were sitting outside our tent under the stars, we took our little black notebooks out and started to scribble our ideas. We envisioned a place of welcome and acceptance, a place where new friendships formed, and a place where young people could learn a little more about our nature, and about themselves.

Now, two years later, 2018 has been the most memorable one for CorpsTHAT by any measure. Admittedly, it's not easy to describe in just a few paragraphs and express how proud we are of the impacts CorpsTHAT has made this year.

This year, we received a determination letter of 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and we enhanced our programs to address the needs and gaps in the evolving outdoor industry in the Deaf community. These additions have worked to expand environmental education for Deaf and Hard of Hearing youth, create more internship positions and job training opportunities, and to increase Outdoor Ambassador events nationally for the Deaf community.

As we went through an exciting transition, CorpsTHAT also grew bigger because of your support. From farmers to educators, to environmentalists, scientists, conservation corp members, and volunteers - all of the folks have put their energy into increasing Deaf representatives in the outdoors and solving environmental problems together.

We hope that you enjoy reading about CorpsTHAT's adventures in 2018. We know that there are more great things to come through continued partnerships. And if you take a look of this report, we think CorpsTHAT can be your happy place too.

Thank you for all the supports and activities you share to conserve, protect, and restore so that other people can enjoy our beautiful nature.

Best,

Emma Bixler and Sachiko Flores



# ALYSSA WEISENSTEIN

YVCC and CCM Alumni



**Sophia Hu**  
Works for the EPA

# LAUREN SPRAGUE

YVCC and NYC Alumni



# SAM BRAGG

CCM Alumni

Portland, ME  
Framingham, MA

Carterville, IL

Washington, DC

## MEET THE AMBASSADORS



# OUTDOOR RECREATION

- Outdoor Ambassador program established
- 4 Outdoor Ambassadors
- Events hosted in 3 regions of the US
- 24 events hosted by Ambassadors
- Reached 500+ community members





# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- Created videos of the 7 LNT principles in ASL
- Trained 1 CorpsTHAT representative in Project Wild
- Collaborated with two Deaf scientists to give presentation at NAD



- Worked with 6 Deaf Schools and Deaf programs to provide environmental education programs
- Partnered with local Deaf outdoor experts to share their knowledge

## WHERE WE WORKED

National Association of the Deaf  
Youth Leadership Camp



Rocky Mountain Deaf School  
Explore the Great Outdoors Camp



Texas School For the Deaf  
Big Bend NP Trip



The Learning Center for the Deaf  
High School Workshop

Delaware School for the Deaf  
Deaf-Hearing Communication Center Summer Camp

Maryland School for the Deaf- Fredrick  
After School Programs

Kendal Demonstration Elementary School  
Middle School Workshop

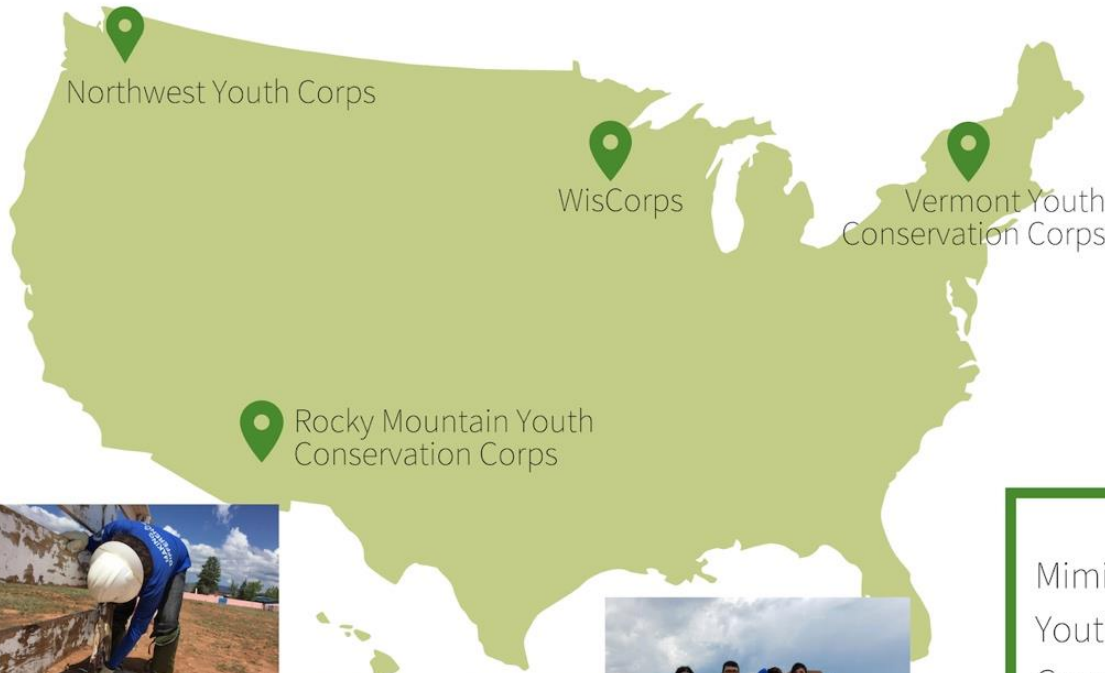
Gallaudet University  
Summer Youth Programs

