



Join
CA Foster
Youth
Initiative
AmeriCorps

Opening Doors to
Opportunity
Serving to Change Lives



Introduction to Our CA FYI Presenters

CA Foster Youth Initiative **SUPERVISORS**

Cherie Schroeder

Coordinator Yolo County Independent Living Program
Woodland Community College, CA Resource Parent
CA FYI Outreach & Education Manager (CAPC)

Tabitha Grier

CA FYI AmeriCorps Project Manager
Child Abuse Prevention Center (CAPC)

Mike Baldwin

Director, Statewide AmeriCorps Programs
Child Abuse Prevention Center (CAPC)

Colette Cross Bradley

Foster Youth Services Liaison & Homeless Youth Coordinator
Siskiyou County Office of Education

Jessica Mendoza

Program Coordinator, Youth 2 Leaders Education Foundation
AmeriCorps Mentoring Program
Serving Kern County Students
Former CA FYI AmeriCorps service Member

CA Foster Youth Initiative **OUTSTANDING SERVICE MEMBERS**

Zahira Elmansoumi

CA Foster Youth Initiative Service Member
TAY NMD *mentor, serving*
Woodland Community College ILP, EOP&S, in partnership
with Yolo County Healthy & Human Service & Yolo County Office
of Education Foster Youth Services

Isabel Greenman

CA Foster Youth Initiative Service Member
TAY NMD *Mentor, serving*
Foster Youth Services Liaison &
Homeless Youth Coordinator
Siskiyou County Office of Education



AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps Service

Finding new & expanded ways to **REACH** foster youth

CA Foster Youth
Initiative
AN OVERVIEW



Goals for our CA FYI Presentation

1. Sharing AmeriCorps Service and the CA Foster Youth Initiative
2. CA FYI - Why it Matters
 1. The benefits of mentors, developing former foster youth and caregivers with lived experience as peer leaders and opening doors to better futures for youth touched by foster care
3. CA FYI AmeriCorps Position Activities
4. How CA FYI will benefit Transitional Age Youth & Non-Minor Dependents in your Agency
5. Top 10 Things You Need to Know about AmeriCorps
6. How you too can be a part of the CA Foster Youth AmeriCorps Initiative



AmeriCorps

CA Child Abuse Prevention Center (CAPC)

- ▶ For nearly 40 years, **The Child Abuse Prevention Center** has been a state, national and international service, training, advocacy and resource center dedicated to protecting children and building healthy families.
- ▶ It holds 20+ years of AmeriCorps experience.
- ▶ Known as the **CAP Center** and located in Sacramento, California, it is home to three unique agencies. Each takes a different but complementary approach to preventing child abuse by providing an array of programs to build strong families and keep children safe.



What is AmeriCorps Service?

Members Get Things Done!

Since 1994 AmeriCorps is a way for people 18 years and older to improve lives and strengthen communities by making a commitment to service and meeting critical needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment.

The CA FYI AmeriCorps Program

launched in 2019, and is funded by California Volunteers, the state office that manages programs and initiatives aimed at increasing the number of Californians engaged in service and volunteerism.



AmeriCorps

**CALIFORNIA
VOLUNTEERS**





CA Foster Youth Initiative (CA FYI)

AmeriCorps

The Initiative's goals are to improve transitional age foster youth life outcomes.

