

Congratulations!



We're so glad you chose VYCC! We are a welcoming community, rooted by our mission: *teaching personal responsibility through meaningful group work that connects us to the land, community, and each other.* In this spirit, VYCC is far more than a job....it's a great adventure, a challenge that sparks growth and discovery, and a true opportunity to make the world a better place. Great things lie ahead and we're thrilled to have you on our team.

As you get ready for your VYCC experience, I encourage you to ponder two questions: **what will you contribute to your VYCC crew?** What do you want to gain from your time with VYCC? I'm not, obviously, asking about physical things...instead, these are questions designed to get you thinking about what you want your experience to look like. We can help make it happen.

At VYCC, we believe that our community is strongest when it represents all people. On our crews, you will find a wide variety of social, economic, and educational backgrounds. This diversity is a strength. It also asks each and everyone one of us to be our best selves. Let's get real: it can be hard to work and communicate well with others. But, committing to this and doing it well is an essential skill – just imagine what this world would be like if everyone learned to do this! And, you'll find that time spent outdoors brings people together in ways you would have never imagined.

Part of leadership is being a good listener. We've listened to alumni and we're trying some new things this year. For example, our on-campus orientation will be longer, and crews will visit other crews on weekends. This is part of a broader effort to connect folks, not just with their crew, but with the whole organization. We're excited to test this out and we think it'll be awesome.

Last, I encourage you lean into new challenges and new experiences. Along the way, there will be long days, deep mud, hot sun, and pesky bugs. And, rain. But, with help from your crew, you'll rise to the occasion just as so many VYCC have done before you. Have I mentioned that we find lots of ways to have fun? #LetsDigIn!

I look forward to meeting you and, again, CONGRATULATIONS!

Breck Knauft

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Breck Knauft".

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Executive Director