

Congratulations!



We're so glad you chose VYCC! We are a welcoming community, one where we work and learn together with the land. 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 you 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 people from a wide variety of backgrounds. This diversity is a strength and also asks each and every 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 never have 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, we're trying out some hybrid crews, we're increasing our forestry work, we're building some backcountry cabins, and we hope to increase our water quality work. Of equal importance we're rethinking how we incorporate learning into the VYCC experience so that it's super rewarding (and doesn't feel like school!). Finally, we're committed to helping Corps Members find their next opportunity after your time working and learning on a VYCC crew; if you don't know what might follow your VYCC experience, we'd love to help you find something meaningful right here in Vermont.

I encourage you to lean into new challenges and 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 at VYCC have done before you. Have I mentioned that we find lots of ways to have fun? #LetsDigIn!

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

Breck Knauft and Leah Mital, Executive Directors

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leah Mital".