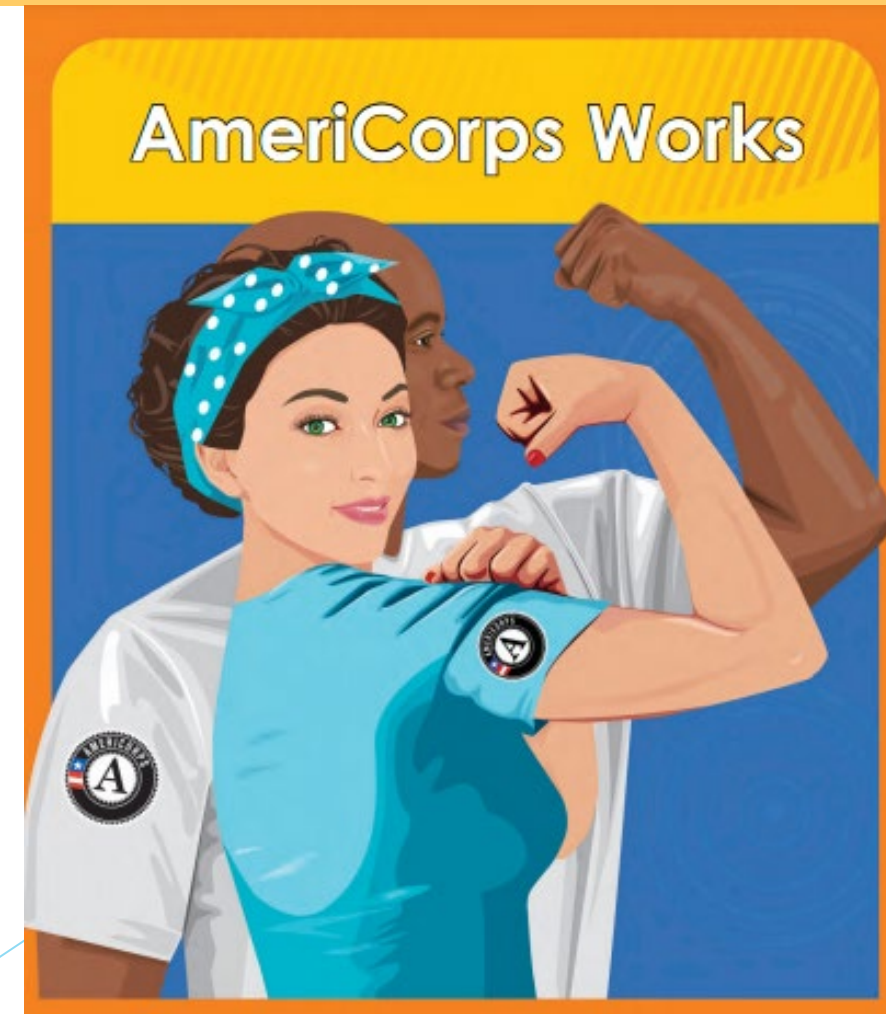
To focus on achievement for foster youth by establishing stronger academic, literacy, life skills and technology competency, supporting placement stability, while building career, employment, leadership and extracurricular opportunities through expanded AmeriCorps service mentors and with stronger collaborative partnerships.

Our hope is that you will join us to establish exciting new academic, leadership and career pathways for FY and former FY as they traverse into adulthood.

Demonstrated CA Foster Youth Initiative Impact 2019-2020 Service Year

Based on individual matched pairs of pre-post comparisons of foster youth that received 44 hours of mentoring from an CA FYI AmeriCorps Service Member

- ▶ **98%** demonstrated competency in 3 or more Casey Life Skills domains
- ▶ **95%** students promoted to the next grade level
- ▶ **95%** demonstrated improved financial literacy knowledge
- ▶ **94%** demonstrated improved academic engagement or social emotional skills
- ▶ **90%** of seniors graduated with a high school diploma, *compared* to state average of 55-60 percent.





Benefits to Agency

CA FYI AmeriCorps Service Member, Zahira Elmansoumi, in Action

1. CA FYI members are an amazing asset to your organization or Agency, allowing you to better serve foster youth and young adult dependents, between the ages of 12 & 21-years-old.
2. Mentoring is a priority, directly serving your foster youth and NMD's.
3. AmeriCorps funds two-thirds of the cost for a member.
4. Young adults with “lived experience” are encouraged to be your AmeriCorps members, it is a win-win!
5. We, the CAP Center, provide incredible member training and on-going program support.
6. Most importantly, **your program & TAY** will be elevated with the three E's of AmeriCorps:

Enriched, Expanded and Enhanced!!

