Partner Organization Information

Accelerating impact by advancing new leadership to strengthen communities, nonprofits and civic participation.

Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation | Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions | Arizona State University
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About Public Allies Arizona

Public Allies Arizona is a 10-month AmeriCorps program that places emerging young leaders at local nonprofits in Phoenix and Tucson for full-time paid apprenticeships. Since 1992, the Public Allies program has helped thousands of individuals develop their leadership talents through professional development training and on-the-job placement. Allies come from many backgrounds and do not need to attend ASU. Our mission is to create a just and equitable society and the diverse leadership to sustain it.

Public Allies Arizona is one of 24 national sites that is changing the face and practice of leadership throughout communities by demonstrating our conviction that everyone can lead, and that lasting change results when citizens of all backgrounds step up, take responsibility and work together. We are a leadership and professional development program of the ASU Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation.

Public Allies Arizona is a critical asset in our state for building leadership and strengthening the capacity of the nonprofit sector. Launched in 2006 in Arizona, Public Allies has generated over 700,000 capacity building service hours to local nonprofits where they serve and graduated over 400 emerging community leaders. As a result, our Partner Organizations (nonprofits, schools/colleges and governmental agencies) have benefitted greatly in cost savings as well as in increased capacity to better serve and reach their constituent communities.

Public Allies Arizona will place one or more talented, diverse young adults in full-time service at your nonprofit to assist you. Together we share in training and shaping these emerging leaders while, in return, they serve on-site at your organization. The Ally’s work centers around the following performance measures:

**Program Development, Delivery & Evaluation:**
Create new programming, deliver program services more effectively, and demonstrate improved program effectiveness.

**Outreach:**
Increase beneficiaries served, reach additional populations of beneficiaries, expand services.

**Technology Use:**
Train staff to update and maintain knowledge management systems, institutionalize technology.

**Volunteer Management:**
Establish, manage or enhance a volunteer program or effort to assist with service delivery.

Do you have a project that you would love to implement, but lack the staffing capacity, funding or other resources to bring it off the shelf? Or maybe you have a program that would benefit from an innovative and enthusiastic young leader... **Join the movement and apply today!** Visit our website at publicallies.asu.edu to learn more and to start the application process.
Requirements

To be considered as a Partner Organization, your organization must meet the following criteria:

- Support the mission of Public Allies Arizona by making a commitment to developing, mentoring, and encouraging the growth of a young person in the nonprofit sector.

- Be one of the following: 501(c)3; school; government agency; or 501(c)4 or 501(c)6 that does not engage in lobbying activities as defined under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

Partner Organizations will agree to utilize the Ally in one of six focus areas:

1. Education
2. Healthy Futures or
3. Economic Opportunity
4. Environmental Stewardship
5. Disaster Services
6. Veterans & Military Families

For additional details on focus areas, go to nationalservice.gov/focus-areas

- Have the ability to pay the Ally’s stipend plus FICA and Worker’s Compensation through your organization’s payroll or third-party fiscal agent. The monthly stipend must be issued as a payroll check with related Federal and State taxes deducted (FICA, etc.), and the Ally must receive a W2 at the end of the calendar year. Allies are not contractors and should not receive 1099 forms.

- Provide adequate office space (a desk, computer, and telephone) and a position description with a clear, measurable service impact; position descriptions will be developed with a Public Allies staff member following the application submission.

- Designate one supervisor with whom an Ally would work with day-to-day and who would work closely with the Public Allies staff and attend scheduled meetings.

- Provide at least 1,400 hours of capacity building opportunities over the 10-month period, ~40/week.

- Support an Ally in meeting graduation requirements and the goals outlined in the position description while providing quality mentor-mentee relationship with Ally.

- Participation in mandatory programmatic elements to include: 1) Time Logs, 2) Member Service Reflections, 3) Ally Impact meetings (minimum of two), 4) 360 Degree Assessment, and 5) End of Year Surveys & Assessments.

- Complete an application and participate in the interview, selection and matching processes.

- Participation in the Public Allies program (“the Program”) requires mandatory training for Partner Organizations finance and supervisory personnel that have not previously had any interaction with the program. Attendance to all Program Timeline events leading up to and during the program year are required.

- Opportunities to create, define and clarify Ally member position descriptions with Public Allies staff will be available in June by appointment. Review of position descriptions will be required with all Partner Organizations in order to best create capacity building positions.

- We do not anticipate the need to conduct site visits with renewal organizations but may request a meeting to clarify new information contained within the application or to meet with a new supervisor.

