

MARCH 2024 ISSUE

# THE ALUMS CORNER:

## The Scoop After Service

### Building Bridges & Creating Impact

I hope you are ready because this issue of The Scoop After Service is packed! We're sharing plenty of resources for your life after your service year, from making connections with other alums, to professional development and volunteer opportunities, to tips for your resume.

We're also reflecting on an event we co-hosted during AmeriCorps Week that brought together AmeriCorps Alums of different generations. In just 90 minutes, we heard inspirational stories of service and made connections across generational divides, with alums ranging in age and experience, background and viewpoints, from the early years of AmeriCorps to the present day. We know that service years offer a powerful way to bring people together across lines of difference - and we were delighted to engage with so many alums. We hope you will continue this engagement by making connections through our [LinkedIn group](#), and that you'll consider submitting your story of bridging divides across lines of difference to the Service Year Alums Awards (more on that below).

Just yesterday, Service Year Alliance released our new strategy - one that centers the corps member experience and lifts up the voices of those who have served. We're excited to continue to hear from you as we continue to work toward the moment when service years are a common expectation and opportunity, a part of growing up in America. Reach out anytime at [alums@serviceyear.org](mailto:alums@serviceyear.org).

Juanita Henry  
Manager, Programs & Communications

### Newsletter Highlights:

Building Bridges & Creating Impact

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Service Year Alums Awards

Global Volunteer Month is April

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#### Resources & Tips:

- Unlocking PSLF: How to Navigate AmeriCorps Paperwork for Loan Forgiveness
  - ASC's National Service Career Pathways Resource
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Join Our LinkedIn Community:  
Elevate Your Impact Beyond Your Service Year!

Service Year Alums Instagram Takeover

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Career & Job Opportunities,  
Spotlights and more!



# Service Year Alums Awards

Service Year Alliance is thrilled to announce the inaugural [Service Year Alums Awards](#)! These awards are designed to recognize and celebrate service year alums who have gone above and beyond in bridging divides across lines of difference and fostering positive change during their service years and beyond. This is an opportunity to showcase your contributions through service, highlight the positive impacts you've made, and inspire future generations of service year members.



Submissions are due Friday, May 31. Learn more about the Service Year Alums Awards and how to [apply here](#).

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## Global Volunteer Month is this April

April is Global Volunteer Month, a time dedicated to celebrating volunteers across the world. To help us honor Global Volunteer Month, Points of Light created a social toolkit to amplify the impact of volunteers everywhere. [Check it out here](#) and spread the word.

Global Volunteer Month is a testament to the power of every act of service, no matter how small, in building stronger and more resilient communities. Throughout April, we encourage you to lend your time, skills, and passion to make a real difference in your own backyard and beyond.



## Unlocking PSLF: How to Navigate AmeriCorps Paperwork for Loan Forgiveness:



If you're planning on pursuing Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) to discharge student loans, and can't get signatures from your former AmeriCorps Supervisor, reach out to AmeriCorps Forms at [AmeriCorpsForms@cns.gov](mailto:AmeriCorpsForms@cns.gov)! You will need to send PDF's of your completed PSLF forms that detail your AmeriCorps term of service along with your National Service Participant Identification Number (NSPID) which can be found in the [My.AmeriCorps.gov](https://my.americorps.gov) portal.

### ASC's National Service Career Pathways Resource:

Have you explored the America's Service Commission website lately? America's Service Commissions offers a webpage called [National Service Career Pathways](#) that could be beneficial to you as a service year alum!



Discover valuable resources, including their enhanced [Service Job Board](#). Whether you're seeking guidance on your career journey or searching for new opportunities, this page will help you take the next step in your service career.

## Translating National Service Experience for Your Resume

*By: Willie Brooks, Director of Programs with Serve Indiana & Service Year Alliance, Leadership Council Alums Committee Member*

Make sure that you're translating the duties you performed during your term of service to your resume in a way that doesn't include program specific jargon. Unfortunately, not enough employers are aware of the impactful work that national service members complete in local communities all over the country. It's likely that you engaged in leadership, project management, capacity building, public speaking, etc.