AmeriCorps Member Benefits

- ▶ Living Allowance, given in two equal installments each month over the duration of the member's term.
- ▶ Education Award upon completion of the member's service term (amount determined by hours contracted to serve)
- ▶ Health Care Benefits for full-time members
- ▶ Child Care Subsidy for full-time members
- ▶ Loan Forbearance & Interest Accrual during service term
- ▶ Professional Development, moving from "client" to "valued voice" at the table
- ▶ Leadership and teamwork expertise
- ▶ Experience and confidence as a child welfare professional



Service Member Training

- ▶ AmeriCorps Orientation and Basics
- ▶ AmeriCorps Data Collection/Casey Life Skills Assessment
- ▶ Boundaries and Ethics
- ▶ Building Mentoring Relationships & Engagement
- ▶ Communication & Professional Boundaries
- ▶ Conflict Resolution
- ▶ Culturally Proficient Professional
- ▶ Extended Foster Care - AB 12 - Supports & Services
- ▶ Financial Literacy - EverFi Training
- ▶ Foster Youth & Non-Minor Dependent Rights - AB 175
- ▶ Four Pillars of Stability - Intro. to CA Youth Connection
- ▶ Mandated Child Abuse Reporter Training
- ▶ Mentoring Strategies for Success
- ▶ Overview of Dependency & the Child Welfare System
- ▶ Self-Care
- ▶ Trauma Informed Care

YOUTH RISING



What CA FYI Members Do?

Serve as a mentor within a Partner's organization in a capacity that supports one or all five CA FYI domains.

Five domains of CA FYI:

1. Academic engagement & achievement
2. Life skills & technology
3. College & career readiness
4. Leadership development
5. Placement stability

Service may mean giving support to expand or enhance agency outreach through mentoring; direct interaction with youth.





AmeriCorps

CA FYI AmeriCorps Service Members

- ▶ Building the Voices of Youth with “Lived Experience”
- ▶ Preparing for Child Family Team Meetings, RFA trainings, and within ILP, FKCE, Office of Education, Community Organizations with Transitional Age Youth planning and programs
- ▶ Support placement stability, permanency and life-long connections
- ▶ Strengthen Resiliency through Promoting Protective Factors and Developmental Assets
- ▶ Provide life skills, financial literacy, tutoring, and the Ansel Casey Assessment
- ▶ Enhance educational achievement and engagement
- ▶ Share out “Foster Youth Rights”, Healthy Sexual Development, Prudent Parenting Standard. Build extra-curricular activities & exploration
- ▶ Enhance leadership and volunteerism opportunities
- ▶ Support skills development for employment, workforce readiness & career pathways
- ▶ Enhance/establish foster youth support networks - help support or build “Foster” Clubs at middle and high schools, community college & universities.