- Reached 200+ Deaf and Hard of Hearing youth

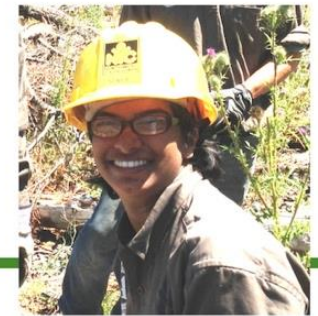


# JOB TRAINING

- Hired a NYC Alumni for a CorpsTHAT summer internship
- Worked with 4 conservation corps to hire 39 Deaf and Hard of Hearing youth and young adults
- Provided 8 ASL inclusion crews with:
  - Recruitment
  - Training
  - Operational support
  - Program Evaluation



## MEET OUR INTERN



Mimi Jillella, a Northwest Youth Corps ASL Inclusion Crew Alumni was CorpsTHAT's 2018 Summer Intern. She is currently studying Communications at Gallaudet University. She hopes to connect her experience she gained in the conservation corps with a future career.





# NORTHWEST YOUTH CORPS AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



In 2018, CorpsTHAT Partnered with Northwest Youth Corps and the National Parks Service to expand job training and educational outdoor programming for the Deaf community. Along with assisting Northwest Youth Corps in recruiting and hiring for their ASL Inclusion Crews, CorpsTHAT also worked to expand training for conservation corps, internship opportunities within the outdoor field, environmental educational materials in ASL and collaborated with other conservation corps to support their ASL Inclusion crew programs.

## PARTNERSHIPS IN THE OUTDOORS

### LEAVE NO TRACE

This year we partnered with Leave No Trace to better share the Leave No Trace mission with the Deaf community. CorpsTHAT created media in ASL that explained the 7 principles of LNT as well as presented about all 7 LNT principles at Deaf outdoor events, training and workshops. CorpsTHAT always follows the LNT principles in our own work, and we were happy to be able to share this mission with others.



Proud Partner 2018 | LNT.org



# Sol Fest

This year, CorpsTHAT hosted our first annual Sol Fest to raise funds for our Deaf centered outdoor programming. Hosted a local Deaf Owned brewery, Streetcar82, Sol Fest was a bright success in raising funds to support CorpsTHAT's work in 2019!



## #TRAILMORE



CorpsTHAT worked with Southeast Conservation Corps to host a t-shirt fundraiser that will help cover the costs of providing interpreters and recreational opportunities for the 2019 ASL Inclusion Crew. Check out our campaign on social media using the #trailmore.

