

## Public Health AmeriCorps - Stories from the Field



**Farid Howard**

Farid Howard serves as an AmeriCorps member in the Public Health AmeriCorps program with the **LA County Department of Public Health**. Farid chose to serve a second one-year term with Public Health AmeriCorps while working toward his undergraduate degree in health communications. He aspires to earn a Masters of Public Health in the future.

*“From my perspective as a Black man, I wasn’t necessarily raised to trust in government institutions, public health institutions...I wasn’t expecting Public Health AmeriCorps to have that ability to bring me back into the fold. That’s something that I’ve really resonated with, and recognized the power of public service and public good. I know there are a lot of different communities that feel neglected, feel left out, and feel like maybe that this country is not for them, like what’s going on, it just wasn’t made with them in mind. I just really see public health as something that can bring folks into the fold. If it’s not to change the entire country, at the very least, to change their communities’ health outcomes and make a real impact.”*



**Jasmine Washington**

Jasmine Washington served as an AmeriCorps member with **Virginia Recovery Corps**. At the end of her service year, she was hired by her host site, Real Life, where she now works as a peer and database administrator.

*“I chose to serve with Public Health AmeriCorps and Recovery Corps because I wanted to*

*give back to my community, and I love to help people. My service site is Real Life, and I’m a recovery navigator...I’m motivated by compassion to lend a helping hand and a listening ear and continuing to be a beacon of light to show individuals that they, too, can recover if they’re willing to do the work. Recovery Corps has taught me to suit up and show up not only for myself but for others as well. Serving with Recovery Corps and being a part of Public Health AmeriCorps is an incredible opportunity. And I’m proud to be on the ground working to make communities stronger through service.”*



**Aubree Denker**

Aubree Denker is currently serving with the **Institute of Rural Health at Idaho State University**.

Aubree shared that she is focusing on rural health, ensuring “people in the community know what resources are available to them, while trying to address rising rates of suicide. Just getting our name out there and letting the community know that we are a resource! ... We are equipping people with the tools they need to help people in crisis.”