

LCP VOLUME I APPENDIX 3

Youth Investment Program Goals

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Appendix 3 – Youth Investment Program Goals

Goal 1. Become a leading voice in youth development and the far-reaching value of outdoor experiences for youth – from health and fitness, to growth and leadership, to environmental stewardship.

- a) Implement a comprehensive and highly respected evaluation program for our grant program and all grant recipients. Share results openly, offer lessons-learned across the youth-serving community, and continue to improve and focus our own efforts based on evaluation results.
- b) Facilitate seminars and training, act as a resource for information, and coordinate a series of regular convening programs across California to raise awareness, build expertise, and develop organizational capacity.
- c) Build program and funding partnerships with the most progressive partners in California youth development, including health, education, food, juvenile justice, and child advocacy leaders. Pursue relationships with non-traditional youth-serving partners, including electronic game and media providers, in an effort to build alliances and bring new resources and perspectives to youth development efforts.

Goal 2. Lower barriers for underserved or at-risk youth to access the outdoors.

- a) Implement a highly respected and targeted grant program to invest in community-based efforts to reduce physical, financial, and social barriers to youth participation in outdoor experiences. Invest in grass-roots efforts where appropriate to support new community efforts aimed at reducing barriers for youth engagement.
- b) Make direct investments in the primary barriers we currently understand, including: transportation, gear and supplies, and the lack of culturally relevant program leadership.

Goal 3. Promote and support best practices and model programs that succeed in providing meaningful outdoor experiences for youth, particularly disadvantaged youth.

- a) Target certain grants to support innovative and/or pioneering park and/or youth program efforts. Conduct in-depth evaluation of these efforts and use results, as appropriate, to communicate best practices and models.
- b) Bring recognition and credibility to the field, and the professionals dedicated to this work, by developing and implementing an award or other recognition program.
- c) Build a network and legacy of expertise, mentoring resources, and partners across California through long-term, ongoing connections with our grantees and funding partners. Leverage this network to bring expertise and support to communities most in need.

Additionally information regarding the Stewardship Council's Youth Investment Program can be found at: http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org/youth_investment/index.htm.

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