SEEDS EcoCorps

Alumni Feature: Breeahna Pullis

Supporting Women in Skilled Trades

Only one out of every ten construction workers in the United States is a woman. Breeahna experienced that disparity first-hand when she enrolled in the Skilled Trades class at the TBA Career Tech Center as a junior at Benzie Central High School; she was the only girl in her class. That summer she joined the SEEDS EcoCorps, which gave her another opportunity to learn construction skills. Highlights included a roofing project and building campsites on South Manitou Island. Breeahna shared, "My experience at SEEDS made me realize I definitely wanted to pursue a career in carpentry!"

Breeahna became a mother during her senior year and graduated with honors. She now works for Lamont Residential Builders. She intends to grow with the company and even build her own home. She is a role model for her young daughter who also may grow up passionate about skilled trades!

About the Program

SEEDS EcoCorps, previously known as the Youth Conservation Corps, employs and trains individuals through community projects, developing a workforce of green collar skilled adults.

SEEDS EcoCorps crews earn-while-they-learn skills such as carpentry and landscaping. They implement solutions to today's pressing social and ecological problems. When they graduate from the season, they have gained important life skills as employees, experienced different types of career paths and working environments, and have connected with professionals.

Our places of work range from national parks and forests, to businesses and private property owners.

SEEDS EcoCorps is a force for people and planet!

OUR IMPACT SINCE 2009

500 CREW MEMBERS HIRED

$350K IN SCHOLARSHIPS DISTRIBUTED

$1.5M IN GROSS WAGES PAID TO MEMBERS

Proud Member of The Corps Network
Growing 21st Century Leaders for 21st Century Jobs

SEEDS EcoCorps places a strong focus on training and professional development. In addition to training, crew members connect with conservationists, scientists, entrepreneurs, and skilled tradespeople to learn and apply these skills in the field to solve local problems in their communities.

The 2020 season will be a $350,000 program, over half of which will be derived from fee-for-service contracts. In order to provide proper training, the rest of the funding will come from grants, direct gifts, sponsorships, and the general operating fund of SEEDS.

A day of training for one EcoCorps crew of 3-6 costs between $1000-1500. The more funds we secure, the more skills our crew members will earn!

By giving to SEEDS, you make this program possible. Help us prepare youth and aspiring solutionaries to become champions in their communities.

We are seeking:
- **Partners** to donate training opportunities and mentorship
- **Cornerstone clients** with projects valued at $5000+
- **Funders & Sponsors** who want to support this program at $1000+

For more information, contact SEEDS EcoCorps Program Director Jennifer Flynn at jennifer@ecoseeds.org

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**2019 Major Clients & Funders**

- Bay Area Recycling for Charities
- Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
- Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation
- Manistee County Community Foundation
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- National Park Service
- The Les and Anne Biederman Foundation
- Traverse City Downtown Development Authority
- Saginaw Community Foundation
- TC Energy Corporation
- Weldon Township
- US Forest Service

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**30** Crew Members Hired During the 2019 Season

**50+** Community Partners Engaged

**10,000+** Hours of Ecological Restoration Work Completed