An application to the program does not guarantee that a match will be made or that an Ally will be placed at your organization. We anticipate receiving more than 40 applications from potential partners and more than 60 finalist applications for potential Ally apprentices. We will typically place 34-36 First Year Allies and 6-10 Second Year Allies in the cohort year. We strive to meet both the needs and the interests of the Ally and the Partner Organization when making the match to ensure the best fit possible for a successful apprenticeship.
What is Public Allies?

Vision
Public Allies is a national movement grounded in the conviction that everyone leads. We believe that everyone can make a difference and can work to inspire more citizens to believe in themselves, step up, and act. Throughout our nation’s history, lasting social change has always resulted from the courageous acts of many, not just the inspiration of the few.

Mission
Our mission is to create a just and equitable society and the diverse leadership to sustain it. We are changing the face and practice of leadership in communities across the country by demonstrating our conviction that everyone can lead, and that lasting social change results when citizens of all backgrounds step up, take responsibility, and work together.

History
Public Allies was founded in 1992 by two young visionaries from Washington DC who became frustrated by the popular portrayal of their generation as “slackers.” Katrina Browne and Vanessa Kirsch saw the need for an organization that develops young adults into social entrepreneurs—leaders dedicated to solving pressing problems in local communities. Since our inception we have graduated over 6,000 community leaders in 24 different cities and provided thousands of hours of direct service to community members across the United States. In 2006, Public Allies Arizona became an AmeriCorps program of the ASU Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation.

Strategic goals
- Attract young adults who are creators, aspiring entrepreneurs, civic engagers, and originators with a passion to train as emerging leaders for community impact and improvement.
- Engage Men of Color and Opportunity Youth to ensure a successful pathway and access to education, career, and continued community service.
- Provide training, consulting, and practice in leadership development and diversity/inclusion in all sectors.
- Focus on priorities important to Public Allies communities, including a comprehensive racial, economic, and social justice agenda.

What we do
Public Allies is a comprehensive 10-month leadership development program that works to:
- build collaborations with nonprofit organizations, educational institutions and government agencies concerned with community improvement;
- train and support a new generation of leaders committed to finding innovative solutions to critical social problems facing our communities;
- place young adults (18-24 years old) in challenging positions in the nonprofit sector, government, educational institutions or social services sector;
- place economically challenged opportunity youth who do not possess a degree on a path to higher education; and
- address real needs in local neighborhoods by engaging diverse young people in direct community service work.

What is AmeriCorps?
AmeriCorps (pronounced Ameri-Core) is a federal program operated by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency created in 1993 by President Clinton. Since its inception, more than 900,000 individuals have participated in AmeriCorps programs. The program provides grants to private nonprofit organizations and schools to contribute to the costs of stipends, benefits, training, and other support to members serving full-time or part-time meeting critical needs in communities. Every program funded by AmeriCorps is considered an AmeriCorps program, and every participant in an AmeriCorps program is called an AmeriCorps member. Public Allies was identified by former President George H.W. Bush as a model for a national service program in 1992.
The Public Allies Apprenticeship Program consists of the following components:

Placement and practice
Allies work full-time with local respected nonprofit 501(c) (3) organizations or government agencies to further community services and social justice in a variety of fields and issue areas. Allies learn about how to do significant and meaningful community work in areas such as youth development, health, education, economic development, and public safety while working to build the capacity of the organization. See our list of previous partner organizations at publicallies.asu.edu for examples of the kind of work past Allies have done.

Continuous learning
Allies participate in bi-weekly training days, receiving rigorous leadership training from seasoned and respected community leaders, nonprofit professionals, and peers, developing a wide range of skills, knowledge and abilities. Allies gain experience in communication and critical thinking, appreciation of diversity, ability to resolve conflict, personal accountability, nonprofit management, and recognition of community assets. Allies also have the opportunity to attend nonprofit conferences through the Lodestar Center and the Arizona Governor’s Commission for further professional development.

Service
Allies work together to create innovative responses to local community needs through Team Service Projects. Team service projects are an opportunity for Allies to learn and strengthen team-building skills, understand their personal influence and power, see a project through to community impact, and hone communication skills. All of this is possible with the support and guidance of a 2nd year Ally, Alumni, and a Program Manager. Allies join AmeriCorps members throughout the country in service on Make a Difference Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Cesar Chavez Day, and Global Youth Service Day.

