

## The Future of Job Corps

### Loring Job Corps Center

To everyone out there who is feeling lost and think they are stuck in going nowhere fast I am writing this essay for you. I know how you feel and I myself have felt the same way I found myself in Hartford CT doing nothing positive for myself or anyone around me. I had attempted to look for a job and after numerus dead ends I began to think just trying to get by would be my only path I could follow. I told myself no one would hire me because I had no education and if no one hired me then I would never get any experience so why even try. I looked at going back to school but needed to make some type of money and school would take up to much time that I could work. My crazy cycle of on and off work at part time low paying jobs, and struggling to just get by if someone would say borrowing and hoping is getting by was getting harder and harder each and every day. One day I ran into one of my cousins Edmond Sanchez who told me that he once was where I was and that he recommended that I go to Job Corps and get the education and training so I could get a good full time job like he has. Edmond told me that he knew Job Corps would be the right fit for me since he was a graduate of the Job Corps in Limestone, Maine. I took Edmonds advice, enrolled in Job Corps and requested to be sent to Loring Job Corps so I could get the same opportunities offered to my cousin. I arrived in northern Maine and began the next chapter of my life as I look back its hard to believe it's already been over six months since I took the best advice I have ever gotten and joined the Job Corps Program.

Where am I now you ask, well I happy to say that now I am on track to be a completer here at Loring this spring and I am so happy that I took the advice of my cousin. Not only have I achieved my high school equivalency diploma and a meaningful trade I have made a lot of I know will be longtime friends, became a leader in student groups on center such as the Loring Honor Guard and the Student Government association and was honored to be given the title of the Centers Student of the quarter. If that were not enough I have also just recently enlisted in the U.S. Army and will depart for basic training once I complete my trade. Where I am now I would say wow I would have never thought that I could have made it this far, and I thank all the staff and my fellow students for motivating me and giving me the tools needed to accomplish my goal.

So where am I going, well forward of course. I will graduate from Loring and head off to Army Basic Training at Fort Benning, GA where I will begin my next adventure and chapter of success in my life. I plan on being in the Army for a number of years while I also peruse a degree in criminal justice so I can add to the knowledge and tools needed ensuring a stable life for myself and my son. My future is to make sure my son has numerus opportunities. I will use the education and knowledge given to me by the staff and students here at Loring to help others who were in my position, for every success story such as mine there are others who still believe there is no hope. I will continue to recommend Job Corps because as you can see Job Corps provides hope and where there is hope there is success.

Take it from me, Ilias Cabrera Job Corps student and future Job Corps Graduate

Job Corps Works

Just look what it did for me