



AmeriCorps CA Foster Youth Initiative



Opening Doors to
Opportunity

Serving to Change Lives



AmeriCorps CA Foster Youth Initiative (CA FYI)

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.

AmeriCorps Service

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

CA Foster Youth Initiative
AN OVERVIEW



Goals for our CA FYI Presentation

1. What is AmeriCorps Service and the CA Foster Youth Initiative?
2. CA FYI - Why it Matters

Sharing 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. Top 10 Things You Need to Know about AmeriCorps
4. CA FYI AmeriCorps Position Activities
5. **Stanford Youth Solutions**, Sharing their CA FYI AmeriCorps Service
6. How CA FYI will benefit Transitional Age Youth & Non-Minor Dependents in your Agency



CA Foster Youth Initiative

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Child Abuse Prevention Center

Stanford Youth Solutions

Sierra Forever Families

Dr. Laura Heintz

Chief Executive Officer

Ebony Chambers

Chief of Family and Youth Partnership



Intro

CA Child Abuse Prevention Center

- ▶ 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 five unique agencies. Each agency takes a different but complementary approach to preventing child abuse by providing an array of programs to build strong families and keep children safe.



Dr. Laura Heintz
Chief Executive Officer

Ebony Chambers
Chief of Family and Youth Partnership



- We envision a community where every young person has strong and permanent connections to family.
- **Family and Youth Partnership across all programs**
 - Family and Youth Centered
 - Advocacy
 - Empowerment of Youth and Families
 - Commitment to Permanency
 - Skill Development



CA FYI **Top 10** List

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

Child Abuse Prevention Center:

- #10 Train 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 almost \$10,000 for full-time and \$3,000 for half-time members, upon completion of service
- #3 Build a Partner's capacity to expand programs and positively touch lives of foster youth and non-minor dependents.
- #2 Earn invaluable workforce readiness, additional adult supporters, and expanded career options
- #1 Serve to change lives and improve TAY outcomes

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 direct interaction with youth.

AmeriCorps Members



- ▶ **Expand or Enhance** the services and supports offered at your Organization or Agency to its foster youth, between 11 & 21-years-old.
- ▶ Cannot supplant any current employee
- ▶ CA FYI is based on a Mentoring model

Highlights of AmeriCorps Incorporation

Sharing AmeriCorps CA FYI Peer Mentors

- Casey Life Skills Assessment
- Financial Literacy
- Foster Youth Rights
- Transition Plans
- Setting Goals for the Future



CA FYI AmeriCorps Service Members,

- ▶ Strengthen Resiliency through Promoting Protective Factors and Development Assets
- ▶ Enhance/establish foster youth support networks - perhaps helping to build “Foster” Clubs at schools
- ▶ Provide life skills, financial literacy & tutoring
- ▶ Enhance educational achievement and engagement
- ▶ Share out Education and “Foster Youth Rights”
- ▶ Build leadership and volunteerism opportunities
- ▶ Support skills development for employment, workforce readiness & career pathways
- ▶ Build the Voices of Youth with “Lived Experience” - i.e., preparing for Child Family Team Meetings, RFA trainings, and within ILP & FKCE planning and programs
- ▶ Support placement stability, permanency and life-long connections

Members can serve

- ▶ 1,700 hours = Full-time
 - ▶ 1,200 hours = Three-quarter time
 - ▶ 900 hours = Half-time
- **A member is an adult:** Former Foster Youth, a Caregiver (perhaps a retiree), College Graduate or Gap Student, Specialist in Service
 - Earns a stipend, not a salary
 - Is paid twice a month an equal stipend
 - Receives an **EDUCATION AWARD** upon completion of service: **Full-time \$10,000**; three-quarter \$4,266, and half-time \$3,047
 - Service members over 55 can transfer their Educational Awards to a family member
 - Healthcare benefits are offered
 - Services terms can range between 6 and 12 months
 - Receive FICA, Workmen's Comp, uniforms, background check, and any needed supplies or equipment
 - Earn invaluable workforce experience and career readiness

August 15th - CA FYI Cohort II Launches

Full Implementation for CA FYI

Over 12 months (Aug 15, 2019 to July 14, 2020)

Living Allowance Stipend (LAS)	Partner Match Share of Cost & Contribution	Member Benefits
\$21,250 <i>Full-Time</i> 1,700 Hours	\$9,650	\$27,170 \$21,250 Living Allowance Stipend \$10,000 Education Award * 100% Student Loan Forbearance Health Care/Child Care Benefits
\$15,000 <i>Three Quarter-Time</i> 1,200 Hours	\$6,800	\$19,440 \$15,000 Living Allowance Stipend \$4,400 Education Award Portion Of Student Loan Forbearance
\$11,250 <i>Half-Time</i> 900 Hours	\$5,100	\$14,210 \$11,250 Living Allowance Stipend \$2,960 Education Award Portion Of Student Loan Forbearance

* CA Governor Newsom amended the Education Award for a FT Member to \$10,000



Sharing of Ideas & Innovations

Counties & Agencies that CA FYI is set to have Service Members in:

Butte
Colusa
Fresno
Glenn
Kings
Lassen
Sacramento
San Joaquin
Shasta
Siskiyou
Tehama
Yolo

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



Currently we are Working on Host Site Pre-Contracting & AmeriCorps Member Recruitment

Your First Step if you want to join the CA FY Initiative:

Send an Email to Cherie at the CAP Center
cschroeder@thecapcenter.org

With a note sharing your “Intent to Participate”
& estimated number of half- three-quarter
or full-time members



QUESTIONS & COMMENTS



If you are interested in moving forward to participate as a **Host Site** for **CA Foster Youth Initiative (CA FYI)**:

Contact Cherie by email - cschroeder@thecapcenter.org - as soon as possible and she will reply with an **“Intent to Participate”**

- ▶ Principal Contact Person
- ▶ Identifies proposed number of CA FYI members, if 1700, 1200 or 900 hours for levels of service at your Agency

Participate in our **Wed. July 17th 10-11:30 am CA FYI Webinar** on ***Contracting, Recruiting & On-Boarding your AmeriCorps Members.***

Dial-In: 1-866-740-1260

Passcode: 2441943#

To login to the webinar, visit www.readytalk.com

Click ‘Join Meeting’ in the upper right corner.



CA FYI Project

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Thank You

For Joining Us

on our
CA FYI Adventure
to Better Foster Youth Outcomes