Members can serve

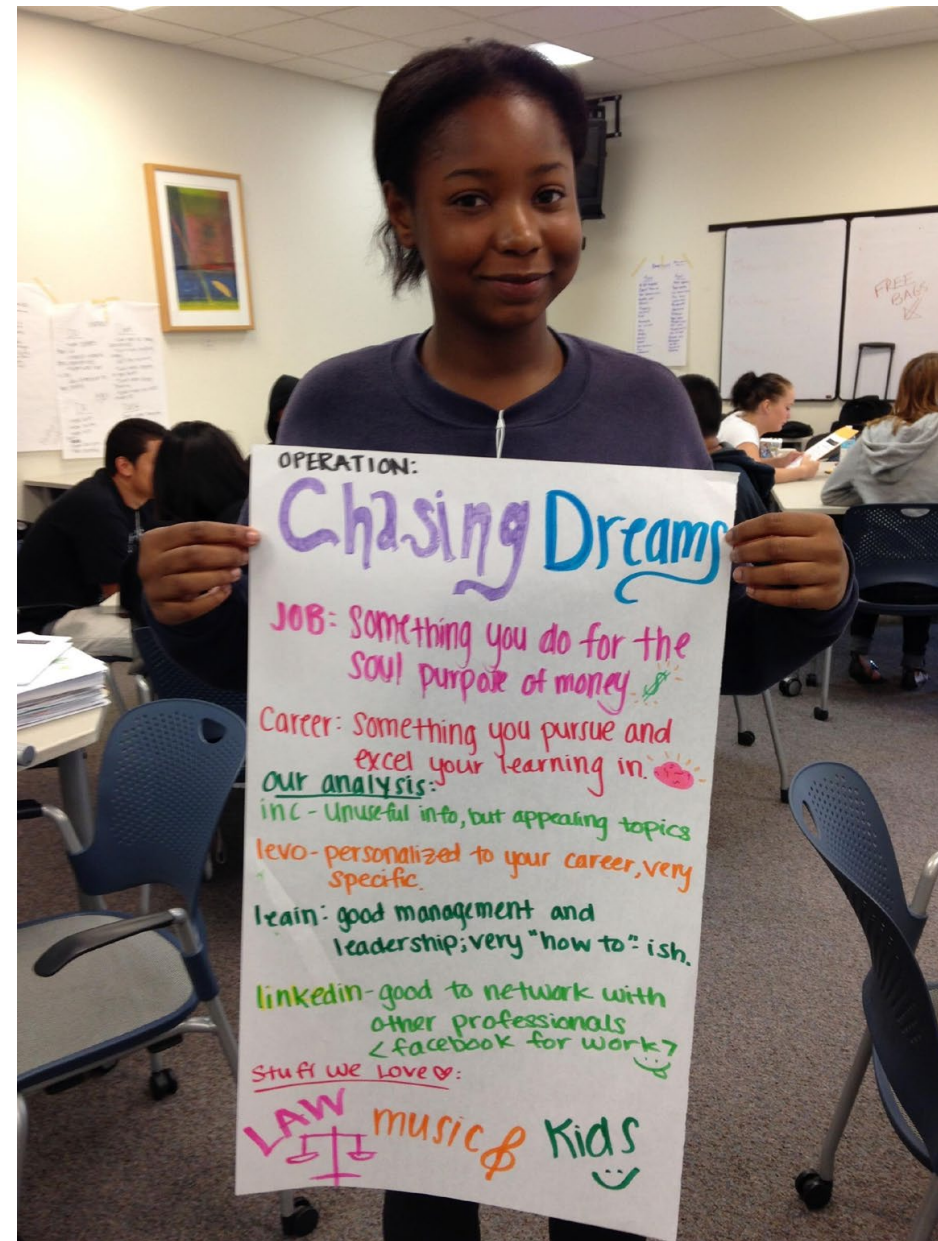
- ▶ 1700 hours = Full-time
- ▶ 1200 hours = 3/4 time
- ▶ 900 hours = 1/2 time

There is flexibility
in making it work
for you!



CA FYI strives to touch Transitional Age Youth lives by opening wider doors for their future. AmeriCorps members can serve in a variety of capacities, and within the above range of service hours. They engage outside the classroom, broaden our reach, enhance delivery, expand resources and relational connections. It is a WIN!!

“My AmeriCorps experience gave me a stronger voice, leadership opportunities, and enhanced skills to step forward to achieve my dreams for college and a self-fulfilling career.”



Jasmine Harris, AmeriCorps Service Member 2017-2018



Sharing of Ideas & Innovations

Let's Share a Little of the Amazing Service

SISKIYOU COUNTY Office of Education

Colette Bradley
Foster Youth Services Liaison
& Homeless Youth Coordinator

AmeriCorps Member, Isabel

Carries a caseload of about 15 Transitional Age Youth, grades 8th through 12th plus, several Non-Minor Dependents, those 18 to 21-years old.

Primary Initial Focus

- Life Skills-Transitional Support-Advocacy

Post COVID-19 Shift

- Academic Support
- Connection-Technology
- Equity
- Placement Stabilization
- FAFSA

- Isabel has made connections with our most at-risk youth and they are participating in school.
- We have 3 Seniors, 2 have graduated early and 1 has less than 20 credits left to complete.
- Safe Space provided for our youth to meet in person with our case manager, Isabel and our Learning Loss Mitigation Specialist.

My Supervision Style for Isabel

- Establish Safety and Boundaries
- Strength Based
- Growth Mindset
- Maslow over Bloom
- Trauma Informed
- Her college education is our first priority

Let's Share a Little of the Amazing Service

SISKIYOU COUNTY Office of Education

Isabel Greenman, AmeriCorps Youth Mentor

- Introduction
 - A little bit about me
 - Experience in the System
- The power/impact of advocacy in my life
- Finding AmeriCorps
 - Future plans
- Pre/Post-Pandemic differences
 - Challenges and how we overcame them
- What I'm doing now
 - YES, EOPS, FAFSA Completion
- Youth Experiences
 - Getting youth involved in school, catching up, attendance
 - Growth process
- Getting Things Done



Bowling Night
with ILP!



Painting with ILP Youth



More painting!

