

## 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.

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#### **Christina Basey, MPA**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/christina-basey/>

**Length of time in field:** 7 years

**Organization type:** Social Services– Hunger

**Professional experience:**

- Manager of Individual Volunteers, Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana
- Board Member, Central Indiana Association of Volunteer Administrators

**Personal Hobbies:** Reading, photography, travel

**Why participate as a mentor:** *“I wish I would've had a mentor when I first started. I use my network from Central Indiana Association of Volunteer Administrators and the Feeding America ListServ for volunteer managers quite often and I know that not everyone has access to resources like these. As a board member at CIAVA, I get questions a lot about what I would do in certain situations. It's still amazing to me that I've been in this field long enough to have insight into how volunteers work – I myself still have a lot to learn but I am happy to share what I have learned already with others.”*

## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

#### **Kelli Crawford, MA, CVA**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kelli-crawford-b8196645/>

**Length of time in field:** 10 years

**Organization type:** Museum/Zoo/Aquarium

**Professional experience:**

- Volunteer Coordinator and Curator of Collections, Greensboro Science Center
- Board Member, Association for Leaders in Volunteer Engagement
- Vice-Chair, Volunteer Management Committee of Association of Zoos and Aquariums

**Personal hobbies:** Marathons/triathlons, planning/organizing

**Why participate as a mentor:** *"I originally envisioned myself working in a history museum but was bitten by the volunteer management bug when I interned for the Greensboro Science Center. When offered a full time position to stay on at the GSC after completing my Master's, I jumped at the chance because it meant continuing to work with the GSC volunteers. In seven years, I have grown the corps of volunteers by 300%, built a talented team in the Volunteer Office and doubled my budget. That growth has been a product of hard work from my staff and volunteers as well as advocacy for the volunteer management profession both within my organization and at a national level through my work on the Volunteer Management Committee with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. I am especially passionate about advocating for the profession because I remember what it was like to be a new volunteer manager who struggled at the onset. I want to help new and veteran volunteer managers build on their successes, overcome their challenges and elevate the profession."*

## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

#### Jenn Forristal, CVA

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

**Length of time in field:** 14 years

**Organization type:** News, information, arts, & culture

**Professional experience:**

- Volunteer Resources Associate, Oregon Public Broadcasting
- Past President, Northwest Oregon Volunteer Administrators Association

**Personal Hobbies:** running, yoga, reading, crafting, and spending time with my dog, learning to cook, volunteering

**Why participate as a mentor:** *“When I began my career in volunteer administration 14 years ago, I reached out to Volunteer Coordinators at other Habitat for Humanity affiliates to learn from their experience. They were helpful and generous with their time, and I learned a lot from them. I would have loved to have had access to a formal program like this when I was starting out. I am excited about the idea of working closely with a colleague who is newer to the field. I expect that there will be much to learn from them, as well. After having completed a five-year stint on the Board of Directors for my local volunteer administrators association, I am excited for the opportunity to volunteer with ALIVE. One of the aspects of serving on the Board that I enjoyed most was connecting with colleagues from a variety of organizations. In my role with our local association, I served as an informal advisor/mentor to colleagues who were new to the profession. In my experience, the community of volunteer administrators is very supportive and collaborative. Each serves an important mission and represents a team of volunteers working to improve their communities. Through volunteering with ALIVE, I look forward to the opportunity to support my colleagues and their missions, in my small way.”*

## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

#### 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/rebeccafinberg/>

**Length of time in field:** 10 years

**Organization type:** Municipal government

**Professional experience:**

- Volunteer Resources Coordinator, Volunteers in Plano, City of Plano
- Committee Member, ALIVE Marketing Committee
- Communications Chair, Texas Volunteer Management Conference
- Membership Chair, Dallas Association of Directors of Volunteers (DADV)

**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*

## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

*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.”*

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#### **Mary Beth Harrington, CVA**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/501c3/>

