



The Fresno Center
4879 E. Kings Canyon Road
Fresno CA 93727
559-728-7214

California For All AmeriCorps Member

Are you a natural leader who is passionate about helping California communities deal with the effects of environmental disasters? Do you thrive in opportunities where you're mentoring, building relationships, and finding solutions? Would you feel excited about managing a program that provides young professionals with job opportunities, nonprofits and local governments with sustainable solutions, and the environment with a cohort that cares? If your answers are "yes!," we're looking for you!

The Agency

The Fresno Center is a 501C3 non-profit organization highly sought for its cross-cultural expertise in the areas of health, law, and social integration. The organization continues to provide services in employment, citizenship, leadership, networking, mental health, research, and advocacy. TFC continues to evolve to address the changing needs of new Americans through civic engagement, voting registration, and personal empowerment.

The Program

California For All AmeriCorps is an new statewide environmental program whose goal is to help Californians be prepared for disasters such as wildfires, floods and earthquakes. Bay Area Community Resources is the non-profit lead agency for the program. This program is part of a larger statewide Governor's campaign to boost emergency preparedness in communities experiencing social isolation, poverty, or language barriers, so they can keep themselves and their families safe during disasters.

CaliforniaVolunteers, which manages California AmeriCorps programs, identified six counties that are especially vulnerable to the effects of disasters— Lake and Shasta counties in the north, Fresno and Tulare counties in the Central Valley, and Riverside and San Bernardino counties in the south. The urgent need is to develop an infrastructure in these communities that can deliver emergency preparedness education as well as support disaster response and recovery efforts.

AmeriCorps Member Responsibilities

Community Outreach: Members will disseminate information which lets people know that education about emergency preparedness is readily available. The Regional Teams will utilize a combination of outreach strategies tailored to their own communities.

Members will conduct in-person outreach in order to make a direct connection with people, such as

- tabling at community events or at public locations such as grocery stores,

- door to door contacts, or
- brief presentations at local organizations such as churches, businesses, community groups, colleges, or high schools.

In these contacts Members will make education packets immediately available to people, and they will distribute flyers that list local group education programs and inform people about the online self-paced program that is available.

Social media posts will provide information about where people can get educated about emergency preparedness.

Manage the project web site where people can learn more information and take the on-line emergency preparedness course. The web site will be in multiple languages.

Community Education: Members' will use three strategies to educate vulnerable people in their communities about emergency preparedness. All strategies will closely follow the California for All Emergency Preparedness curriculum, but will be tailored to the needs of each target audience.

- (1) Members will provide small group education at community locations which people already frequent. Churches, community groups, schools, local government agencies, and retirement homes all have public meeting spaces that are known and welcoming to many people, so that people will feel safe and comfortable attending education sessions. Sessions will be tailored to the audience needs; for example, sessions for business leaders may be a bit different than those for church pastors or school teachers or working adults in rural areas or seniors in retirement homes.
- (2) The project will create an online self-paced program similar to online college courses. Like the web site, this program will be in multiple languages.
- (3) Members will distribute printed versions of the education curriculum, while providing a personal explanation of the information and answering questions. This will occur during the outreach, since some people will be immediately interested and want to stop and learn about emergency preparedness. They will then be able to study the material on their own and investigate further through web site.

Disaster Response: As needed, Members will deploy to disasters and provide appropriate assistance to the organization(s) directly managing the disaster response. There could be up to four deployments in the year, up to two weeks each. Deployments will happen on very short notice. Members will be trained on how to assist in disasters. After each disaster deployment, Members and staff will debrief in order to articulate lessons learned and improve policies and procedures for future disaster responses. We will provide group support for Members to process their experiences of helping people who were in traumatic situations, as well as follow-up counseling where appropriate. Members could encounter their own traumas during disaster response.

Desired Knowledge, Skills & Experience

- U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident
- Ability to work some evenings and weekends
- Ability to deploy on short notice anywhere in California for disaster response
- Bachelor's degree preferred, but not required
- Experience working with community programs. Non-profits, churches, community organizations preferred
- Ability to provide a consistent, professional, positive adult relationship with the public
- Exceptional oral and written communication skills
- Willingness and ability to take initiative
- Ability to speak Spanish or other non-English language strongly preferred
- Successful completion of TB test, health screen, and Live Scan/fingerprinting (upon hire)

Personal Qualities

- Commitment to the mission and values of the agency
- Strong leadership skills
- Ability to inspire others
- Ability to maintain motivation to achieve goals while dealing with challenges
- Committed to community building and development

Application

Send resume and cover letter to Cheri Cruz @ cheri.cruz@fresnocenter.org