

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Colorado Youth and Lands the Latest Beneficiaries of Colorado Tax Checkoff Program

Colorado Youth Corps Association Now Participating in Checkoff Colorado

March 10, 2016, DENVER, Colo. – Colorado Youth Corps Association (CYCA) is one of nine nonprofit organizations participating in Checkoff Colorado, a public awareness campaign about the voluntary contributions taxpayers can make to charitable organizations when they file their state income tax return. CYCA became eligible to participate for the first time this year.

“Checkoff Colorado is a unique way for taxpayers to give to causes that are important to them – and maybe even makes tax season more enjoyable in the process,” said Scott Segerstrom, executive director of CYCA. “There are so many great causes to choose from. We hope that Coloradans who value hiking and camping in our state’s great outdoors will choose to checkoff CYCA when they file their tax returns.”

It’s easy to donate. Taxpayers will find a list of 14 eligible organizations on the 2015 Colorado 104 individual income tax form. They simply “check off” the organizations they would like to support. Or, taxpayers can tell their accountant that they’d like to support Colorado nonprofits when filing their state income taxes. They download and fill out the [Checkoff Colorado tax form](#) and include it with their tax documents.

Contributions made to CYCA directly benefit the work of youth conservation corps that engage and train youth, young adults, and military veterans on land, water and energy conservation projects throughout the state.

In 2014, Janari McCampbel, an alum of Mile High Youth Corps-Southern Front Range, testified on behalf of a bill that would add a youth conservation corps fund to the state tax checkoff program. In his testimony, Janari described his experience in youth corps as an 18 year old, saying, “The experience changed my life.... After my third season with the youth corps I decided to change my major from automotive service technology to environmental science.” With aspirations to work in state parks, national parks or with the forest service, he added, “I hope to become a game warden one day or a successful asset to the protection of the environment. I believe more youth should have the same life changing experience I did.”

In 1977, Colorado became the first state in the country to allow a taxpayer to “check off” a voluntary contribution to a state program. Since the tax checkoff program was established, over \$30 million has been raised for Colorado nonprofits. In 2003, the funds that were part of the Colorado checkoff program decided to come together to make a bigger impact. The grassroots public awareness campaign targets taxpayers, financial planners, CPAs and other tax preparers to educate them about the simplicity of making a donation when they file their taxes. In 2015, taxpayers gave more than \$1.1 million to the charitable funds in the program.

About Checkoff Colorado

Checkoff Colorado is a statewide, grassroots public awareness campaign focused on educating taxpayers and tax preparers about checkoff giving – a program that allows taxpayers to make voluntary contributions to their favorite charitable organizations when they file their state income tax return. Learn more at www.checkoffcolorado.com.

About Colorado Youth Corps Association

The Colorado Youth Corps Association (CYCA) is a statewide coalition of ten accredited youth conservation corps that engage and train youth, young adults, and military veterans on land, water and energy conservation projects. Youth corps is a proven strategy for engaging young people in service to their communities and stewardship of their environment while cultivating valuable skills to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Learn more at www.CYCA.org.

###

Media Contact:

[Linda Lidov](#), Highland Communication Works, 303-358-6279