



Arizona  
Governor's  
Commission  
on **Service** and  
**Volunteerism**



**Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism**

**Thursday, May 10, 2023, 1:30 PM**

**Virtual Meeting [Link](#)**

**Arizona State Capitol, Phoenix, Arizona**

A general meeting of the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism (GCSV) was convened on May 10, 2023, via hybrid and in-person at the Arizona State Capitol, 1700 W. Washington St., Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the GCSV:

Members Present	
Kimberly Rice	Helain Day
Robert Ashcraft	Michael Hammett
Tori Carlson	Donna Davis (Chair)
Donna Martin	Alex Gabaldon
Members Absent	
Tyler Butler	Thomas Winkel
Wynn "Chris" Gibbs	Carla Nunez
Staff & Guests	
Emily Litchfield	Kainoa Spenser
Ali Channa	Shayne Johnson
Conrad Lindo	

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Commission Chair Davis** called the meeting to order at **1:41 PM**. Quorum was **present**.

**2. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS**

**Commission Chair Davis** welcomed attendees and asked commissioners, guests, and staff to introduce themselves. Deputy Director Conrad Lindo of the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF) introduced himself to commissioners as he is new to the office. He thanked the Service and Volunteerism Commissioners and the AmeriCorps staff for their service in Arizona.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Robert Ashcraft** moved to approve the meeting minutes from **March 22, 2023**. **Commissioner Helain Day** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. UPDATES**

**Emily Litchfield, AmeriCorps Director, GOYFF** provided a recap of the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards, hosted April 26, 2023 at East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) in Mesa. Awardees had the opportunity to meet with Governor Katie Hobbs prior to the award ceremony. **Commissioner Rice** appreciated the opportunity to be at the event and interact with the awardees and guests at the Youth Awardee table. **Commissioner Ashcraft** echoed these sentiments, affirming that the event was a joyous occasion. **Commission Chair Davis** stated she was not able to attend the event, however, she appreciates that Governor Hobbs made the time in her busy schedule to attend the celebration. **Commissioner Martin** also shared that she is glad the event was hosted at EVIT again after so many years. In addition to celebrating the awardees' accomplishments, the event supported the students of EVIT's Culinary Arts Program who set up the tables, as well as prepared and served the food.

**Kainoa Spenser, Service and Volunteerism Specialist, GOYFF** provided an update regarding the Governor's Youth Commission (GYC). The 2022-2023 GYC finished their term on April 29, 2023 which was recognized this year as Global Youth Service Day. Members participated in a restoration service activity at S'edav Va'aki Museum, formerly Pueblo Grande Museum, and received Commendation Letters from Tracy Lopes, Director of Community Engagement for Governor Hobbs, as well as graduation cords for seniors at their upcoming ceremonies.

Applications for the 2023-2024 GYC close May 31, 2023 and fliers with a QR code for potential applicants to learn more about the program and how to apply were shared with commissioners. Staff are seeking assistance in sharing the information with potential youth leaders in their communities who may have an interest in civic engagement, community participation, and youth leadership experiences. Of particular interest is outreach to the following counties where applicants haven't been received yet: Apache, Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, and La Paz.

**Commission Chair Davis** stated she is attending community events in La Paz and Green Lee County and offered to take extra fliers for distribution. **Commissioner Day** suggested connecting with the [Arizona Rural Schools Association \(ARSA\)](#) and would be happy to facilitate an introduction. **Commissioner Rice** also suggested sharing the GYC application with school superintendents for each county.

**Commissioner Robert Ashcraft** provided an update regarding the Service Enterprise Initiative (SEI), an organizational change model and curriculum for integrating volunteerism throughout an organization. Sandra Freyer, the program lead from Arizona State University (ASU) Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation where SEI in Arizona is housed, was praised for her work in implementing and promoting the SEI across the state. Sandra and other team members attended a [Community Foundation for Southern Arizona](#) meeting where information about SEI was shared. **Commissioner Martin** and **Commissioner Carlson** stated they are both supporters of the SEI and are trained facilitators of the curriculum. **Commissioner Martin** suggested that Sandra be invited to speak at a future commission meeting to provide an overview of the program for commissioners and staff who are not familiar with it.

**Commissioner Carlson** added onto Sandra's praise for her efforts to facilitate the SEI training and certification process. **Commissioner Ashcraft** reminded commissioners that the [Points of Light Conference](#) will be held in Chicago, and that it would be a great opportunity for training. **Commissioner Martin** recommended participation at the annual conference based on her previous experiences. **Commissioner Ashcraft** asked if the federal agency of AmeriCorps would be present. **Emily Litchfield** stated that she wasn't aware of if or at what capacity they will participate, but added she knows America's Service Commissions (ASC) is working to collaborate with Points of Light.

**Emily Litchfield** stated **Carla Nuñez, AmeriCorps Federal Agency**, was not able to attend and shared updates on her behalf. As of now, the Mountain Region office is fully staffed to support both Utah and Arizona. Additionally, three staff members from the federal agency will be in Arizona from May 24-26 to visit AmeriCorps VISTA and Seniors programs. They will also be attending the upcoming Arizona Summit on Volunteerism and Civic Engagement.

## 5. BUSINESS

**Emily Litchfield** gave an overview of the fiscal year (FY) 2024 AmeriCorps National Competitive Award which was highlighted in an April [press release](#). New Arizona AmeriCorps include: the [Arizona Corporation Commission](#) and [Arizona Teacher Residency](#); [Maggie's Place](#) and the [Arizona Supreme Court](#) were selected for an additional 3-year funding cycle; [West Valley Health Equity](#) was awarded as a Public Health AmeriCorps program; and [Arizona Conservation Corps \(AZCC\)](#) and [University of Arizona \(UA\) Center for Recruitment and Retention of Mathematics Teachers](#) programs received funds to expand programming. In total, the National Competitive and Public Health AmeriCorps portfolios will expand by approximately \$670,000.

**Commissioner Martin** motioned to move to Executive Session. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Rice** and the body moved to Executive Session at 2:15 PM.

The FY2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will launch Fall 2023 with the FY2024 AmeriCorps State Formula Request for Grant Applications (RFGA) opening Spring 2024. Applicants have the ability to submit the same application for consideration in both the FY2024 Competitive and Formula processes. In order to ensure fairness to all applicants in either or both competitions, staff at GOYFF will not be providing the same level of support to new

applicants during the National Competitive process as they have in previous years, rather focusing efforts to offer technical assistance to current subgrantees submitting continuation applications. Commissioners were informed that grant reviewers will be needed during this time and to reserve time on their calendars to participate if possible.

**Commissioner Carlson** motioned for adjournment of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Ashcraft** and the regular session reconvened at 2:43 PM.

#### **6. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

The next convening of the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism will be **August 9, 2023** at **1:30 PM**.

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Donna Martin** motioned for adjournment. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Alex Gabaldon** and the meeting was adjourned at **2:51 PM**.

Dated the 11th day of May, 2023  
Governor's Commission on Service & Volunteerism  
Respectfully Submitted By:  
Ali Channa  
AmeriCorps Program Administrator

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