***Don't sell yourself short!***





# Join Our LinkedIn Community: Elevate Your Impact Beyond Your Service Year!

Join our [Service Year Alums LinkedIn group](#), a dedicated community for Service Year alums who are passionate about staying connected with other alums through networking, career growth, and gaining industry insight.

## Why Join?

Our LinkedIn group serves as a hub for networking, collaboration, and ongoing support. Connect with fellow alums, share your experiences, explore opportunities to leverage your unique skills gained during your service year.



[Join Now](#)

- **Build Connections:** Expand your professional network by connecting with others who share a commitment to service and community impact.
- **Stay Informed:** Access valuable resources, job opportunities, and insights to stay informed about the latest trends in the service sector and more!
- **Professional Development:** Take advantage of continuous learning opportunities and professional development resources shared by your fellow alums.
- **Share Opportunities:** Contribute to the community by sharing relevant opportunities and insights with fellow members, fostering collaboration and growth.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to service, and we hope to see you in our LinkedIn group!

## Service Year Alums Instagram Takeover



We're thrilled to announce our upcoming initiative: a Service Year Alum Instagram Takeover! These takeovers will feature service year alums from various programs, offering firsthand insights, experiences, and the profound impact of their service directly to our community.

Help us make these service year alums takeovers a success by spreading the word! Share the event details with fellow alums, friends, and anyone interested in the impact of service years [here](#).

If you have any questions or would love to schedule a takeover, please contact Juanita Henry at [jhenry@serviceyear.org](mailto:jhenry@serviceyear.org).

# Career Resources & Job Opportunities

## ASC & S4S National Service Advocacy Academy:

Being an effective national service advocate is essential as we all work to increase funding for national service programming and remove barriers to service.



America's Service Commissions and its States for Service (S4S) initiative are launching the [National Service Advocacy Academy](#) to enable S4S members to earn an official Certificate in National Service Advocacy!

This online training program is intended to give participants the tools they need to effectively and confidently interact with elected officials and their staff in support of national service priorities.

The program is free to all S4S members, including those with individual, young professional, or alum memberships. The fully-online National Service Advocacy Academy will take approximately six hours to complete; you can move through the short training videos at your own pace, as long as you complete the entire program within a three month period.

Developed in coordination with the Congressional Management Foundation, the academy will cover topics such as advocacy, building relationships and holding meetings with lawmakers, current issues in service advocacy, and crafting your message.

Registration for the academy is now open! The first cohort of participants will be able to begin completing their courses on April 1.

[Register for the Academy](#)



## New Politics Leadership Academy: Answering the Call

New Politics Leadership Academy is accepting applications for Answering the Call. This opportunity will help you further explore your call to civic engagement by reflecting on your leadership identity. Alums gain access to panels, networking events, and personalized coaching for continuous growth. Tailored for AmeriCorps alums, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, veterans, and service professionals, this program is ideal for those interested in exploring the political arena. There's no cost to attend.

Learn more and [apply here](#).

## Peace Corps Virtual Service Pilot



Did you know that you could serve with the Peace Corps without leaving home? If personal commitments prevent you from living abroad, Virtual Service might be right for you. Participants collaborate online with partner organizations abroad 5-10 hours for 3-6 months. It's a great opportunity to gain intercultural experience for your resume and make a meaningful impact in the world - and it's a convenient option for those with full-time jobs who still want to engage in part-time service!

Learn more about [Virtual Service here](#).

# Policy & Advocacy for National Service

## President Biden’s FY2025 Budget Request Includes Milestones for National Service; But a Decrease in Overall Opportunities to Serve



Earlier this month, President Biden released his FY2025 budget request, demonstrating the Administration's commitment to reducing barriers to service for more young people and advancing innovations like the American Climate Corps.

Unfortunately, the proposed funding level is a substantial decrease from the President’s FY2024 budget request and would build upon impending cuts currently being navigated due to the FY2024 appropriations landscape. If enacted, the 2025 budget would eliminate an additional 10,000 opportunities to serve through AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors.