Evaluation and reflection
Allies learn to evaluate themselves via critical self-reflection and structured constructive feedback from peers and supervisors. Allies are matched with a Program Manager that will serve as a personal coach to assist in thinking through challenges and assumptions so that goals can be achieved by the end of the program. Allies are matched with peers in the cohort to form a team that will provide feedback about progress and leadership styles. Allies are required to reflect on their experience and impact in the community by reporting every month to ensure that they are making a difference.
Partner Organization financial obligations

Public Allies Arizona, through the ASU Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation, will enter into a contractual agreement with each Partner Organization specifying the terms of this partnership and establishing financial agreements and mechanisms. Partner Organizations will pay the stipend directly to the Ally and will be reimbursed for the Public Allies Arizona portion of allowable costs. Partner Organizations will need to provide appropriate documentation to support their expenses in accordance with applicable federal regulations and policies established by Arizona State University.

At no point should the Ally, as an AmeriCorps member, be considered an employee of the organization, Public Allies AZ, Public Allies Inc. or ASU.

1. Program fee
Public Allies Arizona will collect a $1000 per First Year Ally or $1500 per Second Year Ally program fee from each Partner Organization upon confirmation of match and due prior to the start of the program. This fee will help to offset the cost of Ally Health Insurance and other costs of administering the Federal Grant program.

2. Living allowance/stipend
Partner Organizations are responsible for paying for their Ally’s stipend during their term of service. The Ally’s stipend amount will depend on their term being served.

   First Year Ally: $15,100
   Second Year Ally: $17,220

The Ally should be paid on the same schedule as the employees of the Partner Organization (weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly). Note: the stipend should be computed over 10 months, not one year. Public Allies utilizes a payroll cycle template to be completed by each Partner Organization.

3. Workers’ compensation
Partner Organizations are responsible for providing Workers’ Compensation coverage for the Ally.

4. Additional expenses
In addition to the living allowance contribution and Workers’ Compensation, Partner Organizations must cover the organizations’ share of FICA. As AmeriCorps members, Allies are not eligible for unemployment benefits; therefore no costs will be incurred for unemployment insurance. In addition, Partner Organizations are required to provide the “tools of work” necessary for the Ally to accomplish their objectives. These expenses may include items such as desk, phone, computer, supplies and mileage reimbursement (as appropriate).

5. Healthcare coverage
Partner Organizations are not responsible for providing healthcare coverage to their Ally. Public Allies Arizona will pay the monthly premium directly to the health insurance provider. Allies will be covered through a healthcare policy sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

6. Childcare reimbursement
Partner Organizations are not responsible for providing childcare for their Ally. However, as an Ally, individuals have the option (based on eligibility) to participate in a childcare reimbursement program through the Corporation for National and Community Service. Public Allies Arizona will coordinate the participation of eligible Allies.

7. Student loan forbearance, interest payments and education awards
Partner Organizations carry no financial responsibility for the deferment of qualified student loans, payment of accrued interest, or the Education Award. These benefits are offered through Public Allies Arizona and administered by the National Service Trust of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

8. Taxes
The Ally’s stipend is subject to appropriate state and federal taxes. Taxes withheld from the Allies stipend must be according to the organizations’ IRS payment schedule and the Ally’s W-4 elections.
Prohibited activities

Public Allies/AmeriCorps members may not engage in the following activities directly—or indirectly by recruiting, training, or managing others—for the primary purpose of engaging in one of the activities listed below. While on the clock, Allies cannot be trained in activities that they are prohibited to engage in as national service members. Individuals may exercise their rights as private citizens and may participate in the activities listed below on their initiative, on non-AmeriCorps/Public Allies time, and using non-Corporation funds; Individuals should not wear the AmeriCorps logo while doing so.

1. Attempting to influence legislation, including but not limited to lobbying for your program or state or local ballot initiatives or organizing a letter-writing campaign to Congress.

2. Organizing or participating in protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes.

3. Assisting, promoting, or deterring union organizing.

4. Conducting or assisting with a voter registration drive.

5. Impairing existing contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements.

6. Engaging in partisan political activities, or other activities designed to influence the outcome of an election to any public office.

7. Participating in, or endorsing, events or activities that are likely to include advocacy for or against political parties, political platforms, political candidates, proposed legislation, or elected officials.

8. Engaging in religious instruction, conducting worship services, providing instruction as part of a program that includes mandatory religious instruction or worship, constructing, maintaining or operating facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship, or engaging in any form of religious proselytization.

9. Providing abortion services or making referrals for such services.

10. Providing a direct benefit to:
   a. A business organized for profit, or a nonprofit organization that fails to comply with the restrictions contained in section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code of 1986
   b. A labor union
   c. A partisan political organization
   d. An organization engaged in the religious activities described above

11. Certain types of fundraising (see guidelines).

Examples of indirect prohibited activities

- An Ally does research for someone who is lobbying to change a law.

