

Welcome to Our Two Newest Segal Fellows

Elsa Vasquez-Flores joins the Segal Fellowship as the 2017 AmeriCorps Alums Eli Segal Leadership Award winner. She



is an alumna of Aspire! Afterschool – an AmeriCorps program in Arlington, VA, where she currently works as a site coordinator, after serving a year in their AmeriCorps program and being promoted to Team Lead. Elsa is committed to serving the young people in her program, as well as building deep relationships with their parents and others in the community. Her biggest point of pride is when her students say, “I want to be the next Ms. Elsa when I grow up” and serve in AmeriCorps with Aspire. Her coworkers have echoed the impact that she has on inspiring her students. Elsa previously served as an appointed Board Member on the Governor of Virginia’s Advisory Board on Service and Volunteerism, and is a 2014 graduate of Mary Baldwin University. For Elsa, being a Segal Fellow in the Segal Citizen Leadership Program means taking her leadership skills and her desire for helping low income communities in the education system to the next level by learning how to achieve her goals. More information about Elsa’s selection as a Segal Fellow and her inspiring experiences as an emerging citizen leader are available from [AmeriCorps Alums](#).

Kareen Sanchez (pounced Karen in English and Spanish) joins the Segal Program as our 2017 Service Year Alliance



Segal Fellow. She is a proud native of the city of Baldwin Park in Los Angeles County and a bilingual, first generation Mexican. She served as an AmeriCorps Member with City Year Los Angeles, where she tutored and mentored at-risk high school students, partnered with teachers and administrators, planned and managed educational events and co-led an after-school program. She then became a Peace Corps Masters International Student, where she combined graduate school at the University of Miami with Peace Corps service from 2014-2016, serving as a youth, families and community development promoter in a large urban marginalized community along the Dominican Republic and Haitian border. Most recently, she led a college credit course with 11 students in Peru that combined Spanish immersion classes with community service in the Amazon Rainforest. As a Segal Fellow, Kareen hopes to continue her passion for national service by working with a leading national organization dedicated to making a service year a cultural expectation and common opportunity for all Americans. Kareen received her B.A. in psychology from the University of California, Riverside and a M.S.Ed in community and social change from the University of Miami. While an undergraduate, she received the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study Latino youth gangs in Barcelona, Spain, an experience that reinforced her passion for working with at-risk youth.

Elsa and Kareen join [Olivia McNulty, the 2017 City Year Bridge Builder Segal Fellow](#) who joined the Segal Program this past spring, as our 2017 AmeriCorps Segal Fellow Cohort. We welcome them into our community of Segal Fellows.