Youth2Leaders

Education Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that the next generation of Kern County students have the opportunity to attend college. Our ultimate goal is to increase the number of Kern County youth that attain a higher education at the community college or university of their choice.

Throughout the past 20 years, **Youth 2 Leaders Education Foundation** has risen to the forefront of college readiness and success efforts in Kern County. We have awarded over one million dollars in scholarship funds, and we serve nearly 3,000 youth on a yearly basis through our various initiatives.



Youth2Leaders
Education Foundation

Youth 2 Leaders -
Education Foundation
(y2lef.org)

Through a partnership with the Child Abuse Prevention Center, **Youth2Leaders** AmeriCorps program provides services to foster, homeless, and disadvantages youth. AmeriCorps members participate in an extensive training program that prepares them to mentor and help youth develop necessary skills for a successful transition into adulthood. Successfully completing each year of high school year followed by high school graduation are the initial goals. Long term goals are for each student to be a productive and self- sufficient member of our community. Members keep these goals in mind as they help each youth develop life skills, academic strength, financial literacy, and transition planning.



Youth2Leaders
Education Foundation





Our CA FYI AMERICORPS team is trained to help in many subject areas



CA FYI AmeriCorps Members At Youth2Leaders

Serve in the Following Ways:

- Academic Advising
- College & Career Planning
- Communication
- Daily Living
- FAFSA, Chafee, CADA, and College Application Assistance
- Field Trips
- Job Searches/Resume Building
- Leadership Development
- Money management
- Mock interviews
- Self care
- Social Relationships
- And much more!



AmeriCorps

A Partnership between Woodland Community College YESS ILP & Student Services,
Yolo County Office of Education Homeless Children & Foster Youth, & Yolo County
Health & Human Service Agency Transitional Age Youth Team

Service Members: Zahira, David & Shannon - They Rock!

YESS ILP Class Topics

- ▶ COLLEGE RESOURCES
 - ▶ COMPLETING FAFSA, CHAFEE & SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS:
 - ▶ SUCCESS IN EDUCATION:
 - ▶ ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION
 - ▶ EMPLOYMENT & CAREER READINESS
 - ▶ FOSTER YOUTH RIGHTS CLASS
 - ▶ HEALTHY SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT
 - ▶ PUBERTY, GENDER, ORIENTATION
 - ▶ LGBTQQ
 - ▶ PILLARS OF STABILITY
- FINANCIAL LITERACY
 - BUDGETING
 - CREDIT CARD
 - HOUSING BASICS
 - GETTING YOUR FIRST APARTMENT
 - OPENING A BANKING ACCOUNT
 - ASKING FOR HELP
 - TRANSITIONAL HOUSING
 - LIFE SKILLS
 - CAL FRESH & OTHER SUPPORTS