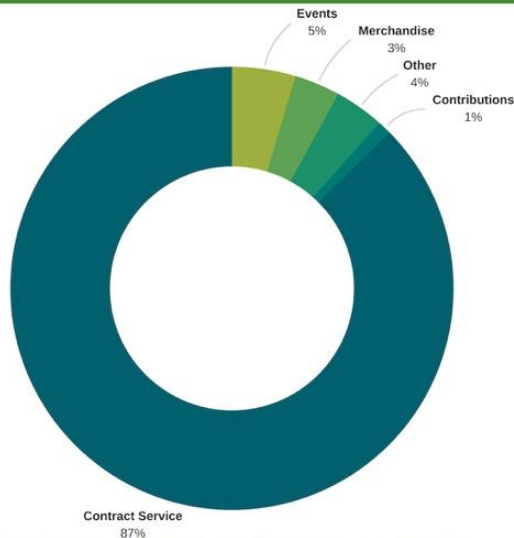
## #GIVINGTUESDAY



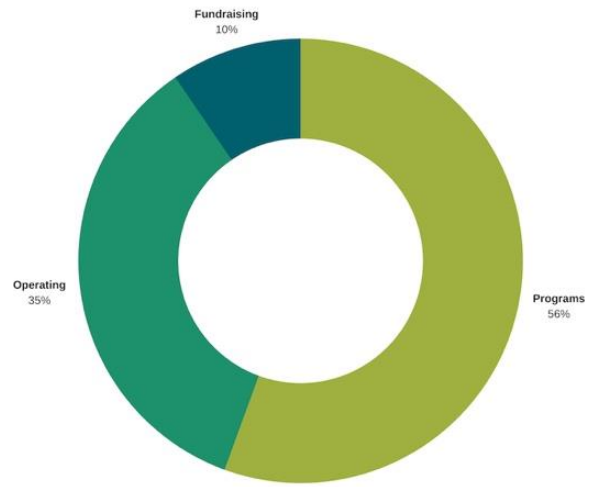
With the donations made for our #givingtuesday fundraising campaign, CorpsTHAT will be able to:

- Set up five new Outdoor Ambassadors located across the country
- Expand environmental education resources in ASL
- Set up a new ASL Inclusion Crew to create more job training opportunities





**REVENUE \$29,776**



**EXPENSES \$10,896**

\*Some revenue and expenses are for 2019 programming

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2018

CorpsTHAT is run by volunteers and this work could not be accomplished without all the support from community members, volunteers, sponsors and supporters!

## 2018 SPONSORS



## VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Sophia Hu  
Micheal Dunham

## IN KIND DONATIONS

Sam Bragg  
Elisa Chang  
Summer Crider Loeffler  
Gina Davis  
Keith Doane  
Ana Garza  
Patrick Jenkins  
Ryan Maliszewski  
Amelia Milling  
Emily Sweeney



## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$100 and over:

Michael Dunham  
Joanel Lopez  
John Bixler  
Genie Ott Mendiola  
Collin Ellzey  
Patrick Jenkins

\$50 and over:

Laura Schrenk  
Adrienne Malroux  
Shana Gibbs  
Silvia Kato  
John Ying  
Lilly Davis  
Hailey Fox  
Megan Walker

\$20 and over:

Brenna and Patrick Kelly  
Alicia Wooten  
Arianna Neromiliotis  
Alex Ralston  
Ben Meltzer  
Jennifer Goldbetter  
Jonathan Chanin  
Hans Gomez  
Brittany Comegna Segura

# WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT CORPSTHAT



Through CorpsTHAT, Nichelle Steffen connected with WisCorps and was hired as a crew leader/interpreter, here is what she said about her experience-

"WisCorps gave me the opportunity to live fully; to step outside of the chaos of everyday life, to breathe, to connect to the earth and to other living beings, to watch the sun rise and the sun set and all the moments in between. I am incredibly grateful for that experience."

"The unique aspect of CorpsTHAT is their ability to rapidly adjust sails to changes and still match the current needs of both the Deaf and conservation community. CorpsTHAT is constantly preparing for the future and creating new endeavors and opportunities for the Deaf community but also simultaneously educating the public which is a rare feat."

-Alicia Wooten, Ph.D. Candidate and co-founder of Atomic Hands



"Being an Outdoor Ambassador for CorpsTHAT has been an incredibly enriching experience, both inside and outside of the woods. Because of CorpsTHAT, I worked with people who are also passionate about the environment, learned how to protect our environment better, and gained a greater appreciation for the outdoors."

-Sophia Hu, Outdoor Ambassador- DC region



"After Sachiko and Emma gave a presentation on the 7 principles of LNT our students were walking to another building at the camp and they started to cut across the grass one of our students ran out in front and reminded everyone to stay on the path so not to destroy the grass! It was wonderful to see our students already make the connections and apply what they learned!"

-Mary Hicks, Bilingual Literacy Specialist, Delaware School for the Deaf

