

# CORPS CONNECTION

Sequoia Community Corps



## ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS HONORED

Each year, the Sequoia Community Corps (SCC) is proud to honor outstanding corpsmembers for their personal achievements and contributions to the program. Towards the end of 2017, all corpsmembers were invited to a breakfast and awards ceremony where SCC staff took the opportunity to share their appreciation for corpsmembers and their job well done over the last year.

In total, nine corpsmembers were honored during the event.

### Awards:

- Best New Corpsmember - Debbie Salazar
- Most Respected Corpsmember - Michael Sayler
- Community Service Award - Salvador Mendez
- Best Dressed Corpsmember - Ariana Lopez

### Corpsmember of the Year Nominees:

- Darrin Houston - Urban Forestry
- Sofia Bedolla - Weatherization
- Jonathan Jones - Public Works
- Jessica Padilla - Weatherization
- Alexa Patino - Weatherization

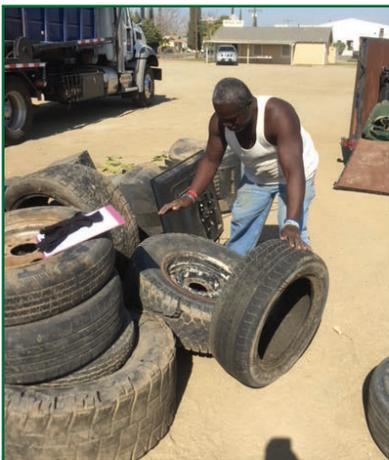
### Corpsmember of the Year Winner:

- Rashawn Haynes - Department of Recycling



## MAKING A DIFFERENCE, ONE TIRE AT A TIME

On Saturday, October 28, 2017, the Sequoia Community Corps (SCC) united with millions of Americans in honor of Make A Difference Day, the nation's largest day of volunteering. Make A Difference Day, held annually on the fourth Saturday of October, connects people with opportunities to serve their neighbors, increases the strength of communities, and promotes civic engagement.



The SCC joined the volunteer efforts by hosting Waste Tire Collection events in the unincorporated communities of Pixley and Allensworth. Residents of the area were encouraged to visit a designated drop-off site to properly dispose of their unwanted waste tires. Over 60 tires were collected!

Community partners are integral to the success of Make A Difference Day. Event partners included the Tulare County Sheriff's Department, Tulare County Fire Department, and Tule Trash. Thanks to the generosity of the Sheriff's Department, all disposal fees were covered for community members.

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## OSHA TRAINING NOW AVAILABLE

The SCC is proud to announce that it is a recipient of the Susan Harwood Training Grant Program from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Grants are awarded to provide training and education programs for employers and workers on the recognition, avoidance, and prevention of safety and health hazards in their workplaces. Training also informs workers of their rights and employers of their responsibilities under the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act.

OSHA training will be available across the Central Valley and will be free of charge to employers. Scheduling is flexible and trainings can be customized to meet the needs of each individual employer. SCC staff is currently busy developing materials for the five training topics to be offered. Topics include:

- Chemical Hazards & Hazard Communication
- Machine Guarding
- Fall Prevention
- Electrical Hazards
- Excavation Hazards

For more information about the program, please contact Raquel Roa at [Raquel.Roa@cset.org](mailto:Raquel.Roa@cset.org) or (559) 741-4621.



**S**AFETY  
**T**RAINING  
**O**UTREACH  
**P**ROGRAM

*Accident prevention is our #1 intention.*

## URBAN FORESTRY: MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

Approximately, 80% of Americans live in urban areas and have few opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors. This is why urban trees and greenery are invaluable resources in communities; they are often the only trees and forests people benefit from. Urban trees and greenery have been proven to raise the quality of life, add scenic beauty to the environment, save energy with shade, provide habitat for birds and wildlife, reduce individual stress, and lower crime rates. For all these reasons and more, the SCC is proud to operate the Urban Forestry program, engaging Corps-

members in environmental stewardship and conservation projects.

The program's primary concentration is within the urban environment, focusing on the re-vegetation of public waterways with an emphasis on restoring the native Valley Oak Riparian Corridors. In addition, the Corps is proud to partner with The Urban Tree Foundation, local municipalities, and federal agencies to complete projects in rural areas and national parks.

Through the completion of Urban Forestry projects, young adults have the opportunity to learn leadership skills, develop a work ethic, and a passion for the communities in which they live.

