

EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

Meet the Mentors!

ALIVE is dedicated to the professional growth and development of leaders in volunteer engagement. The purpose of the Emerging Leaders Mentor Program is to provide a platform for ALIVE members to connect, share best practices and position themselves as leaders in the field through ongoing professional development and skills building. Participants will be paired with ALIVE Mentors to receive individualized coaching and support as well as monthly mentee peer sessions pertaining to leadership development topics.

The following ALIVE members are donating their time and talent to you! If you are interested in participating in this program, please learn a little bit about our mentors to help you determine who may be a good match for you! More about each mentor can be found at the link included featuring their LinkedIn profiles or professional websites.

Faith Brummet

www.linkedin.com/in/faith-brummet-74a11a12a

Length of time in field: 17 years

Organization type: Nonprofit

Professional experience:

- Manager of Volunteers and Construction Services, Habitat for Humanity Elkhart County
- History working in religious institutions industry and professional office
- Skilled in nonprofit organizations, executive assistance, event planning, volunteer management, facility management and public speaking

Personal Hobbies: The beach, gardening, reading

Why participate as a mentor: *"I feel I have the experience with managing volunteers, love for people and would love to walk side by side someone else getting their feet on the ground with volunteers."*



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Micaela de Loyola-Carkin

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/micaela-de-loyola-carkin-9a94084a/>

Length of time in field: 14 years

Organization type: Government/Healthcare

Professional experience:

- Project Coordinator, Serve Idaho
- Volunteer Coordinator, Ronald McDonald House of Charities of Idaho
- Junior Volunteer Coordinator, St. Luke's Health System
- Treasurer, Southwest Idaho Director of Volunteer Services

Personal Hobbies: Reading, camping, backpacking, jewelry making, walking

Why participate as a mentor: *"I have benefited from mentors throughout my life and career. Having now been in the field for almost 15 years, I can provide my experiences and expertise in volunteer coordination to others starting out in the field. The opportunity to help mentor and develop others in the volunteer management field will be very rewarding personally and will also allow me to continue to grow and develop professionally as well."*



Jason Frenzel, CVA

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jasonfrenzel/>

Length of time in field: 20 years

Organization type: Municipal government

Professional experience:

- Stewardship Coordinator, Huron River Watershed Council
- Past President, ALIVE
- Past ALIVE mentor
- Past City Councilmember, City of Ann Arbor

Personal Hobbies: Running, woodworking, local politics

Why participate as a mentor: *"Having benefited by mentors in my past, I would like to assist others in our industry. I also find the process of mentoring very beneficial personally and professionally."*



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Rebecca Hand, MPA, CVA

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rebeccahandmpa>

Length of time in field: 10 years

Organization type: Municipal government

Professional experience:

- Volunteer Resources Coordinator, Volunteers in Plano, City of Plano
- 2022 Conference Chair, Texas Volunteer Management Conference
- 2020 and 2021 Communications Chair, Texas Volunteer Management Conference
- Committee Member, ALIVE Marketing Committee
- Membership Chair, Dallas Association of Directors of Volunteers
- Nonprofit Leadership Studies Advisory Committee, University of North Texas
- Past ALIVE Mentor



Personal Hobbies: Reading, home organization, being out in nature, watching reruns of Parks and Recreation, spending time with family

Why participate as a mentor: *"I was a mentee several years ago and found the experience refreshing and motivating. It helped build my confidence and encouraged me to expand my horizon by continually pursuing professional development in the volunteer administration field. I would like to utilize my experience and background to provide that opportunity to someone newer to the field as well as be reinvigorated by meeting others with the same passion that I possess for volunteer administration."*

Marie Howell, CVA, CAVS

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/marie-howell-cva-cavs-57832a25/>

Length of time in field: 18 years

Organization type: Pediatric Medical Center

Professional experience:

- Manager, Volunteer Services, Cook Children's Health Care System
- Member, DOVIA Tarrant County & Beryl Institute



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- Past presenter, AHVRP Conference
- Past ALIVE Mentor

Personal Hobbies: Family, reading, needlework, cats, volunteering, word games, cooking, writing, pro football.

Why participate as a mentor: *"I've done some mentoring through our local DOVIA and enjoyed being able to be a support to those new to the field or wanting to learn more. I have also been a mentee when I first started in the field and understand how important it is to have someone experienced to turn to."*

Donna Martin, MAET, CVA

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/donnamartinphxaz/>

Length of time in field: 25+ years

Organization type: Youth Development

Professional experience:

- Volunteer Services Manager, Boys & Girls Club of the Valley-AZ
- Associate Professor, ASU Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions
- Service Enterprise Trainer
- Past ALIVE mentor

Personal hobbies: camping, hiking, reading, baking, needle arts (crocheting, locker hooking), storytelling