- The Ally recruits volunteers who will advocate for a policy change.

- An Ally develops community partnerships to garner volunteers for a nonprofit’s annual silent auction that benefits general operations.

- An Ally’s volunteer committee decides to launch a greening campaign to help bolster for-profit businesses.

- The Ally writes curriculum materials for the primary use of training others in how to run a voter registration drive.
Marketing activities in Ally positions
- AmeriCorps members may seek to build a nonprofit's capacity through marketing, public relations, and social media promotion efforts so long as those efforts are in support of specific programs and services offered by the nonprofit organization.
- Engaging in marketing and promotions for the purpose of promoting the organization-wide brand or general operations is not allowable.

Examples of allowable activities:
- Promoting a particular program for a nonprofit.
- Handing out flyers for an allowable event that the AmeriCorps worker is planning.
- Translating and programming the Spanish-language version of a nonprofit's website in order to reach a new population.
- Programming and maintaining the section of a nonprofit's website that is dedicated to the particular program an Ally is working on.

Examples of non-allowable activities:
- Developing a social media page for the purpose of promoting an organization's brand.
- Designing a new logo for a nonprofit that will be used to promote the organization in general.
- Creating or maintaining the general website of a nonprofit.

Fundraising guidelines
- A Member cannot assist Public Allies or the Partner Organization with major fundraising efforts such as proposal writing, financial campaigns, endowment drives, solicitation of gifts and bequest, or similar activities designed for the sole purpose of raising general operating capital.
- However, a Member is permitted to raise resources for a project that the Member is working on that provides immediate and direct support to a specific and direct service activity.
- Under no circumstances can a Member assist with the preparation or submission of any grants to the Corporation for National and Community Service or any other federal agency.
- A Member cannot raise funds to support the cost of the Member’s position.
- Furthermore, the Member may not spend more than 10% of the Member's total hours on approved fundraising activities.
- Any fundraising activities must be discussed with and pre-approved by the staff the Local Site has determined to do so.

While charging time to the AmeriCorps program, accumulating service or training hours, or otherwise performing activities supported by the AmeriCorps program or the Corporation, staff and members may not engage in the above activities.
Application checklist and matching process

Public Allies cannot process the application until we have received all materials, including signed approval from your organization’s authorized representative(s) (i.e. Executive Director/CEO, President/Chairperson of the Board, Ally Supervisor, and Finance Director/CFO, etc.):

Completed application includes:

- Capacity Pre-Assessment Worksheet
- Ally Position Description(s)
- Signatures of Approval
- Required supplementary documents

Public Allies will review all applications, Ally Position Descriptions and conduct site visits to newly selected Partner Organization to determine adherence to Public Allies and AmeriCorps regulations and to clarify mutual expectations prior to any approvals and placement of Allies. The site visit will also include an interview with prospective Ally Supervisors.

If your organization’s proposal:

a. matches our goals with programmatic service and/or developing your capacity to provide direct service;

b. provides the Allies with meaningful responsibilities;

c. the Ally’s supervisor has a commitment to supervising and mentoring the Ally as well as coaching her/him toward achieving her/his goals; and

d. your organization has the resources to pay the Ally stipend;

THEN… Your proposed position(s) will enter into our competitive process for Ally matching.

The matching process

The Public Allies cohort year begins at the start of each September. (If multiple cohorts are offered, start dates will commence after September.)

Therefore:

- the matching process will take place throughout July, and

- mandatory trainings for Partner Organizations and Allies occur in August, prior to the start date.

Prior to the Partner Organization/Ally Match, the Ally Finalists we have selected will read your position descriptions. At the same time, you will be provided with a list, including bios, of three to six Ally Finalists to interview for your position(s). Interviews will take place at the location where the Ally will be serving. You may include other key stakeholders in the interview process and we encourage you to provide the Ally Finalist with a clear picture of their day-to-day service routine.

You will then evaluate and rank your top three choices of candidates and report the results to Public Allies. In turn, the Finalists will also evaluate and rank your organization. Based on these evaluations, along with our knowledge of both the Partner Organizations and Ally Finalists, a final match will be determined. We will contact both parties to confirm the match and make the offer of placement.

See the Application Timeline for additional dates, including Notification of Match.

*Please note this is a competitive process and we accept more Partner Organization applicants and Ally Finalists than allocated positions to ensure strong matches. This means that not all organizations will be matched with an Ally and not all Ally Finalists will receive placements.