Primary ILP Conversations



Life
Skills




Opening a First Bank Account



We CELEBRATE & MAKE
HOLIDAY DELIVERIES



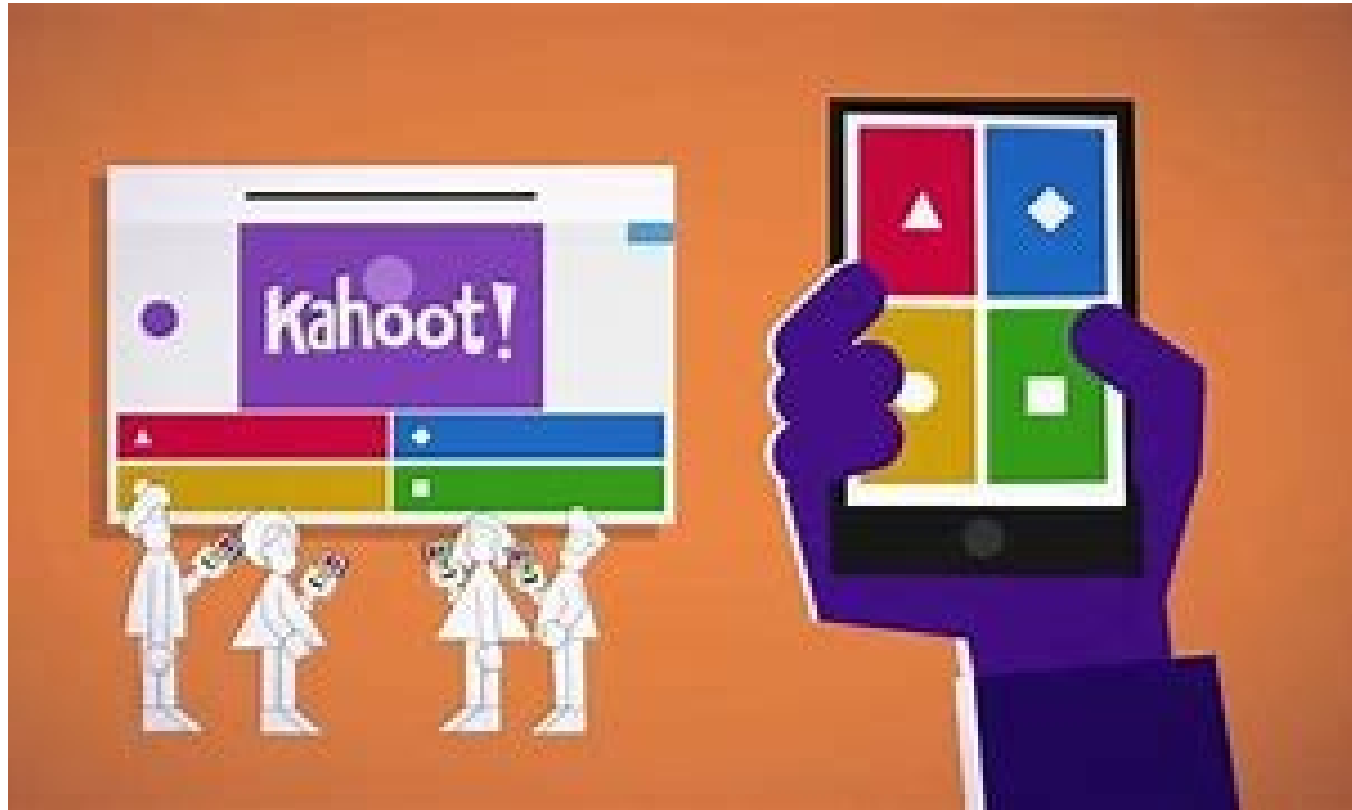


Wednesday Wellness
&
Friday at 5:00 pm

zoom

Yolo County WCC ILP has been Meeting

Via ZOOM Since March



Kahoot.it GAMES

We have made learning fun!!

Woodland Community College & Yolo County
YESS Independent Living Program

We love having your in our YESS ILP



Woodland Community College & Yolo Count
YESS Independent Living Program

*Congrat
on winning
Kahoot!*
*mms
shoh*



Gift Cards for
Kahoot WINNERS

... Care Education
... Community College
300 E. Gibson Rd.
Woodland, CA 95776



Kahoot!
mms

Mailed Out after Every ILP
Class

... Education

CA FYI Top 10 List

AmeriCorps things you need to know about the Child Abuse Prevention Center & Members

Child Abuse Prevention Center:

- #10 Trains Partner Agencies on the AmeriCorps program and AmeriCorps recruitment
- #9 Administer AmeriCorps Living Allowance
- #8 Prepare member contracts including roles and member commitment
- #7 Monitor member's service hours to ensure completion
- #6 Offer extensive training to AmeriCorps members to ensure they have skills to serve foster youth

AmeriCorps Members:

- #5 All earn a bi-monthly stipend, receive health care benefits and an Educational Award
- #4 Receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$10,000 for full-time and \$3,000 for half-time members, upon completion of service
- #3 Build a Partner's capacity to expand and enhance TAY programs and positively touch lives of foster youth and non-minor dependents (serving ages 12 through 21-years-old).
- #2 Members earn invaluable workforce readiness, additional adult supporters, and expanded career options
- #1 Serve to change lives and improve TAY outcomes

Counties & Agencies that CA FYI Serves:

Butte
Colusa
Contra Costa
Glenn
Kern
Los Angeles
Monterey
Sacramento
San Mateo
Santa Clara
Shasta
Siskiyou
Tehama
Tulare
Yolo



