

# BECOMING AN ALLY

## IS PUBLIC ALLIES RIGHT FOR YOU?

Minimum requirements to be a Public Ally are:

- U.S. citizenship or legal permanent resident status
- to be between the ages of 18 and 30
- a high school diploma or GED

You must be passionate about social issues, interested in working with a diverse group of people, and get the chance to develop your full leadership potential. We are looking for potential Allies that are self-directed, energetic, creative, and resourceful.

Public Allies is a full-time commitment which frequently requires more than 40 hours per week. Allies are discouraged from enrolling in school or working other jobs during the apprenticeship period.

## STIPENDS AND BENEFITS

Each Public Allies program provides a stipend of \$1,350-\$1,850 per month depending on the cost of living (contact each site for stipend amount). In addition, Allies receive health insurance, child care, interest-free student loan deferment and a post-service education award that can be used to pay of past student loans or future education (currently \$4,725).

For locations and information on our programs visit our website at [www.publicallies.org](http://www.publicallies.org).



*My desire to empower others and strengthen communities lead me to become an Ally.*  
- Dan Golonka, 2003

## APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

To apply, complete an application and invite two references to complete reference forms.

Application deadlines vary by site. Generally, applications are accepted January through April. All programs begin in August or September and continue for ten months. Please contact the Public Allies office in your city for deadline information.

The selection process has four steps:

- (1) Submit a completed application
- (2) If selected, participate in two interviews
- (3) If selected as a finalist, interview with several nonprofit organizations
- (4) Public Allies staff will make the final placements based on feedback

# PUBLIC



# ALLIES

Change Your Life  
Change Your Community  
Change the World!

**YOU CAN  
BECOME A PUBLIC ALLY**





## ABOUT PUBLIC ALLIES

Our mission is to advance diverse young leaders to strengthen communities, nonprofits and civic participation.

### OUR VISION

Public Allies envisions a more just and equitable society for all.

### OUR VALUES

Public Allies' unique leadership development approach prepares young leaders to practice values that invigorate public life:

- Collaboration
- Continuous Learning
- Diversity/Inclusion
- Focus on Assets
- Integrity

Networks of leaders in public life practicing these values will unite people and organizations, create effective and responsive organizations, engage the assets of more citizens and ultimately build a more just and equitable society.

[WWW.PUBLICALLIES.ORG](http://WWW.PUBLICALLIES.ORG)



*You only get out of life however much you put in it and Public Allies was no exception. It was a great learning experience for both personal and professional growth.*  
- Yvonne Ochilo, 2006

*My experience with Public Allies showed me solutions to problems our society faces, especially with young people. I saw the importance of mentorship in youth and the necessity of educating young people so that they can be successful in our ever-changing world.*  
- Toan Do, 2002

### OUR ALLY PROGRAM

Founded in 1992, Public Allies has built a powerful model for identifying, training and supporting talented and diverse young adults to lead positive community change. As our core program, young people, ages 18 to 30, serve in full-time apprenticeships, and participate in a rigorous leadership development program that combines weekly training, coaching, team projects and reflection.

The ally program is a 10 month apprenticeship program, funded by AmeriCorps, with three main components:

- **Nonprofit Apprenticeship:** Allies are placed in paid professional apprenticeships creating, improving and expanding services at local nonprofit organizations, where they are responsible for a project designed to positively impact the community. They work in fields such as youth development, community and economic development, public health and safety, civic participation and the environment.
- **Leadership Training:** Allies participate in retreats and ongoing workshops led by local community and civic leaders on topics such as public speaking, conflict resolution, diversity and oppression, community building and media relations.
- **Team Service Project:** Teams of Allies collaborate to design and implement projects that benefit the community. Examples of past projects include creating a video about alternatives to incarceration, helping residents create a community garden and facilitating teen leadership programs.

## ALLY EXPERIENCE AND IMPACT

### CHANGE YOUR LIFE

#### TRAINING

To support your leadership and professional development, you will participate in workshops led by local community and civic leaders that teach skills that will enhance your ability to make a difference, such as:

- Community Building
- Self-Reflection
- Volunteer recruitment and management

#### RETREATS

You will participate in two-three overnight retreats and regular team building activities. Retreats take place at the beginning, middle, and end of the ten-month program and offer an opportunity to reflect on your learning.

#### PEER SUPPORT

You will learn from the exchange of ideas and perspectives with our fellow Allies throughout the year.

#### COACHING & REFLECTION

Through our Ally Continuous Learning Process, we will help you set future educational and career goals, coach you to take steps toward meeting them and connect you to educational and professional opportunities that will help you achieve your goals.

### CHANGE YOUR COMMUNITY

#### APPRENTICESHIP

As an Ally, you will work for ten months at a local nonprofit organization where you will strengthen your community by working in areas such as:

- helping minority-owned small businesses obtain loans
- counseling juvenile offenders
- facilitating empowerment programs for teenage girls

#### TEAM SERVICE PROJECT

You will also collaborate with a team of Allies to design and implement a project that benefits your community. Examples include:

- creating a housing access conference for low-income residents
- developing an after-school program for children in public housing
- creating a video about alternatives to incarceration

### CHANGE THE WORLD

#### PUBLIC ALLIES LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Upon graduating from Public Allies, you will be a part of a diverse and growing national network of more than 2,000 young leaders. You will have significant work experience, important skills, local connections and ties to national networks that will help you progress in your efforts to change the world. Through the Public Allies Leadership Network, you can take advantage of:

- volunteer leadership opportunities
- post-apprenticeship fellowship programs
- professional development opportunities on topics such as government relations or fundraising

### OF THE ALLIES THAT GRADUATED IN 2006:

- 90% improved Interpersonal Communication skills
- 81% increased their Self-Confidence
- 86% improved Personal Responsibility & Reliability
- 81% developed skills in Project Planning
- 83% improved their skills to Mobilize Community Assets

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*I have [developed] a lot of professional [skills], especially with this being my first real job out of college. I gained experience in community organizing and community engagement. Overall, Public Allies just made me realize, even more, that I want to work within communities to help build them up and show that every community is worth fighting for and that the citizens can work together to make change happen.*  
- Holland LaFave, 2006

*One of the most important things to me was to be able to build relationships and learn from people of all backgrounds, beliefs and experiences.*  
-Jacqueline Marte, 2000