Why participate as a mentor: *"I am passionate about furthering our profession and helping newer volunteer managers navigate the ever-changing and newly evolving world of nonprofits and volunteerism. Over the past two years I've been honored to participate in this program and find this to be a very valuable experience for both the mentor and the mentee. The exchange of ideas, sharing experiences and building community makes this an invaluable experience."*

Kris Martinez Hamilton

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristina-martinez-hamilton-84031289/>

Length of time in field: 9 years

Organization type: Animal Welfare/Wildlife Rehabilitation/Sheltering



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Professional experience:

- Volunteer Experience Manager, San Diego Humane Society
- Volunteering with several military and civilian organizations
- Currently working towards CVA

Personal hobbies: football, ice hockey, working on cars, track events, reading, horror movies, plants, spending time with Great Dane and exploring new things

Why participate as a mentor: *“I have always been fortunate to have a great mentor helping & guiding me along the way. In fact, I started this career path because the volunteer coordinator saw something in me (that no one else, even myself saw), and said I would be perfect for this career.....almost 10 years later here I am because of her!! I will always be grateful to her, and this is my way of paying it forward. But I also think I will learn as much from the mentee as they could from me. There is always something new to learn, and I see this as a two-way opportunity to improve on my skills as a volunteer manager, and see things from another perspective.”*

Kayla Paulson, CVA

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kaylampaulson/>

Length of time in field: 12 years

Organization type: Volunteer Center, Service Enterprise Hub, Corporate Volunteer Council & RSVP

Professional experience:

- RSVP Director & Service Enterprise Trainer, United Way of East Central Iowa
- Board Member, Association of Leaders in Volunteer Engagement
- Past Presenter, Points of Light Conference
- Past ALIVE mentor

Personal hobbies: Gardening, almost anything outdoors, connecting with family and friends, cooking, baking, and crafting

Why participate as a mentor: *“I have been a mentor and mentee both; almost equally benefiting from the experience. I have appreciated the time and relationship investments that helped me transition into volunteer engagement and would like to pay it forward.”*



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Robin Popik

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/robin-popik-78663412/>

Length of time in field: 33 years

Organization type: Government/Non-Profit

Professional experience:

- Volunteer Resources Supervisor, Volunteers in Plano (retired in 2017)
- Volunteer Management Instructor/ Trainer at University of North Texas Dallas, Points of Light, NAVPLG, ICMA, City of Plano and more
- Founding Board Member (former), Association of Leaders in Volunteer Engagement
- Founding Board Member & President (former), National Association of Volunteer Programs in Local Government (NAVPLG)



Personal hobbies: Enjoy watching my grandson grow, volunteering on various boards and at local theatres, training and consulting, taking classes, exercise, reading and playing mahjong.

Why participate as a mentor: *“Our journey of learning never ends and, after all, why should the kids have all the fun? I want to give back to a field I love and to keep learning. Throughout my career I’ve been a mentor, trainer and consultant to both new and mature organizations; brainstorming, problem solving, and strengthening volunteer programs. I feel I am a good leader, educator and advocate who also enjoys networking and information exchange.”*

Ashley Ramsdell

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashley-ramsdell-62288122/>

Length of time in field: 11 years

Organization type: Healthcare

Professional experience:

- Sr. Liaison, Field Support, ALSAC/St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
- Board Member, Association of Leaders in Volunteer Engagement



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Personal Hobbies: Taking kids to sports, traveling, camping, boating, and riding side-by-sides with family

Why participate as a mentor: *"I have had mentors throughout the years support me as I was developing in my career and I would love to do the same."*

Amanda Schmierer

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/amanda-schmierer-idaho/>

Length of time in field: 11 years

Organization type: Blood & Disaster Services/Volunteer Management Professional Organization

Professional experience:

- Representative II, Volunteer Engagement, American Red Cross
- Secretary, Southwest Idaho Directors of Volunteer Services



Personal Hobbies: Volunteering, gardening, staying fit and teaching fitness class

Why participate as a mentor: *"I have been in Volunteer Management since 2010, and I, like many others, never studied or went to school for this career. I learned by doing and discovering that I had a real passion for working with volunteers. My first supervisor was an incredible mentor to me, and he really showed me how to not just be an excellent Volunteer Coordinator, but also how to be a good leader and supervisor. He introduced me to the Southwest Idaho Directors of Volunteer Services (SWIDOVS), and I've been part of their leadership board ever since, devoting my time to volunteer with this organization that helps other volunteer managers throughout Idaho get connected to resources, information and training they need to succeed, as well as being an advocate for the value that we as volunteer managers bring to the table. I've seen many new volunteer managers come and go over the course of my career. I've always offered my knowledge and resources to these new managers, and have tried to help them the way that my mentor and SWIDOVS helped me. I've learned a lot over my many years in this field, and it really can have it's ups and downs. I believe firmly that we must work together and share our knowledge and resources with others. I want to see others succeed in this field, and to have a chance to find their passion for working with volunteers, as I did. I could not have come this far without having someone take me under their wing and teach me the importance of going above and beyond to provide the best experience for volunteers and organization staff. I want to be*

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that to someone else, to show them that they can have an amazing and rewarding career, just as I have!"

