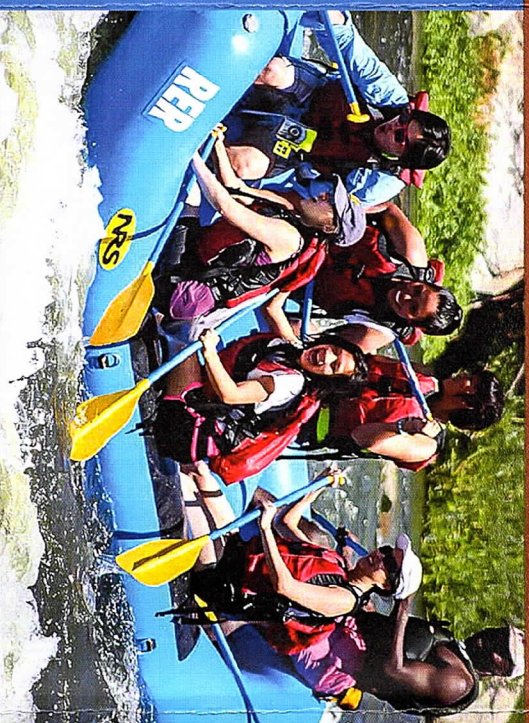
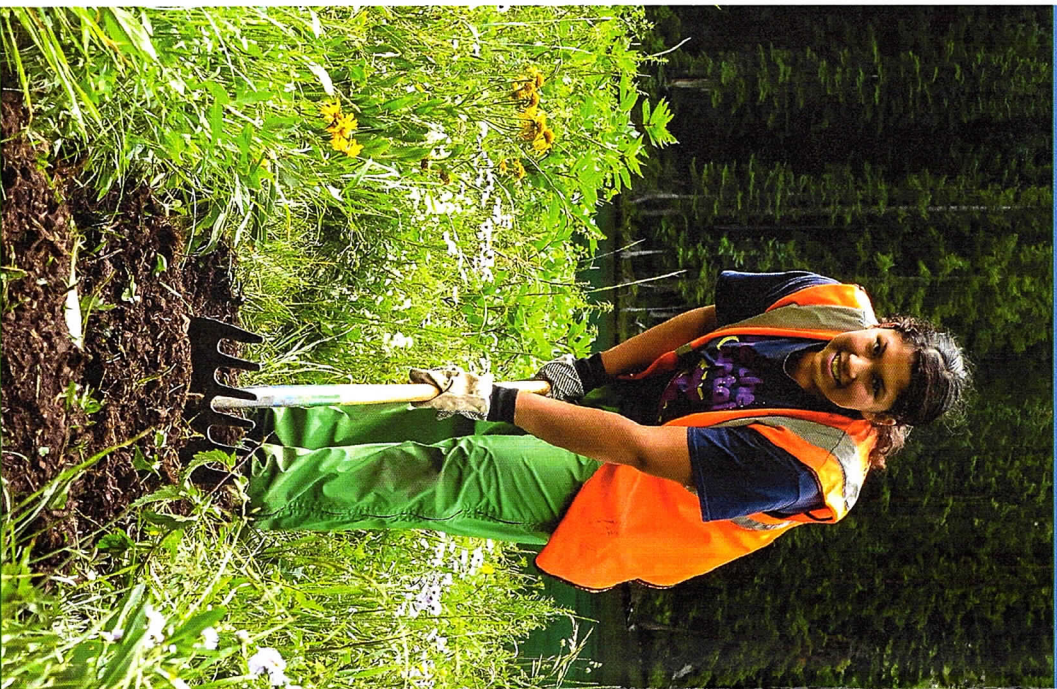


"Eagle Rock may be an easy climb for some, but many underserved students have never met such a physical challenge. Once accomplished, a person may take that memory and build on it -- giving one that sense of 'I can do anything if I just put my mind to it.' I am grateful to ICO for giving my students these opportunities."