County Offices of Education
CASA
Foster Family Agencies
Community Based Organizations
CA Youth Connection
Youth Engagement Project
YESS & ILP Programs
Community College &
University Guardian Scholar Programs
HHSA / Child Welfare

Your First Step

If you want to join the CA FY Initiative:

Connect with

Tabitha at the CAP Center

tgrier@thecapcenter.org

(916) 244-1968



AmeriCorps

If You are Ready to Make AMERICORPS a Part of Your Team - A Next Conversation

- COST to PARTNER AGENCIES- SELECTING LIVING ALLOWANCE & TIER OPTION
- Member Educational Award
- Contracting Now for the Service Year that Begins August 16, 2021

Tier Option 1	Tier Option 2	Tier Option 3	Tier Option 4	Member's Segal Educational Award
Full-Time 1700 Hr. Members \$21,250 Member Living Stipend \$ 9,850 Cash Match Partner Cost	Full-Time 1700 Hr. Members \$22,100 Member Living Stipend \$10,950 Cash Match Partner Cost	Full-Time 1700 Hr. Members \$23,800 Member Living Stipend \$13,125 Cash Match Partner Cost	Full-Time 1700 Hr. Members \$27,464 Member Living Stipend \$17,800 Cash Match Partner Cost	\$6,195.00 Upon Successful Completion of 1700 Hrs.
Three-Quarter 1200 Hr. Members \$15,000 Member Living Stipend \$ 6,975 Cash Match Partner Cost	Three-Quarter 1200 Hr. Members \$15,600 Member Living Stipend \$ 7,725 Cash Match Partner Cost	Three-Quarter 1200 Hr. Members \$16,800 Member Living Stipend \$ 9,260 Cash Match Partner Cost	Three-Quarter 1200 Hr. Members \$19,380 Member Living Stipend \$12,575 Cash Match Partner Cost	\$4,336.50 Upon Successful Completion of 1200 Hrs.
Half-Time 900 Hr. Members \$11,250 Member Living Stipend \$ 5,250 Cash Match Partner Cost	Half-Time 900 Hr. Members \$11,700 Member Living Stipend \$ 5,850 Cash Match Partner Cost	Half-Time 900 Hr. Members \$12,600 Member Living Stipend \$ 7,000 Cash Match Partner Cost	Half-Time 900 Hr. Members \$14,535 Member Living Stipend \$ 9,475 Cash Match Partner Cost	\$3,097.50 Upon Successful Completion of 900 Hrs.

Federal Funding Allowed for Partner Match

In February 2021, the U.S. HHS's Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF) shared a letter with CNCS allowing use several of ACYF's programs **as match on AmeriCorps program grants. Specifically:**

- **Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program**, Title IV-B, subpart 1 of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. §621 *et. seq*]
- **MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program**, Title IV-B, subpart 2 of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. §629 *et. seq*]
- **Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grant** [42 U.S.C. §1506a]
- **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**, Title IV-A of the Social Security Act
- **Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)**
 - **Refugee Support Services (RSS)** [8 U.S.C. § 1522(c)]
 - **Preferred Communities (PC)** [8 U.S.C. § 1522(c)(1)(A)]
 - **Voluntary Agencies Matching Grant (MG)** [8 U.S.C. § 1522(c)(1)(A)]
 - **ORR Discretionary Grant Programs** [8 U.S.C. § 1522(c)(1)(A)]

Other Funding Suggestions for Partner Match

- Private, Service, and Publicly Funded Grants or Foundation Funds, i.e., Board of Supervisor Grants, Business or Bank Foundation Funds
- Community College or University Foundation Funds
- Foster & Kinship Care Education (FKCE) talk with Rina Rojas for strategies, can be budgeted under salaries.
- Independent Living Program, YESS ILP, talk with Holly Siino, can use Equity Funding or other non-federal grant funds
- County Office of Education McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children & Youth (EHCY) funding from 2021-2024, possible to amend your plan and program to 1 x EHCY funding depending upon available unspent funds

CA FYI Project

CA Child Abuse Prevention Center, Sacramento
4700 Roseville Road – North Highlands, CA

Cherie Schroeder, Project

Outreach

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Tabitha Grier, Project Manager

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TGrier@thecapcenter.org



Thank You

For Joining Us

on our
CA FYI Adventure
to Better Foster Youth Outcomes