As I begin my third year of leading Urban Corps, my faith in the strength, resiliency and tenacity of the youth and young adults we serve is renewed and my appreciation and admiration reinforced.

Their determination is what inspires me.

We have made it through another year of challenges without missing a beat. Our Corpsmembers continued to work on projects essential to San Diego County while at the same time studying for their high school diploma at the Urban Corps Charter School.

I am very proud of our Corpsmembers. Thirty-five of them earned their high school diploma during this fiscal year! An amazing achievement when you take into account the obstacles they have had to face and one which would not have been possible without their Charter School teachers and the Urban Corps staff, all of whom have surrounded them with the support and tools they needed to succeed.

I have a tremendous sense of appreciation for our partnership with the Urban Corps Charter School. Under the leadership of Executive Director Dan Thomas and the tutelage of his teachers, our Corpsmembers thrive in the classroom. Even through another year of pandemic restrictions, Dan and his team continued to provide our students with the tools they need for success.

In November 2021, we celebrated the grand opening of our new facility in Escondido. A satellite center was a long-held objective of our board and my predecessors and I am proud to have realized that goal. The renovations are almost complete and thanks to our generous donors and partners, fully paid for. We have begun to service our North County contracts from the site as well as serve the youth and young adults of the area who are in need of a program like Urban Corps.

I close the year with a tremendous sense of gratitude.

To our dedicated Board of Directors, I am grateful for your leadership and support.

I am grateful to our donors, partners and all of you who continue to support us through contracts, grants or your personal generosity.

And I am grateful to my staff who show up every day to work because they believe in our mission.

Finally, I would like to dedicate this Annual Report to our friend and colleague Sam Lopez. Sam's contribution to the growth, success and accomplishments of Urban Corps was hugely significant and his impact on our Corpsmembers was life-changing. We will miss him.

Sincerely,

Kyle Kennedy
Chief Executive Officer
Board of Directors

Tracey Williams, Axos Bank - Board President
Bob Benson, Western Governors University - Board 1st Vice President
Kevin Schlegel, American Mortgage Network - Board 2nd Vice President
Mario X. Sierra, University of California, San Diego - Board Secretary
James Madsen, Guild Mortgage - Board Treasurer
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Richard Freeman, San Diego Padres (ret.) - Board Member Emeritus
Gino V. Mazzanti, Legal Counsel - Board Member Emeritus
Wil Williams, Titan Corporation (ret.) - Board Member Emeritus

Executive Team

Kyle Kennedy, Chief Executive Officer
Dan Thomas, Executive Director, Urban Corps Charter School
Marissa Cassani, Senior Program Director
PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:
METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM
BRUSH MANAGEMENT CONTROL

In partnership with the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), the Recycling team was contracted to clean up the H Street Trolley Station. Crews maintained the tracks, cleared trash and debris, removed brush and cut trees as needed for safety. Additionally, crews worked along the areas around the track cleaning and removing bulky items from the nearby channel.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:
VIEJAS FIRE DEPARTMENT FUEL FIRE REDUCTION AND TRAINING

Through the California Conservation Corps Proposition 68 grant funding, the Urban Corps Environmental team partnered with our friends at the Viejas Fire Department to provide needed fuel fire reduction on tribal land. During the project, the fire department provided firefighter training and certifications for 15 Corpsmembers. These certifications can be added to their resumes and help them find careers within the fire service industry upon graduation.
**PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: ARBOR DAY WITH THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO**

With funding provided by a CAL FIRE Urban Forestry Expansion and Improvement grant, Urban Corps and the City of San Diego planted nearly 400 new street trees in the communities of Ridgeview, Fairmount Park, Mt. Hope, Mountain View and Lincoln Park.

As part of this year's Arbor Day celebration, Mayor Todd Gloria, Urban Corps CEO Kyle Kennedy and other community leaders planted the last trees to complete the project in Mountain View Park. The event was streamed online for residents and included a tree planting demonstration and information on care and maintenance of trees.

**PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT FIRST FLOOR OFFICE RENOVATION**

Corpsmembers worked to complete 2,750 square feet of improvements to the Chula Vista Police Department's first floor.

Corpsmembers combined two existing open office spaces and created one big crime fighting area. Additionally, they painted, installed recessed lighting throughout the building and upgraded restrooms to ensure ADA compliance.
Thanks to a grant from the County of San Diego’s Neighborhood Reinvestment Program, Urban Corps was able to host three food distribution events providing needed food to Corpsmembers and their families during the COVID 19 pandemic. Urban Corps was also able to use a portion of the funding to start a new and ongoing food pantry which will be available to Corpsmembers year round.
Although we couldn't gather in person, Urban Corps Charter School did not let COVID-19 stop it from celebrating its graduates! For the first time ever, graduation was held virtually. An online celebration was held in February for December graduates and again in June for summer graduates. Congratulations to both classes of 2021!
After 32 years of serving San Diego County from its Old Town headquarters, Urban Corps celebrated the Grand Opening of the Diane Annala Chalmers Center - its NEW North County training facility in Escondido.

