GOALS Forest Service

Connecting urban communities to visit and support our regional forests...

For the past 15 years, GOALS has been able to send hundreds of deserving youth from underserved backgrounds to extraordinary camp locations across the United States. Generous benefactors such as the Eisner Foundation, among others, have made it possible for youngsters in our program to head to far away places, hike amongst groves of evergreens, swim in mountain lakes, and enjoy the life long camaraderie that is the hallmark of a summer camp experience.

A couple of years ago, GOALS tested out an idea to dispatch a small service team of AmeriCorps “Summer Associates” to a camp up in the Sequoia National Forest. Under the leadership of one of our top coaches—Daniel Lopez, this group helped to refurbish a cabin and the camp bathrooms, and cleared the campground and area trails in preparation for the summer campers. Those were to include a delegation of 50 GOALS youngsters heading up to enjoy a full week of great experiences.

During the summer of 2020 GOALS began a partnership with the Angeles National Forest Service and also the City of Los Angeles to begin service to help preserve an Angeles Forest camp and map out plans to create free camp opportunities while establishing a key based to assist in a much needed infusion of energetic service to help the forest itself. This will truly be a remarkable growth opportunity for GOALS over the years to come and we anticipate thousands of young people will embrace a new awareness and sense of responsibility for their forests—and their planet.

Key Elements

- New “branch” of GOALS Cadets.
- Opens door to environmental stewardship.
- Literally expands horizon for urban GOALS participants.
- Helps support regional forest needs such as reforestation, fire prevention, camp preservation, campground maintenance, trail clearance.
- Career development opportunities (forestry, water quality, soil conservation, facility development, camp operations & maintenance.

For more information visit the GOALS web site at wwwgoals.org