**Length of time in field:** 30+ years

**Organization type:** Nonprofit consulting

**Professional experience:** Passionate Nonprofit Expert, 501c3 Empowering Nonprofits

**Personal Hobbies:** Hiking, Biking and walking my puppies

**Why participate as a mentor:** *“I love assisting new and emerging leaders.”*

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#### **Jan Hathaway**

**Length of time in field:** 30+ years

**Organization type:** non-profit

**Professional experience:**

- ReadingPals Program Director, United Way of Marion County
- Past ALIVE mentor

**Personal Hobbies:** volunteering with variety of organizations in community

**Why participate as a mentor:** *“I was a mentor last season and truly enjoyed the experience and have continued to be connected with my mentee.”*

## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

#### Dana Litwin, CVA

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

**Length of time in field:** 18 years

**Organization type:** Volunteer & Community Engagement Strategy

**Professional experience:**

- Principal Consultant, Dana Litwin Consulting
- Past President, ALIVE
- Past ALIVE Mentor
- Co-Facilitator, National Alliance for Volunteer Engagement
- Past presenter, ALIVE Hybrid Conference & Points of Light Conference

**Personal Hobbies:** Teach/play/record pro session tracks on brass instruments, keyboards, and voice

**Why participate as a mentor:** *“Very much enjoyed my last turn at Mentoring when ALIVE launched the program, and happy to keep going with new professionals in the ALIVE membership for Fall 2020.”*

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#### 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, ALIVE
- Past Presenter, Points of Light Conference

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

## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

**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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#### **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
- Past ALIVE mentor
- Commissioner, Arizona's Governor's Commission on Service & Volunteerism
- Board Member, Estrella Mountain & Paradise Valley Community College Learning Advisory Boards

**Personal hobbies:** camping, hiking, cooking radio (HAM) communications, storytelling, arts advocacy, reading

**Why participate as a mentor:** *"I believe that nurturing those new to volunteer engagement/management is the best pathway to developing the leaders needed to strengthen our profession. Mentoring is an evidence-based, demonstrated means of developing these "up-and-coming" professionals."*

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#### **Nicole Smith**

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

**Length of time in field:** 5.5 years

**Organization type:** Arts

## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

#### **Professional experience:**

- Manager, Volunteer and Internship Services, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts
- Published Author, Contributing Writer/Blogger, Keynote Speaker
- Board Member, Arts & Business Council–Miami

**Personal Hobbies:** Reading, dancing, writing

**Why participate as a mentor:** *“I believe the strength of our profession depends upon the support that new volunteer professionals receive in the early years. My first few years would have been so much easier with someone to turn to for advice and support. I would like to be that to someone joining the profession to encourage and support them in this on beautiful journey called volunteer management.”*

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#### **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 & AL!VE Hybrid Conference

**Personal Hobbies:** running, cooking, Broadway theater

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



## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

#### Jerome Tennille, MSL

<https://www.jerometennille.com/>

**Length of time in field:** 16 years

**Organization type:** Corporate Social Responsibility

**Professional experience:**

- Consultant on volunteer & employee engagement programming, philanthropic giving strategy creation and sustainability principles implementation
- Manager of Social Impact & Volunteerism, Marriott International
- Past presenter, National Summit on Volunteer Engagement Leadership

**Personal hobbies:** Ultra-running, chess, making and collecting art, and hiking

**Why participate as a mentor:** *"I would like to be more active in the development of future volunteer engagement professionals. I didn't have a mentor when starting my career as a volunteer coordinator and feel as though I would've benefited tremendously if I had one. I would also like to be a resource for those who are new to the field and perhaps have not thought about all the different opportunities that exist in the field of volunteer engagement inside (or outside the nonprofit sector, like CSR and government). If I can give back to my profession, I'd be honored."*

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#### 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

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

## EMERGING LEADERS MENTOR PROGRAM

### Meet the Mentors!

**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.”*

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#### **Angela Williamson, MS, CVA**

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

**Length of time in field:** 13 years

**Organization type:** Healthcare

#### **Professional experience:**

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

**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 Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>!**

#### **IMPORTANT:**

If interested in participating, save the date for **mandatory orientation that will be held on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 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](mailto:info@volunteeralive.org).