

If 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 kcamey@napacoe.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.

Your Biweekly CalSERVES AmeriCorps VIP newsletter!

Greetings!

Regional Training Spotlight: We are all officially Regionally Trained!



Northern Regional Training



Central Regional Training



Southern Regional Training

Thank you to everyone who participated in Regional Trainings over the last few weeks! Do you have some knowledge you would like to share at the next Regional Training in your area? Would you like more experience in leading trainings or public speaking? Start brainstorming now- you'll soon have the opportunity to submit a proposal to be a presenter in the spring-time!

Sincerely,
Kaitlin Carney

News and Updates:

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

- If you have a new or **updated work email address**, please send it my way. I would like to update all of my contact lists with up-to-date email addresses so you all receive the correct information in the correct inbox!
 - A lot of folks have requested a **permanent chat box for VIP members** to share and collaborate. This is a great idea and is going to be available soon! Please watch out for information regarding **Cornerstone OnDemand** login information coming to your inbox soon.
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Useful Web Resources:

- Here is a link to the recording of the **monthly statewide conference call**. If you were unable to attend the conference call/webinar last Tuesday, please access the recording so you are up to date for next month's statewide conference call.
 - The meeting ended about 55 minutes into recording, so please disregard the last 10 minutes of this recording:

- <https://calservescp.adobeconnect.com/p4hosymwiyh/>
 - **The Foundation Center** has a lot of free tools for volunteer programs. Look for free webinars you can attend, as well as interesting articles about the non-profit world, and resources for many activities, especially grant writing.
 - <http://www.foundationcenter.org/>
 - Several people expressed interest in recruiting high value volunteers during the statewide conference call. **Idealist** is another great web resource for recruiting skilled volunteers who are motivated to serve. I also recommend you access their resources on service corps personal and professional development!
 - <http://www.idealist.org/>
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Member Spotlight



Introducing Alex Almeida!

"Originally from Connecticut, traveling and volunteering have always been a big part of my life. Last year, I made the long cross country drive west and began serving as a NPRC (National Preparedness Response Corps) member at the American Red Cross in

Ventura, California. The initial motivation for joining AmeriCorps was to gain experience in the non-profit sector after struggling to find my place in the corporate, business world.

"As an AmeriCorps member, the workload never seems to end and the pay is a step above terrible, but I have never felt more confident in myself and my journey until now. Every day I have the opportunity to live out my passion of helping others. Not too many other people can say that.

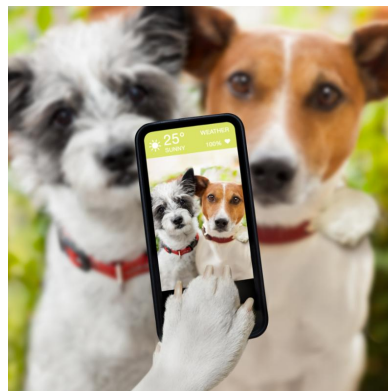
"The VIP program is very different from NPRC, but I find the change an exciting opportunity to further develop as a service leader. As the San Diego lead, I hope to bring our cohort together with more group activities and to help each member create individual professional development plans. Although we have only been serving for two months, our group is a force to be reckoned with. I am proud of the unique character and creativity each of us brings to the table and am

confident San Diego will be a more engaged community come next August!"

-Alex, 24, serving second AmeriCorps term

Tips and Tricks

Did you know you could be receiving free cell service? As an AmeriCorps member, we all qualify for California Lifeline. California Lifeline is a free cell service program which includes a free cellphone (although if you already have one you connect it too), free minutes and texts, and you can also qualify for free or reduced-rate data!



You can apply for the program here: <https://www.californialifeline.com/en>

Just two days until Halloween!

If you don't have a costume together yet- don't panic! Halloween costumes don't have to be elaborate or expensive. Here is an article to inspire you to get creative on the cheap with a last-minute costume! These ideas may be more geared for kids, but will work for those young at heart as well.

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/peggy/cheap-and-easy-last-minute-halloween-costumes#.wtXw7YWdg>

Do you have any tips or tricks for surviving the AmeriCorps stipend to share with your fellow VIP members? Reply to this newsletter with your tips and you could be the next featured VIP member.

This concludes the fourth installment of your Biweekly AmeriCorps VIP Newsletter. Remember to send me your spotlight submissions!

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Carney