Kim Soto

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kim-soto-cva-2b892740/>

Length of time in field: 17 years

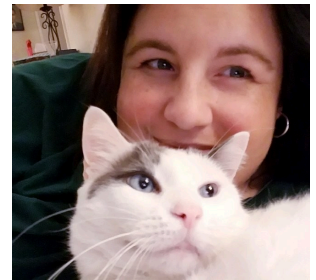
Organization type: Animal Welfare/Wildlife Rehab

Professional experience:

- Senior Director, Volunteer Engagement, San Diego Humane Society
- Volunteer Services Specialist, Fleet Science Center
- Volunteer Coordinator, San Diego History Center
- Past ALIVE Mentor

Personal Hobbies: PTA Board Member, autism and special education advocacy

Why participate as a mentor: *"I have had two great experiences as an ALIVE mentor and I would love the opportunity to do it again. I learned so much! I cherish the awesome reviews I received from my mentees and love watching their careers catch on fire in the Volunteer Engagement world."*



Beth Steinhorn

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bethsteinhorn/>

Length of time in field: 28 years

Organization type: Consulting Firm

Professional experience:

- President, VQ Volunteer Strategies
- Leadership Team Member, National Alliance for Volunteer Engagement
- Past presenter, Points of Light Conference & ALIVE Hybrid Conference
- Past ALIVE Mentor

Personal Hobbies: running, cooking, Broadway theater



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Why participate as a mentor: *“Among our company's values are generosity and collaboration; we believe mentoring is important.”*

Megan Vixie, MPA, CVA, PHR, SHRM-CP

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/meganvixie/>

Length of time in field: 16 years

Organization type: Healthcare, government

Professional experience:

- Chief Engagement Officer, Beach Cities Health District
- President, ALIVE
- Past presenter, Points of Light Conference
- Past ALIVE Mentor



Personal hobbies: Spending time with family, volunteering, home remodeling/decorating

Why participate as a mentor: *“My purpose in life is to help others achieve what they thought would not be possible. Mentoring others in the field of volunteer engagement is a passion of mine so we can continue to elevate this field and ensure volunteer engagement professionals become critical, key decision makers at their organizations.”*

Allison Waldvogel, CVA

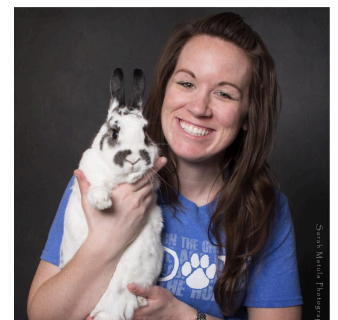
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/allison-waldvogel-cva-0a5a2563/>

Length of time in field: 11 years

Organization type: Animal welfare

Professional experience:

- Associate Director of Volunteer Services, Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region
- Past Center Director and Lead Teacher for early learning centers
- Past ALIVE Mentor



Personal hobbies: Camping, hiking, craft beer, reading, spending time with my hubby and "farm" (pets)

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Why participate as a mentor: *"I would like to participate as mentor in the ALIVE mentor program as I would like to help support my fellow colleagues in their challenges and successes in our industry. There is an astonishing amount of turnover in volunteer engagement staffing and it seems that lack of support, both overall in the field and within the organization, contribute to this in addition to folks "just being thrown" into a position with little to no experience. While there are fantastic agencies, such as ALIVE and local DOVIAs, to provide education and training, the day-to-day stressors is where our associates need help. My entire career as an Early Childhood Educator and as a Volunteer Engagement Professional has been focused on the success of others and I feel that I can offer some invaluable advice, experience, mentoring, and ideas to my colleagues that can help them succeed in their position."*

Angela Williamson, MS, CVA

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/angelawilliamsoncva/>

Length of time in field: 14+ years

Organization type: Healthcare

Professional experience:

- Volunteer & Community Relations Specialist, Blood Bank of Delmarva
- Board Member, Delaware Association of Volunteer Administrators
- Past presenter, ALIVE Hybrid Conference
- Past ALIVE Mentor



Personal hobbies: Gardening, cooking, board games, gathering with people

Why participate as a mentor: *"So many people have given time, energy, support, encouragement, wisdom, and patience to me as I've grown in the volunteer leadership role I'm in and want to give back and share what I can with those upcoming in the field as well."*



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Interested?

If interested in becoming a mentee: [Complete the mentee application here.](#)

Applications are due by Friday, October 1st!

IMPORTANT:

If interested in participating, save the date for **mandatory orientation that will be held on Thursday, October 7th, 2021 at 12pm PST/3pm EST.** Mentors and mentees will attend to learn more about one another before selecting their preferences for mentorship.

If you have any concerns about this program, please contact us at info@volunteeralive.org.