

Meet Our 2023 National Service Segal Fellows

The Segal Program congratulates and welcomes our 2023 National Service Segal Fellows, in partnership with [Service Year Alliance](#) (SYA) and [AmeriCorps](#). These inspiring citizen leaders join a network of 163 lifelong Segal Fellows making an impact across a wide range of issue areas and sectors. Through their participation in the Segal Program, Fellows are supported with professional development, leadership resources, and a powerful community with which to continue their growth as an agent for social change over their lifetime.

Our AmeriCorps Alums and AmeriCorps Segal Fellows were selected from a large pool of inspiring candidates from across the country. In addition to joining the Segal Program, the AmeriCorps Alums Segal Fellows receive an honorarium from SYA and work with them to promote national service. The AmeriCorps Fellow spends a year at AmeriCorps Headquarters in DC, working to support and promote national service. *For more information visit Segal.Brandeis.edu.*

Jennifer Bañarez (*AmeriCorps Alums Segal Fellow*)



Jennifer Bañarez was awarded an academic scholarship to pursue an undergraduate degree at the school of her choice, Loyola University Chicago. She later completed medical school and acquired direct patient care experience both domestically and internationally.

During her AmeriCorps service year in Wisconsin, Jennifer brokered a crucial partnership with the National Guard, extending COVID vaccine access to underserved communities in central Wisconsin. She also regularly administered COVID tests in congregate settings during the winter of 2020–2021. Jennifer displayed exceptional organizational skills by setting up the capacity of the first free clinic in her city which included implementing an electronic health record system, establishing the clinic’s online presence and conducting personnel training.

In the future, Jennifer aims to tap into her medical experience by championing healthcare data that genuinely reflects the diversity of patients. Having observed firsthand the shortcomings in healthcare data collection, aggregation, and reporting, she's committed to rectifying these issues and providing a more accurate portrayal of a population's health. Jennifer’s vision includes further enhancing her proficiency in healthcare technology and advocating for more representative healthcare data.

Jennifer is passionate about literature which led her to the role of author outreach organizer for Filipina Authors Book Club (FABC), one of the pioneering Filipina/o/x book clubs. In this capacity, she successfully secured appearances from first-time authors, New York Times Bestsellers, writers highlighted by BuzzFeed, and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Maria Ressa. Jennifer’s goal is to further amplify the visibility of these talented authors and to develop resources for individuals who are enthusiastic about pursuing a career as writers.

As a Segal fellow, Jennifer is excited about connecting with like-minded folks that are also passionate about building a better world. She is looking forward to contributing by sharing lessons learned from her own journey and assisting Segal Fellows in turning their dreams into reality.

Outside of it all, Jennifer is a marathon runner and an MMA student, continuously learning and improving her pace and technique.

Annabelle Pham (*AmeriCorps Segal Fellow*)



Annabelle Pham is an AmeriCorps Segal Fellow and Project Management graduate student at George Washington University, originally from Quakertown, PA. She is an alumnus of AmeriCorps' Jumpstart program, where she served as a teacher's assistant from 2015-2018, dedicated to providing young minds with a solid educational foundation before entering kindergarten. Her proudest professional accomplishment to date is coordinating the then-largest day of service in the greater Washington DC area in 2018, mobilizing nearly 2,500 volunteers contributing 10,000 cumulative hours to serve with 46 community partners, with an estimated economic volunteer impact of \$390,818.68.

Passionate about environmental stewardship, public service, and corporate social responsibility, Annabelle's career goal is to strengthen decision-making and leadership at mission-driven organizations. Specifically, she aspires to work with the National Park Service as either a volunteer coordinator or project manager and help the agency determine and execute the best strategies to preserve natural and cultural resources. Outside of her professional pursuits, Annabelle enjoys baking, board games, camping, hiking, and volleyball. As a Segal Fellow, she looks forward to gaining insights into national service and inspiring others to join her in this endeavor.

Megan Potts (*AmeriCorps Alums Segal Fellow*)



A Jacksonville native, Megan Potts has been a trailblazer throughout the field of education for the last decade. The innovative educator has worked with organizations such as AmeriCorps, City Year (Dallas), City Teaching Alliance, and The Department of Education TRIO Talent Search Program. She has several years of experience working with urban communities in the education and non-profit sector.

A leader within her field, she has received the AT&T Discipline Award during her service year with City Year Dallas and was named: an Emerging Leader on behalf of Florida State TRIO, 2023 ampED National Fellow in partnership with Communities in Schools and Duval County Public Schools, and a recipient of the 2023 AmeriCorps Alums Segal Leadership Award, given by Service Year Alliance and the Eli J. & Phyllis N. Segal Citizen Leadership Program as a thought-leader for her community.

Strategically navigating throughout higher ed as a first-generation scholar and corporate professional, Megan has presented over 1,000 workshops to systematically marginalized scholars on College and Career navigation, post-graduate planning, and Intergenerational Communication in the workplace.

Her passion for community and learning extends beyond the classroom, as she founded Books for HER in 2020. A virtual book club for millennial and Gen-Z women aimed to cultivate liberation through literacy. She has successfully led three cohorts and is set to launch her first book winter of 2023.