

# 2023 CORPSTHAT CREW

**Our mission:** CorpsTHAT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded and run by Deaf, Disabled, and Female and Nonbinary identifying folks. We aim to connect the Deaf Community to the outdoors through environmental education, recreation, and job development; the latter with our conservation corps crew programs. Based in Baltimore, MD we work throughout the country.

**CorpsTHAT Conservation Corps Crew:** This Conservation Corps program engages Deaf young adults in service projects that address conservation, preservation, recreation, and environmental needs to gain work experience and leadership development.

## Program Accomplishments

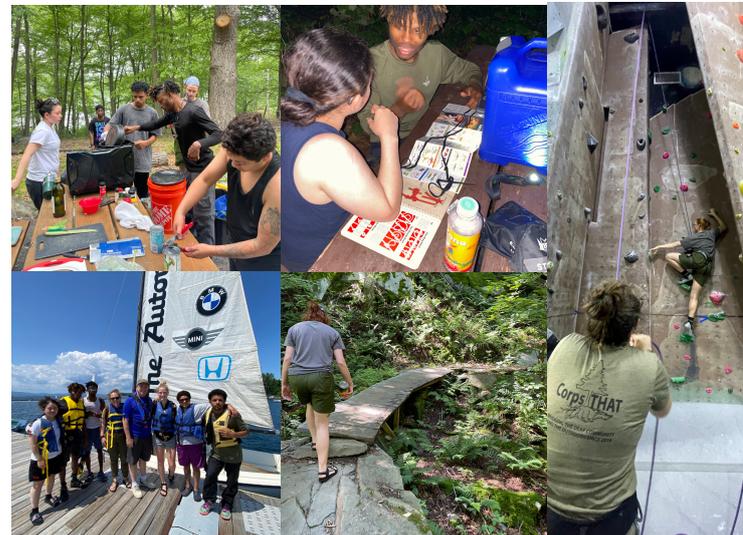
June 29th-August 6th, 2023

- 2 Deaf Crew Leaders
- 5 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Crew Members
- 1400+ hours invested working on conservation projects for US Forest Service
- 95+ hours of outreach and education
- 30+ hours of recreation
- 17+ hours of project prep and logistics with project contacts
- 1 acre of invasive species removed
- 0.70 acre of habitat improved
- 6 10-gallon bags of trash collected
- 16 front country campsites maintained
- 35 new structures built
- 4.7 miles of trail inspected for flood damages
- 5.6 miles of trail maintained
- And so much more...



## Recreation + Education

After their work day, the crew returns to their campsite where they spent their time doing communal camp chores such as cooking, refilling water jugs, sharpening tools, and cleaning up their camp spaces. After dinner they take turns leading educational activities. On the weekends, the crew enjoyed a full day of recreational activities such as sailing, rock climbing, hiking, and several other activities lead by Deaf Outdoor instructors and local adaptive sport organizations. In total, the crew spent 95+ hours of outreach and education and 30+ hours of recreation.



## Quotes from our Members

"Leading the crew taught me how to empower all members, including myself, to achieve our goals. In addition to being a leader, I had a chance to work/communicate directly with project partners. That experience provided far more valuable insight into the U.S. Forest Service profession.."

- Ana Puentes, Crew Member, California -

"To work as a CorpsTHAT crew leader is the greatest gift I have ever gotten because the program transformed me completely. I couldn't recognize myself anymore but as a new person, which cracked doors to my new future with hope in the real world...My relationship with other leaders also has a monumental impact on me because of discipline, tough love, professionalism, respect, boundaries, compassion and so much more that has helped me blossom. The experience process shifts my understanding of CorpsTHAT's values for our home, Earth, better..."

- Jax Skyler, Crew Leader, California -



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