- Teacher at Ellen Ochoa
Learning Center, Cudahy, CA



How you can help

The LA ICO program is made possible by its volunteers who give generously of their time and skills. Volunteers are always needed. To find out how you can volunteer, go to our website at <http://angelesico.org> and click "Volunteer Opportunities" or contact Elizabeth Neat by phone at (310) 241-0502 or by email at ico@angeles.sierracub.org.

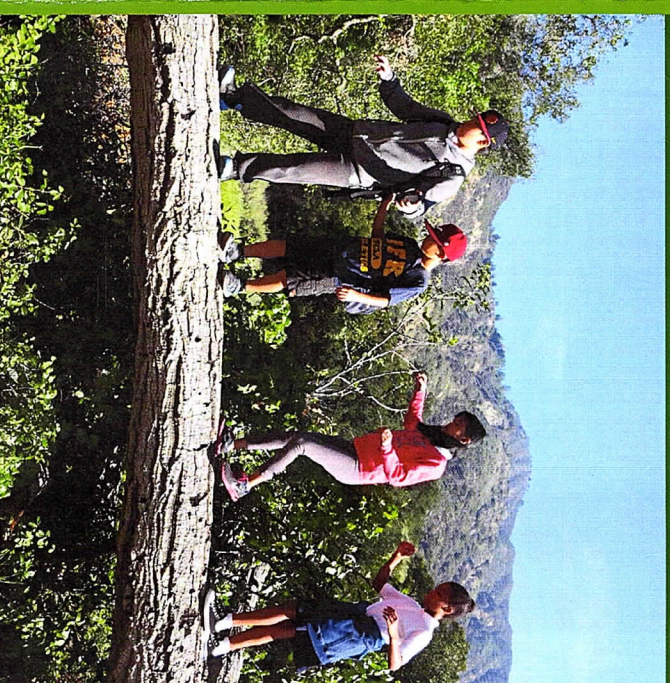
Outings are conducted at relatively low cost, but financial support from foundations and individuals is always needed and appreciated. Transportation accounts for 99% of our expenses. To donate, visit our website or make out a check to "The Sierra Club Foundation/LA ICO" and mail to:

The Sierra Club Foundation
2101 Webster Street, Suite 1250
Oakland, CA 94612

Visit our website at:
www.angelesico.org



Inspiring Connections Outdoors



An Outreach Program
of the Sierra Club

"Carlos, a ninth grader, ran up to me the night we camped at Leo Carrillo and said **he had never seen the stars before and **couldn't believe there were so many.**"**

- Teacher at California Academy of
Mathematics and Science; Carson, CA



What we do

LA ICO enables urban youth, the disabled, and others to appreciate, enjoy, and respect the environment while achieving goals they might never undertake in their urban setting. Our core outings are four-to five-mile day hikes, often in the Santa Monica Mountains. Typically, 25 to 30 youngsters take part in each hike and are accompanied by representatives from the school or agency. Other family members are welcome to join and participate as well. In addition to the day hikes, LA ICO sponsors overnight camping trips, snow trips, visits to coastal lagoons and tide pools, and service projects.

Who we are

Los Angeles Inspiring Connections Outdoors (LA ICO) is one of 55 Sierra Club Inspiring Connections Outdoors Committees nationwide. LA ICO was started by a small group of Sierra Club volunteers in 1983. Today, our 40 trip leaders lead outings for over 4,000 youngsters and 500 parents and teachers annually. Our leaders are trained in outdoor and safety skills as well as environmental education.



The young people we serve have little or no access to parks and open space. They live in Los Angeles County's poorest neighborhoods where over crowded housing and gang violence are common. Approximately 90% of the young people LA ICO serves live below the poverty line. The outings we offer are completely free of charge.

**"The ICO guides
lead by example and the
students get the message:
we are responsible for
caring for the Earth."**

- Teacher at Broadous
Elementary School; Pacoima, CA

