

Alex Barrios

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My name is Alex Barrios. I'm from Farmersville CA. I've been with the sequoia community corps for two and half years going on my third. When I first started I was in department of recycling running a buy back center. Running the back center was nice but hard because I had to deal with money. I ran both the centers in Goshen and in Exeter. The Goshen buy back center was always busy with people; there one day I assisted 31 customers in one day! After running Goshen I went to Exeter and began to manage that buy back center. I had multiple job like handling money, helping the customers, keeping the center clean and also baling cardboard. Running both centers help me to get skills I never had like talking to people. With the skills I learned from the center I had the opportunity to me become a specialist. As a specialist I talk to kids from pre-k to the 12 grade as well as adults. In our recycling education team we help the community and teaching them about recycling.

Before I joined the scc I would just look for any job I could get. It was hard to find a job so I could help my family. I would go from the fields to packing house until I came to the corps. I've been able to help my family with money since working with the corps. When I came to the corps I already had my high school diploma. The corps made a big difference in my life I'm a better worker and also a better person. With the corps help I wouldn't be doing some of the stuff I do now. I'm going to start taking class and it's with the help of the corps that I'm going back to school. My goals for my life is go to college and to become a teacher. I love working with kids that's one of the reasons I became a specialist because I get to help kids. I want to help kids and teens like the staff here at the corps help me.

Yes, please continue funding the local community conservation corps. Many people look at us the young people as trouble but with the help of the corps we come out looking good with the training and skills everything we learn here. Everyone that comes and goes from the corps leaves a better person with new life and work skills. It's not just important to me but everyone that goes to school workers and the staff. Everyone in the corps treats each other with respect in a way everyone here is like a little family. Young people get there high school diploma and we get help finding a permanent jobs the corps does so much for everyone that works and goes to school here. Over all the corps doesn't just help u students and staff but it also helps the community.