



American Youth  
Policy Forum  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



## How National Service Can Advance the Mission, Goals, and Capacity of Nonprofits

An AYPF and Service Year Alliance Webinar

December 11, 2018

Presenter Biographies and Photos

### Brooke Bohnet

Director Program Development

Service Year Alliance

Twitter: [@ServiceYearAlliance](https://twitter.com/ServiceYearAlliance)



**Brooke Bohnet** joined Service Year Alliance in June 2017 to help organizations develop strategies to replicate, scale, and develop new service year models. Previously, as a Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, she helped launch the Promise Zones Initiative to invigorate high-poverty communities through government, non-profit, philanthropic and private sector partnerships. Brooke supported the 22 urban, rural and tribal Promise Zones in incorporating hundreds of service year positions to boost capacity and achieve community goals. She completed her undergraduate work at Scripps College, and has graduate degrees from Johns Hopkins University in Teaching and George Washington University in Public Administration. Brooke started her career with two year of service through Teach for America in Baltimore.

### Jeff Brady

Manager, Volunteer Engagement

United Way Worldwide

Twitter: [@UnitedWay](https://twitter.com/UnitedWay)



**Jeff Brady** is a program management and communications professional with more than two decades of experience educating and engaging donors, clients and partners through events, conferences, publications, training, coalition building and public outreach.

As Manager, Volunteer Engagement at United Way Worldwide, Jeff works to make volunteerism a central part of United Way's global business strategy by developing, enhancing and delivering resources and training on strategies that drive impact, generate revenue, and build and deepen relationships with people committed to creating sustainable change through volunteering. Part of Jeff's responsibilities include overseeing the quality, management and coordination of all aspects of two national AmeriCorps VISTA Projects.

**Eileen Conoboy**  
**Acting Director, AmeriCorps VISTA**  
**Corporation for National and Community Service**  
**VISTA alum 1992-1993**  
**Twitter:** [@NationalService](#), [@AmeriCorpsVISTA](#)



Before joining the AmeriCorps VISTA team as Deputy Director in 2014 and Acting Director in 2017, **Eileen Conoboy** spent more than 20 years in community development roles. She directed the Peace Corps' global education and career transition departments; led planning and evaluations at the Administration for Native Americans; managed anti-racism training programs in Ireland; worked as a rural health educator with the Peace Corps in Mali, West Africa; recruited and managed domestic violence task forces as a VISTA volunteer in North Dakota; and worked as a writer and editor for various organizations. She holds a master's degree in International Peace Studies from Trinity College, Dublin, and a bachelor's degree in Journalism from West Virginia University.

**Gretchen Van der Veer, PhD**  
**CEO/Executive Director**  
**Fair Chance**  
**Twitter:** [@fairchancedc](#)



**Gretchen Van der Veer** has been working on issues related to civic engagement, capacity building, and leadership development in the nonprofit sector for over 25 years. She currently serves as the CEO/Executive Director of Fair Chance, a social change organization fighting generational poverty by investing expertise and capacity building in strategically selected community-based nonprofits so they can achieve life-changing results for more children, youth, and families. Since 2002, Fair Chance has worked with over 100 organizations serving a combined 90,000 children and youth.

Gretchen's career began at the University of Maryland where as a doctoral student she studied leadership development in higher education, tracked the participation of students and faculty in community service activities, and was involved on several local community boards. She was then tapped to help launch AmeriCorps during the Clinton administration and served in various roles at the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).