



City Year Uniform

MISSION

When the first City Year corps and staff convened in 1988, they wore a uniform. Since that time, the uniform has changed dramatically, evolving from high-top sneakers and bright red caps to outfits provided by The Timberland Company and ARAMARK.

While the uniform itself has changed, the reason we wear a uniform has not. The City Year uniform is, and always has been, a symbol of our full-time commitment to service. Each time we put on the uniform, we identify ourselves as representatives of youth service and City Year – as practicing idealists who are ready to help and lead. Everything we do in uniform is magnified. Every individual who wears the uniform is representing everyone in the organization. They also represent everyone who has ever worn the uniform in the past and who will wear the uniform in the future.

Along with wearing the uniform powerfully and professionally comes the responsibility to inspire those around us to serve and act on their idealism. **In uniform we become trustees of the relationship between our organization and ideals, and our community, nation and world.**

The mission of the City Year Uniform is to:

- PROMOTE the idea of citizen service and the values of City Year to the general public
- INSTILL a sense of spirit, discipline, purpose, and pride in all City Year members
- ESTABLISH a spirit of unity and connection among all City Year corps, alumni and staff
- ADD a sense of stewardship for the organization's relationship with the community
- FOCUS on each person's unique skills, contributions and personality rather than wardrobe
- PROVIDE children, youth and members of the community with a sense of the reliability and continuity of City Year, even though they work with different corps members each year
- IDENTIFY each corps and staff member as part of City Year, a recognizable symbol of hope, idealism and inspiration
- EXPRESS our full-time commitment to solving social problems, training outstanding new leaders and building a more beloved and just community, democracy, nation and world