Even though we have worked in North County for years, it has not been easy to recruit and directly serve the youth who live there. With our new Escondido location, we can offer 18-26 year old North County residents, who are in need of an organization like Urban Corps, the opportunity to gain a high school diploma, job training and life skills that will put them on the road to success while they get paid to work and improve the communities they live in.
CORPSMEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
REYNA MACHADO

Reyna Machado joined Urban Corps in 2017 after dropping out of high school. After a few months, she dropped out of the Corps because, "I lacked self-discipline and did not understand the importance of an education." She went to work full time, but realized without her high school diploma there wasn't any opportunity for advancement. So, she re-enrolled in Urban Corps in 2020 and since then has thrived.

While at Urban Corps, Reyna became motivated and learned the value of education. Now that she has graduated, she plans to attend Southwestern College and join their police academy program to pursue a career in law enforcement.

"If I could give one piece of advice to anyone who has lost their path on life, it would be to join Urban Corps and give yourself a second chance at your future."

CORPSMEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
MANHAL JAJJU

Manhal Jajju was born in Iraq and spent time as a refugee in Jordan before he came to the United States.

At Urban Corps, Manhal served as a crew leader, helped train and develop current Corpsmembers and discovered a deep passion for the environment through planting trees. "I love planting trees. It's my favorite."

"In the future, I want to open my own environmental business where I can work alongside others and treat them with dignity."

Asked about Urban Corps' impact on his life, he responded, "I became better. When you’re done with Urban Corps, you’ll have received a better life. Thank you everyone in Urban Corps."
URBAN CORPS
BY THE NUMBERS

18,708 LBS
RECYCLING

262,248
E-WASTE ITEMS
RECYCLED

706,158
SQUARE FEET OF
GRAFFITI REMOVED

45,974
BULKY ITEMS
REMOVED

20
ROOF
RENOVATIONS

8
COMMERCIAL
BUILDING
RENOVATIONS
URBAN CORPS BY THE NUMBERS

4,629
TREES PLANTED

3,060,144
SQUARE FEET OF TRAIL MAINTAINED

50,352 LBS
TRASH ITEMS REMOVED

43,922,688
SQUARE FEET OF BRUSH REMOVAL (FFR)

17
HOME RENOVATIONS

35
GRADUATES!!
SPONSORS - THANK YOU!

Adams Avenue Business Association  Feeding San Diego
ALSTOM Group  Helix Water District
Barrio Logan MAD  Highland PM LLC
Back Country Land Trust  Groundwork San Diego
BAE Systems  Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation
Boys and Girls Club - Clairemont  Kenco Remodeling
CAL FIRE  I Love a Clean San Diego
CalRecycle  Lakeside River Conservancy
California Fire Safe Council  Logan Heights CDC
California Conservation Corps  North Park Birch Theater
California Natural Resources Agency  Port of San Diego
California Releaf  ProduceGood
California State Coastal Conservancy  Reliable Tires Inc.
California State Parks OHV Division  River Partners
California State Parks  San Diego Food Bank
Caltrans  San Diego Gas & Electric
City Heights CDC  SDG&E Energy Innovation Center
City Heights Business Association  San Dieguito River Park
City Heights Realty, LLC  San Dieguito River Park Conservancy
Community Housing Works  San Diego Canyonlands
City of Carlsbad  San Diego Foundation
City of Coronado  San Diego Metropolitan Transit System
City of Chula Vista  San Diego Park & Recreation
City of El Cajon  San Diego River Park Foundation
City of Encinitas  San Diego Unified School District
City of Escondido  San Diego Zoo Safari Park
City of Imperial Beach  Sweetwater Authority
City of La Mesa  The Toro Foundation
City of Oceanside  Tree San Diego
City of Poway  Unified Port of San Diego
City of San Diego  University of California San Diego
City of San Marcos  Viejas Fire Department
City of Santee  Wildlife Conservation Board
City of Vista  Woodbridge Pacific Group
Civic San Diego  Worth Property Management
County of San Diego
Enhance La Jolla Maintenance Assessment District
### DONORS & GRANTS - THANK YOU!

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Thank you to all of our supporters!
Urban Corps of San Diego County
Audited Financial Highlights
Year Ended June 30, 2021

Total Operating Expenses
$11,806,980

Total Revenue & Support
$11,155,012

Net Assets
$9,974,510

Eighty-eight cents of every dollar goes to programs
Urban Corps of San Diego County

is a certified local conservation corps and charter school
whose mission is to provide young adults with tools to expand their career
opportunities through education, life skills training
and paid work experience on projects that benefit our communities.

Sam Duran Center
3127 Jefferson Street
San Diego, CA 92110

Diane Annala Chalmers Center
2200 Micro Place
Escondido, CA 92029

(619) 235-6885
info@urbancorps.org

For more information or to join Urban Corps,
visit www.urbancorpssd.org

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Dedicated to Sam Lopez