

Okanogan Youth Corps

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We acknowledge that we are on the traditional homelands of the Methow people and others within the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. These people have been here and cared for the land since time immemorial. We did not ask to be here, but let us take a moment to give thanks to the beautiful land that we are on and to honor the people that have been here and still are here.

About us!



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Environmental Policy
COMM Studies
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Marine & Coastal Science
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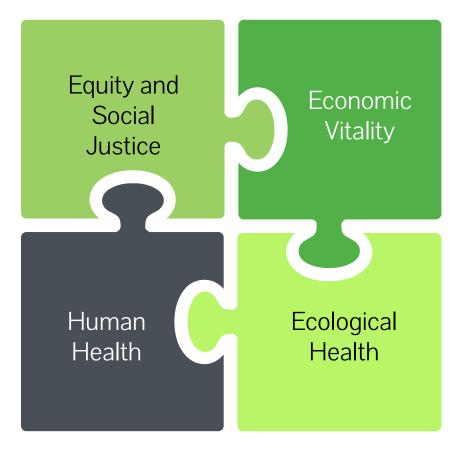


Introduction

- What is a youth corps?
- Create opportunities for youth to engage in place-based learning, hands-on community work experience, and sustainability-focused job training.
- Methow and Okanogan communities will benefit from wildfire mitigation, food security, water security, and weatherization work.
- Methow at Home, Room One, Fire Adapted
 Methow Valley, Independent Learning Center,
 Methow Ready, WWU, Sustainability Pathways.

The purpose of this youth corps is to create opportunities for youth to engage in place-based learning, hands-on community work experience, and sustainability-focused job training. In turn, the Methow and Okanogan communities will benefit from social justice work, restoration and ecological health, and other services that increase economic vitality in order to become more resilient against the increasing impacts of climate change. This youth corps is centered in community work as a way to improve quality of life and the natural landscape.





The Four Puzzle Pieces of Sustainability



Identified Community Needs

- Environmental needs
- Economic needs
- Equitable/social needs

The Four Aspects of Work

Fire Mitigation

FAMV, eventually DNR, Methow Ready, and Conservation District.

Weatherization

Methow at Home, Room One, and Fire Adapted Methow Valley.

Red Shed, Classroom in Bloom, and the Cove, Room One.

Food Security

FAMV, Methow at Home, Methow Ready, WWU.

Water security





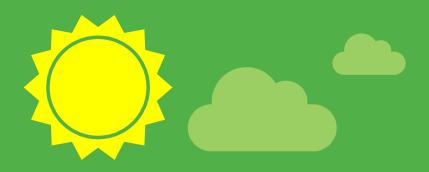


Barriers to Youth Participation

- Transportation
- Social isolation
- Financial hardship
 - Affordability of programs
 - → Compensation
 - → General poverty
- Lack of mentorship and jobs in this field



Model Corps	Funding				Partnerships			ь	ships	eads	scios	al ies	p	ng	S
	Public	Private	State	Federal	Local	State	Federal	Scaffolded Age Brackets	Local Partnerships to Start?	AmeriCorps Leads	Non-Americorps Leads	Educational Opportunities	Place-based Learning	Job Training	Life Skills
San Juan Youth Conservation Corps		х	Х		х	Х	Х		X		X	Х	X	Х	Х
Duwamish Valley Youth Corp			х		х	X	Х		X		X	х	Х	Х	
Mile High Youth Corp	Х	Х	X	X	х	X	Х	Х		X		Х		Х	Х
Wildsight Youth Climate Corp												х	X	Х	X
Vermont Youth Conservation Corps	X	Х	Х	X	х	X	Х		X	X		Х	X	Х	Х
Northwest Youth Corp	х	X	х	X	Х	X	Х	Х		X		Х	X	х	X
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х		Х	Х	Х	х





Recommendations



OYC Structure

Three age brackets

- 14-15 yr olds
- 16-18 yr olds
- → 19+ yr olds
- Financially compensated
- Work hours/type of work vary between age brackets

** Compensation starts at minimum wage for the lowest age bracket and increases as members get older and can complete greater tasks.

AmeriCorps Leaders (20-24 yr olds)

- Sustainability Pathways connections
- WWU students or Methow/Okanogan community



Partnerships

Methow Valley School District

- Working relationship will be mutually beneficial
 - MVSD students have an opportunity to engage in sustainability work, engage with the community, and develop essential job skills.
 - OYC members can source MVSD students, create focus groups, and collaborate with schools in the district.
- Connecting with other school districts

Vermont Youth Conservation Corps

Budget Recommendations

- Wages, housing, food, AmeriCorps living stipends, work materials, office space, class materials, trainings
- Small grants written by stakeholders
- Larger funding from DNR or Conservation District
- Fee for service



































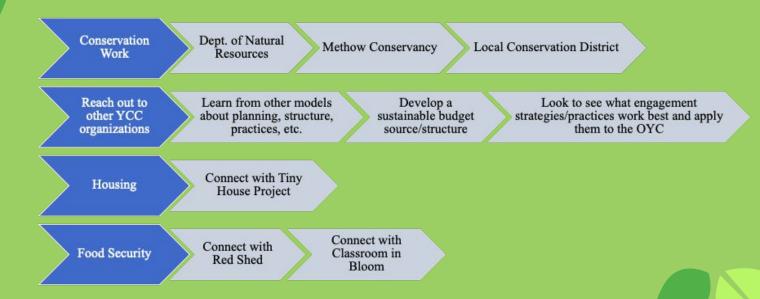




The next steps for the OYC

Add future youth benefits Methow Valley Will help provide Identify barriers to (ie: service hours and/or youth input youth participation School District credit fulfillment) Learn about Link work to fire Methow Ready mitigation or emergency weatherization preparation Learn more about what local Youth Get impressions from youth can best benefit from participating youth Engagement in the program Associate what work can Develop practices that can Research/contact organizations Water Security be done by OYC preserve the Methow focused on water security Watershed members

continued...



Thank you to all of our stakeholders for taking the time to meet with us and contribute to the OYC!

Many thanks to our project sponsor, Kat Heim, from Fire Adapted Methow Valley for your amazing work!

Questions?





PC: JP