

Hi, you're receiving this email because you are an AmeriCorps VIP Fellow. This is a regular part of CalSERVES communication with you about your service year. Don't forget to add americorps@calserves.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

Welcome to CalSERVES AmeriCorps - a message from your Statewide AmeriCorps Leader



Hello and welcome!

My name is Kaitlin Carney and I am your AmeriCorps Volunteer Infrastructure Project Statewide Leader. I am delighted to be part of the support system for your AmeriCorps VIP service year, along with Lauren Serpa and Barbara Thorsen here in the Rohnert Park CalSERVES office. We would like to extend a warm welcome to you all as you join the AmeriCorps CalSERVES family.



Like many of you, I have been engaging in community service for many years. I began my own career in public service at the age of 16 volunteering in a charity thrift store. Since then I've served in a wide array of community organizations, mainly managing volunteers and planning events. I served with AmeriCorps VISTA 2014-15 and am well versed in how much of a commitment AmeriCorps service is, and how daunting it can be to have so much to get done within one term of service on top of living on the monthly living allowance.

My goal is that together, we can celebrate our accomplishments, as well as work through any hardships to make this year of service with AmeriCorps VIP beneficial for you and the community you are serving!

I also know how difficult it can serve as an AmeriCorps member and I want you to know that any issues you may encounter are not for you to deal with on your own. I am here as a support and guide through this experience. My phone number is (707) 225-7458 and I encourage you to call me with any questions or concerns that may arise. Of course you can share the things you are worried about, but also tell me what is inspiring you as you continue on this path of national service. Just remember that we are all in this together!

Service Year Resources Coming Your Way:

Keep an eye out for these great ways to connect and grow with your AmeriCorps colleagues:

- I will be sharing tips and tricks to make your year easier through the **biweekly AmeriCorps VIP newsletter** (in fact, this is your first installment!).
- I will facilitate **monthly AmeriCorps conference calls**. Starting in October, we'll set aside 1 hour a month to connect and share in a short training. This is optional for members and required for team leaders. [Click here for a poll to let me know what day and time is best for you.](#)
- **Peer groups!** You'll be grouped with VIP colleagues from around California who are serving in a similar organization as yours for the opportunity to share ideas. Check your email for more info coming soon!
- **Professional online training library from Nonprofit Ready.** You'll soon have access to hundreds of hours of training on topics from leadership to volunteer management, as well as a handy online forum where you can connect with your VIP colleagues. Keep an eye out for your log-in information, which will be emailed soon!

AmeriCorps VIP Statewide Monthly Conference Call

Please complete [this poll](#) to let me know what day and time works best for you to attend the statewide conference call!

Thank you all for your service and I look forward to getting to know you!

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Carney

NAPA COUNTY OFFICE

of
Education

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