Read [Service Year Alliance’s full statement here](#).

## Connect With Your State Commission

Have you connected with your state service commission yet? Commissions play a crucial role in empowering AmeriCorps members and community volunteers to address local needs, foster community strength, and drive innovative state-level service policies.

Through subgrants exceeding \$250 million from federal national service funds and an additional \$100 million annually from local sources, commissions facilitate citizen service and volunteerism nationwide.



This support enables millions of Americans to engage in meaningful service through programs such as AmeriCorps, the Volunteer Generation Fund, and AmeriCorps Seniors.

[Find Your Commission](#)



## Spotlight on Alums Leadership Council Committee Member: Jaynice Del Rosario

Since launching in 2023, Service Year Alliance has been actively engaging diverse alums to join our Leadership Council Alums Committee. These members contribute their unique perspectives, voices, and experiences as service year alums to the evolving work of Service Year Alliance. We're thrilled to spotlight another one of our members in this edition of our alums newsletter.

Learn more about Jaynice Del Rosario below:

Jaynice Del Rosario, a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, dedicated her service from 2013 to 2015 in the SNNPR region of Ethiopia. Her journey began with independent research on girls' education access in Cameroon back in 2010, where encounters with Peace Corps Volunteers ignited her passion for action. Since then, Jaynice has traversed the globe, from Nicaragua to Sierra Leone and Nepal, championing international development efforts centered around girls' rights to quality education.

During her Peace Corps tenure, Jaynice focused on education, concurrently serving as National Coordinator of Gender and Development, crafting and executing local and regional programs for adolescent girls. Her pivotal contributions led her to early planning sessions for the Peace Corps' "Let Girls Learn" initiative, spearheaded by former First Lady Michelle Obama. Jaynice's commitment to empowering youth continued beyond her Peace Corps service. She played significant roles at The Bronx Institute at Lehman College and the Sadie Nash Leadership Project, aiding countless young individuals in pursuing higher education. Presently, as the Senior Program Officer for the Girls First Fund, she supports grassroots organizations in the Global South combatting child marriage and nurturing girls towards self-determination.

In her ongoing initiative, the Feminist Idea Lab, Jaynice seeks to directly empower girl-led projects with transformative potential. Her journey epitomizes unwavering dedication to fostering equitable opportunities and amplifying the voices of marginalized communities worldwide.

*"Her journey epitomizes unwavering dedication to fostering equitable opportunities and amplifying the voices of marginalized communities worldwide."*



# Inspiring Dialogues: Reflecting on AmeriCorps Week's Intergenerational Alumni Networking Event

To celebrate AmeriCorps Week, we hosted an Intergenerational Alumni Virtual Networking event with AmeriCorps and America's Service Commissions. We heard from a panel of AmeriCorps alums and a current AmeriCorps Seniors volunteer who served at different periods since AmeriCorps' founding three decades ago.



We're grateful to our Leadership Council Alums Committee member Nicki Fiocco for facilitating a dialogue between Colonel Rebecca Lange, "Grandma" Fran Seeley, and Nebraska Senator Tony Vargas. Each demonstrated what it means to live a life of service - and how we can serve in remarkably different ways.

We left the panel connected and inspired - and reflecting on a comment from Grandma Fran, "The [AmeriCorps pledge](#) is a roadmap to life." Whether you are an alum of AmeriCorps or another amazing service year program, we hope you are continuing to be inspired by those who serve, and that you carry your commitment to service wherever you go.

## Media Highlights:

- [Service Year Alliance Doubles Down on Renewed Strategy to Scale Innovations and Unlock New Resources for National Service](#) | Service Year Alliance
- [Kilmer Introduces Legislation to Reduce Polarization and Support Community Bridge Building](#) | U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer
- [Charting a Course for Future Public Health Leaders](#) | Public Health Institute
- [California Students Need More Support Than Ever. Scaling Back Programs Would be a Mistake](#) | Cal Matters