

My name is Francis Warren. I work for the Orange County Conservation Corps on the Recycling team. While working with the OCCC I have worked on many recycling projects. The OCCC collects C.R.V. material from University of Irvine, California on a bi-weekly basis. We also service OC Parks on a bi-weekly basis. These being the two routes I currently work on.

My life before the OCCC was a rough one. I was fighting a losing battle against Drug Addiction and living a life of crime. Because of this, I found myself in jail. Once I was released from jail I knew it was time to get my life together. It seemed impossible to find a job as convicted felon, and to make things harder I had not yet finished high school. The search seemed hopeless, until I found the OCCC.

The OCCC gave me a chance I so desperately needed, a chance to have a job and to finish school. I was put on the recycling team. I took great pride in my work. While there I was able to obtain my High School Diploma. I thought I would never go to college. My mentors at the OCCC encouraged me to enroll I have since completed 42 units. My goal is to transfer to Cal State Long Beach.

I am truly thankful for the chance the OCCC gave me. This chance has enabled me not only to recover, but to thrive to a high point I have never been before in life. This was all made possible by the funding of the Bottle Bill. This Bill changed my life in ways I never thought possible. Not only did it benefit me, but now as a Human Service worker, it benefits those I help. This Bill has the ability to impact lives in a great way. By continuing to fund this Bill, lives will be change and restored.