



Sonoma County Youth Ecology Corps 2016 Summer Evaluation Report EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SCYEC provides youth and young adults with meaningful, paid work experience, environmental education, and the opportunity to explore careers and develop work-readiness skills. Participating youth and young adults contribute to the community while completing environmental projects or working with various local nonprofit organizations. The Sonoma County Human Services Department has proudly administered SCYEC along with local partners and contracted youth provider agencies every summer since 2009.



Youth & Young Adults



Local Agencies & Nonprofits

SCYEC Positively Impacts Youth & Young Adults

In 2016, SCYEC met all of its identified short-term objectives for youth and young adults. Program highlights include:

Increasing Work-Readiness Skills

100% with skill deficits improved in at least one area.

90% felt prepared for future employment or education.

Building Positive Relationships with Adults & Peers

93% enjoyed being part of the crew or enjoyed working with the other people at their individual placement.

79% said that they had an adult in the program they could talk to about important decisions in their lives.

Earning Money to Support Themselves & Their Family

Participants earned **\$10.50 - \$12.50** per hour.

73% saved at least part of their earnings.

Making Plans for the Future

98% reported a post-summer plan for school or work.

Fostering Environmental Awareness

95% reported awareness of environmental issues.

Youth Satisfaction with SCYEC

98% reported overall satisfaction with SCYEC.

"I have a **brighter future** now."

– Youth Participant

"Our parks & our community are **better** for it."

– Project Host

SCYEC Core Program Components

Employment & Development

- Young people receive education and training to develop the core job skills needed to find and keep permanent employment.
- Young people receive career development opportunities.

Environmental Stewardship & Community Service

- Crews complete environmental and conservation-related projects, and learn about ecology and environmental issues.
- Projects help prevent flooding and fires, maintain and provide access to our local parks, sustain community gardens, and address safety issues on public trails.
- Individual placements support nonprofits and public agencies.

Strategic Community Partnerships

- SCYEC brings together a diverse group of agencies, nonprofits, and community groups.
- SCYEC leverages a broad array of public and private dollars.

For more information about SCYEC, please contact Cristin Tuider at ctuider@schsd.org or 707.565.8504