

COHORT 2021 DIRECTORY

TEAM 2: M & M

*Facilitator **Assistant Facilitator



Katy Katayoun Aflatouni, DWR

My name is Katy Aflatouni. After spending 13 years as a Research and Development Engineer in private sector high-tech companies, I joined the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in February 2008. I have been happily married for 29 years and I am a proud mother of a 20-year-old college student. I believe in lifelong commitment to learning and skill building. I also believe that every leader must be trained to understand why good leadership skills are critical and how to put learning and training into action. The future of our work is changing, and California is facing new challenges every day.

The need for organizations to change and learn has never been greater. Government leaders must be trained to be creative and agile, and able to pivot in a new direction quickly. Change is necessary for growth and leads us to maximizing our potential. I believe my participation in this program will positively impact and reinforce my strong leadership habits that will benefit our diverse workforce. As a leader, I understand that I must be an effective change agent and not simply a task manager. My participation in Cal-IPGCA Cohort will be an important step in helping others adapt to inevitable changes.



Marlo Albert, CHP

I have worked for the CHP for 22 years, both in field and headquarters assignments, with focuses on overtime and operational expense allocations and budgeting, policy writing, bill analysis, and nonuniformed recruitment and hiring. I enjoy researching state programs and processes, learning what spurred their development, and understanding what problem or issue they intend to improve or resolve. I'm fascinated by the workflow too—who collects the information, how is it collected, where does it go next, and what is done with it when it reaches its final destination?

My fascination with the why and how of state government has evolved into a love of policy writing and resource development. My mind is always focused on streamlining and improving processes and incorporating automation and information technology wherever possible to eliminate duplicate efforts and minimize the human error inherent in manual data transfer. I gravitate toward mentoring, both formally and informally, sharing the resources I've collected over the years, and helping others connect their work to the bigger picture. I have a natural gift for figuring out where gaps in understanding, communication, or processes are, and working diligently to close them. I am also the mother of a talented 17-year-old daughter whose sketches and paintings just amaze me. I enjoy gardening, animals, and home improvement projects, and volunteering whenever possible. I also have a twin sister that works at the Department of Health Care Services.



Vince Alvidrez, DWR

Hello everyone, my name is Vince Alvidrez. I am a HEP Maintenance Superintendent for Department of Water Resources, I've been enjoying my career now with DWR for 28 years. I've been married to my wonderful wife for 30 years and we have twin children (boy & girl) who are now 29 years old. I am a big fan of all sports with a passion for coaching.

The last 30 years I've coached at high school level to youth programs, enjoying football the most. On two occasions I have coached a kid and their kid. My enjoyment now is spending time with my 2 year old granddaughter, there's no other love than a grandchild. I'm looking forward to this training to help myself grow as a leader so I can help others grow professionally.



Ko-Ching Chang, DWR

Hi, I go by my adopted middle name of Joseph or Joe. I been working the state for just under 19 years, first 3 with Caltrans and last 16 at the Department of Water Resources, with a short 4-year interlope in private in between. My hobbies include cycling, reading, & lounging.

My why? Sibling rivalry and not to be last. I am sharpening my leadership skills to aid in my professional development and interpersonal skills. These skill will also allow me to interact with leadership outside of my chain of command, interact with fellow decision makers, brainstorm new and different ways to approach problems or issues and find innovative techniques resulting in more exposure and better visibility for upward mobility.

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Rosalind Davis-Gonzalez, DMV

My roles have changed throughout my years of state service from a front-line employee into a supervisory and administrative role, the “why” I do what I do has never changed. To give back, to be of service to others. When I started my career in state service I had aspirations to go into Law enforcement. I wanted to be a role model for young women of color in my community, I wanted to show a different aspect of who and what you could become regardless of your circumstances. As a peace officer I felt that I would be able to actively give back and make a difference.

My path was changed after having 2 children, I made the decision to stay in a career that proved to be a little safer so that I could raise my children and be an active parent and not one who only saw them before school and on my way out the door to work a swing shift. I hope in the various positions I have held that I have mentored or modeled the way for others. The “who” I serve is different but the “why” I serve remains the same.



Danielle Metzinger, DOT**

My name is Danielle Metzinger and I currently serve as an Employee Experience Strategist in Administration at Caltrans. Throughout my seven years as a state employee I’ve worked in four departments, promoted twice, and built an incredible network of inspiring mentors and colleagues across state government and beyond. My career has mainly centered on organizational and employee development within state government. My passion for public service extends beyond my full-time work as I lead efforts across agencies and sectors to think big about improving government for generations to come.

Current volunteer efforts include co-leading Innovative Pathways to Public Service, a regional collaborative of educators and government officials working to bring young people into public sector careers. I hold a Master of Science in Organizational Development from the University of San Francisco and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from William Jessup University. I currently live in Folsom, CA with my partner (and two cats) and enjoy hiking, reading, and cooking in my spare time.



Trenton Pruitt, FTB

Hello everyone. I have been with the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) for almost 13 years. I have to say I never thought about working for the state until I graduated from college in 2008 and the job market was horrible. I started in the reactive collections call center for FTB. Although I got my start in collections and was there for 12 years I have recently made the move to the Audit Division of FTB. On a personal note I am a father of two crazy rambunctious boys that keep me on my toes. My motto in life is leave it better than you found it. This applies to work life and home life. I am looking forward to getting to know everyone and making improvements along the way.



Shkiba Samimi-Amri, DCSS**

Shkiba is the Organizational Change Management Supervisor with DCSS since July 2020. Previously, she worked in a few different state departments. At DHCS, she was the Waiver Unit Supervisor. From 2017 to 2019, Shkiba worked at Cal OES in two different position, starting as Budget Analyst in the Budget Office than as an Emergency Service Coordinator in Operations. During her time at Cal OES, she participated in the State Operation Center during many disasters. Prior to Cal OES, Shkiba worked at California Department of Community Services and Development where she was responsible for overseeing the Cal EITC Grant and Community Service Block Grant.

Prior to beginning her state career, she was the Director of Apprentice Advisors and a licensed Financial Planner with Lincoln Financial Group. She has a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from University of Phoenix and a Bachelor’s Degree in Business/Economics from UC, Santa Barbara. Because of her deep passion for efficiency and collaboration at state level, Shkiba joined the Cal-IPGCA Association as the Membership Director in 2020. She currently resides in Folsom, California with her husband and two daughters. She is a constant learner, loves to read, hike, venture out in outdoor activities, and spend any free moment she gets with her family.



Angela Vincent, CalRecycle

Angela Vincent has worked for CalRecycle since 2013 and has experience in environmental policy, environmental justice, and environmental education. She is passionate about public service and inspiring others to take personal and collection action to combat climate change.