



# EOC Involvement

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## **What has been your journey to becoming involved with the EOC?**

My first year as an EO was in 2020, so getting to know other EOs across my state and the country was a bit challenging. Attending the EO orientation and AMC in 2021 were my first steps to connecting with other EOs, which led to relationships and connections that have impacted my journey as an EO. You never know who you will meet who will become your new BFF and work cheerleader!

## **How has leaning into your peer network assisted you at your local or state association?**

Never underestimate the relationship with your fellow EOs. There are days when you need a sounding board for presenting a new idea, navigating hard conversations with members, needing a second set of hands at an event, and having conversations that help you grow as a person and in your professional role. My first state meeting set me up with my work bestie. We were the newbies in the room and left a meeting together chatting about so many things that we didn't know, needing guidance on, and wanting to learn to be the best EOs that we can be. She has been one who has helped me proof flyers, and wordsmith emails and marketing materials, helped me think through all the pros and cons of different decisions that I have been asked to examine, and more that I cannot put into words. She is someone who had I not attended that first meeting, I would not be where I am today. I owe her a huge "thank you"!

## **How do you keep in touch with other EOs and HBA staff across the country when not onsite?**

Don't be afraid to pick up the phone and call or text to check-in. Social media can be great for staying in touch, but those personal calls, texts, or emails, make staying connected much better. And when you know that the next meeting is coming up, plan to seek them out and catch up or plan to attend together.

## **What has been your favorite moment at an EOC event?**

There are too many to count. But I love connecting with fellow EOs, because I always learn something new.