

2022 Rising Star Alum Honoree:
Alicia (Simmons) Winchel
Class of 2014

When Alicia Winchel graduated from ASA in 2014 with a full scholarship to Fordham University, she moved across the country and pursued dual Bachelor's degrees, one in Psychology and one in International Humanitarian Affairs, but her studies also took her across the globe.

Alicia spent five months of her Junior year in South Africa studying the apartheid and the country's continued racial segregation and followed that up in her Senior year of college as an Refugee Resettlement Intern with the [International Rescue Committee](#) where she assisted refugees from all over the world with their government filings and paths to citizenship.

Alicia came home to Phoenix after graduation and worked with child victims of domestic violence at [Childhelp](#) as a Child Advocate. But in January 2020 she went back to the International Rescue Committee in their Phoenix office as an Anti-Trafficking Case Worker helping sex trafficking victims and in October of 2021 she was promoted to the Anti-trafficking and Victims Services Supervisor where she "provides program oversight, staff supervision, and focuses on developing community partnerships."

As her mother, Bonnie Simmons says, "Alicia has used what she learned from ASA to better herself, her community, the marginalized people in her world." We cannot wait to see all the good Alicia will do in the years to come.