

SERVE, LEARN & EARN

VERMONT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATIVE



FOUR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Serve Learn Earn (SLE) is a workforce development collaboration among four nonprofits – Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC), ReSOURCE, Audubon Vermont, and Vermont Works for Women – dedicated to enhancing, and increasing the number of, paid service opportunities in Vermont. We believe that paid training and service experiences offer a supportive community to young adults, provide clear and accessible career pathways, and are an essential economic strategy for Vermont.

SLE partners currently enroll over 400 participants throughout Vermont each year; this number will grow in the coming years. Though complementary, the participant demographics, locations, duration, and learning outcomes of each organization’s programs differ. These differences are a foundational strength, allowing SLE to reach a broad swath of Vermont communities with projects that focus on climate change, housing, outdoor recreation, and food security.



**VERMONT
YOUTH
CONSERVATION
CORPS**



2024 FUNDING REQUEST

For the past two years, the Vermont Legislature has recognized the importance of this collaboration. We are requesting renewed support with an appropriation of \$2.5M to support our workforce training initiative. These funds help SLE partners secure approximately 3X of additional dollars to support program outcomes. Continued state funding will allow the number of trainees served to increase by 58% and the number of service weeks to more than double (106%). The results as demonstrated in our first years of funding are clear: potential workers brought off the sideline gaining industry recognized skills and getting placed with employers in high growth jobs, affordable housing construction, weatherization, access modification, habitat protection, and improvements to state lands and buildings completed across the state.

Funding is administered by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, and supports each organization’s direct service training programs. With continued support, we can increase career opportunities for Vermonters, complete high-priority infrastructure projects, and connect well-trained workers with the many Vermont’s businesses facing workforce shortages.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES BY JUNE 2024*

503

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

5181

WEEKS OF TRAINING

\$1.8M

IN WAGES AND STIPENDS

*If full \$2.5M request is granted.

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CURRENT PROGRAM OUTCOMES JULY 2022 – JUNE 2023



Vermont Works for Women's Trailblazers training program will graduate 40 participants, with 255 weeks of hands-on trades skills instruction and internship experience with local trades employers across Vermont.

ReSOURCE will enroll over 100 Construction Intensives trainees, 25 YouthBuild trainees, and 14 full-time AmeriCorps service members. Trainees will complete 2,061 service weeks, over 50,000 service learning hours, and be awarded over 120 industry recognized skill certifications.



Audubon Vermont's Youth Leadership Program will engage 74 paid youth, who will work 12,648 hours. Youth are employed as interns, teen Counselors-In-Training, Junior Conservation Technicians, seasonal Instructors, and as AmeriCorps members.

Vermont Youth Conservation Corps will hire 170 young adults to work & learn on crews; Corps Members will complete 1,850 service weeks and projects focused on Water Quality, Outdoor Recreation, Forestry, Carpentry, Agriculture, and Food Security.

