

SERVE WASHINGTON



AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps Virtual Swearing-In Ceremony & Post-Ceremony Workshops Friday, October 21, 2022

Ceremony

10:00 a.m. – Noon

[Advanced Registration in Zoom to Attend](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Serve Washington is committed to making our events compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and inclusive of all people, of all abilities. If you need accommodations to fully participate in our event, please let us know. Do you require accommodations? Contact Servewa@ofm.wa.gov or 360-902-0657 as early as possible.

Join your AmeriCorps peers from across Washington state to celebrate service and kick-off the new program year. The morning ceremony will include an alumni panel, networking break-outs, a keynote address by educator and instructional leader, Melody Hawkins (bio below), and the AmeriCorps Pledge of Service that members around the country have taken for more than 25 years. In the afternoon, members and staff are invited to come back for two workshops.



Melody Hawkins - Keynote

Melody Hawkins is an award-winning educator who is passionate about serving students from underrepresented populations and students located in under-resourced communities. As a former eighth-grade science teacher, Mrs. Hawkins provided culturally relevant experiences infused with social-emotional learning to motivate and empower her students to always achieve success. Currently as a high school administrator, she leads with a passion and belief that all students deserve high-quality equitable education.

Melody, a Jackson, TN native, served in AmeriCorps with the American Red Cross in New Orleans, LA. She credits her service in AmeriCorps as a pivotal experience for the trajectory of her career. [Read full bio.](#)

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Post-Ceremony Workshops

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. (PDT) - “Responsible Service: How to Help and Not Harm the Community You Serve”

Virtual Workshop (90 min.)

Facilitated by Breana Dorelus, MPA - [Connecting the Cause](#) [About Breana Dorelus](#)

Impactful service and true transformation are long games. When we decide to partner with communities, we make a statement to do no harm, but when personal advances, white supremacy and paternalistic thinking get in the way, we tear away at the right to autonomy, wholeness and dignity. During our time, we will talk about saviorism, how it impacts racial equity, how it rears its head in service and actions to take that lead in solidarity.

Join this workshop:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 711 587 6303

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (PDT) “Defining Our Paths Towards Liberation”

Virtual Workshop (120 min.)

Facilitated by Aaron Carr - [Paradigm Shift Seattle](#) [About Aaron Carr](#)

This session will support in building shared language and deepening the group’s understanding around concepts related to liberation, healing, and justice. After making collective meaning of these concepts, we will dig into a framework that supports AmeriCorps members and staff in reflecting on how they might intentionally want to utilize this upcoming year of service to experience their own liberation from oppressive systems and support the liberation of others.

Join this workshop:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 899 6581 7809

Passcode: 830397

Dial by your location:

1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

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Breana Dorelus

Breana Dorelus is the Founder and Chief Cause Consultant at Connecting the Cause, a consultancy dedicated to dismantling harmful volunteer practices implemented by nonprofits and volunteers towards Black and brown communities. Breana believes in community inclusion in all aspects of the volunteer process and has dedicated her work to ensuring that service is centered around co-dreaming and not harmful charity. She believes that best practices may not be the best for all and that we must look at service through the lens of community-centered support in order to create a more just future. [Return](#)

Instagram: [@connectingthecause](#)

Facebook: [Connecting the Cause](#)



Aaron Carr

Aaron Carr is a community builder/ artist/ and entrepreneur working alongside passionate community members, groups, and organizations to create space for anti-racist action. From coaching individuals around connecting their intersectional identities and values to the work they do in the system to organizing large scale community events that promote healing justice, Aaron is devoted to ensuring all community members feel seen, valued, and supported in understanding their place in our collective fight for liberation.

Aaron spent 10 years of their life serving communities across the nation in various non-profits and organizational roles. In the last 3 years, they served as a Program Director overseeing organizational vision towards becoming an anti-racist and youth centered org, utilized human-centered coaching practices that inspired innovation and root solutions, and designed and consulted around community-centered program design. When Aaron isn't using their strong vision to make change in the system, you'll find them producing/singing music or practicing a DJ set for the next party they're working.

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