



## 2018 STATISTICS

5,444

Participants served

11,798

Contact hours

28

San Francisco Public Library branches served

15

Buses provided for field trips

10

YMCA branches served

18

Community Based Organizations served

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**The Community Group Programs** team consists of staff from both the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service. This partnership allows the Crissy Field Center to reach more community members for a bigger impact by providing groups with single-visit, multi-visit, and customized programs in their own communities and national parks. Programs serve people of all ages and needs who may experience transportation barriers, economic challenges, have special needs, or are simply unfamiliar with their national parks.

Making personal connections with staff and educators is a common entry point for these

new audiences. By establishing an authentic dialogue and developing relationships in the community, staff build rapport and create meaningful connections with participants. Staff showcase culture, natural history, and the recreational opportunities that the Golden Gate National Parks offer. Due to their remote locations, some of the park sites most frequently requested include Alcatraz Island, the Marin Headlands, and Muir Woods National Monument. Community Group Programs works with a wide variety of groups, including youth who are newly arrived in the US, people with elevated health risks, and LGBTQ families.

**The Crissy Field Center** lends its expertise to youth-serving organizations like the YMCA.

The Center trained YMCA staff, demonstrating activities relevant to 636 youth in the Y Rangers summer program. Center educators delivered programs like a weekly campfire—a resounding highlight for hundreds of youth, many who roasted s'mores outside for the first time.

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service continued their

partnership with the San Francisco Library Summer Stride program, encouraging all ages

and abilities to read and learn. Nine free shuttles transported families from neighborhood branches to seven national parks, while 28 library locations hosted rang-

er-led storytelling sessions. Some branches established trailheads and offered maps, reading suggestions, and resources to enrich the visitation experience, with 1,442 participants taking part in this program.



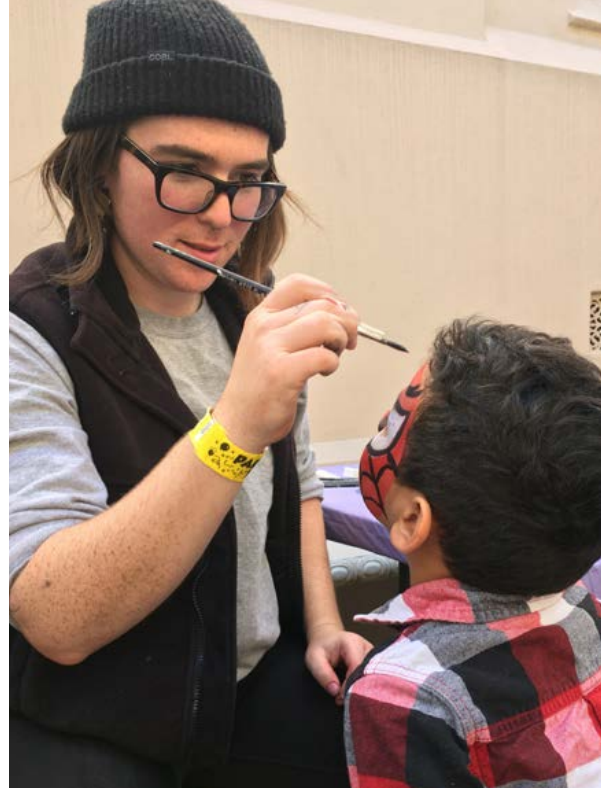


## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS

**We cater to the needs** and experience levels of participants with customized opportunities for organizations and groups. Over several years, the Community Group Programs team has established a partnership with Hamilton Families, who provides services supporting the wellbeing of children and families experiencing homelessness. Center staff also engage their efforts to support families during the holidays by helping sort gifts for 450 families, reaching nearly 1,400 parents and children.

Staff also worked with People Organizing to Demand Environmental and Economic Justice to develop outdoor science-based activities for their high school youth. During spring break, youth participated in a camping trip to Yosemite National Park followed by a field trip to Muir Woods National Monument. These activities allow youth to have new experiences in parks they otherwise are unable to reach.

Each year, the Community Group Programs team partners with Mission Dolores Basilica. In September, the Mission Presidio Hike links two of San Francisco's oldest neighborhoods, with National Park Service rangers leading a historical tour from the Mission to the Presidio. To celebrate Día de Muertos, almost 300 participants tour the Mission Dolores Basilica church and cemetery, and guests can get their faces painted, make paper flowers, paint their own calacas to take home, and remember their passed loved ones through a flower burning ceremony.



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



**Family Programs** were launched to reach more community members and consisted of quarterly Crissy Field Center Family Programs, including ranger-led hikes in national parks

and evening campfires. In partnership with Our Family Coalition, free outdoor programming was also provided to families of all abilities and family structures through quarterly Queer Family Programs. Events included hikes led by queer staff and a campout at Rob Hill Campground.

By providing family-specific programs, the team is creating connections to communities with children of all ages and providing opportunities for everyone to connect with their national parks in a welcoming space.



## KEY PARTNERS



San Francisco Public Library



**Hamilton Families**  
HOUSING FIRST. COMMUNITY STRONG.

*Mission Dolores Parish*  
MISSION SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS & MISSION DOLORES BASILICA - FOUNDED 1776