



## The Mission of the Peace Corps

To help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women.

To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served.

To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

## History

Peace Corps officially established: March 1, 1961

Total number of Volunteers and trainees to date: 187,000

Total number of countries served: 139

## Current Director

Ronald A. Tschetter (India, 1966–68)

## Current Volunteers

Volunteers and trainees: 7,749

Gender: 59% female, 41% male

Marital status: 93% single, 7% married

Minorities: 16% of Volunteers

Age: Average–27 years old  
Median–25 years old

Volunteers over 50: 5% of Volunteers  
(oldest Volunteer is 79)

Education: 93% have at least an undergraduate degree  
12% have graduate studies or degrees

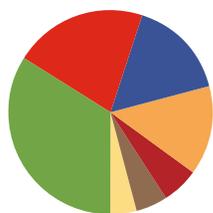
## Countries and Sectors

Current number of countries served: 73

Current number of posts: 67

## Budget

Fiscal year 2006: \$318.8 million



Education	(35%)
Health and HIV/AIDS	(21%)
Business Development	(16%)
Environment	(14%)
Youth	(6%)
Agriculture	(5%)
Other	(4%)

## Notable Returned Volunteers

Pamela W. Barnes, President and CEO, Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (Paraguay, 1998-2000)

Richard A. Boucher, Assistant Secretary of State, South and Central Asian Affairs (Senegal, 1973-75)

Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Connecticut (Dominican Republic, 1966-68)

Rep. Sam Farr, D-California (Colombia, 1964-66)

W. Frank Fountain, Senior Vice President for External Affairs and Public Policy, Daimler Chrysler (India, 1966-68)

Samuel Gillespie III, Senior Vice President, Exxon Mobil Corp. (Kenya, 1966-68)

Anne Lynam Goddard, President, Christian Children's Fund, (Kenya, 1982–84)

Jan Guifarro, Vice President, Corporate Communications, Colgate-Palmolive (Honduras, 1973-75)

Robert Haas, Chairman of the Board, Levi Strauss & Co. (Côte d'Ivoire, 1964-66)

Reed Hastings, founder and CEO of Netflix (Swaziland, 1983-85)

Susana Herrera, author of *Mango Elephants in the Sun* and contributor to *Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul* (Cameroon, 1992-94)

Peter Hessler, author of *River Town: Two Years on the Yangtze* (China, 1996-98)

Christopher R. Hill, Assistant Secretary of State, East Asian and Pacific Affairs (Cameroon, 1974-76)

Rep. Mike Honda, D-California (El Salvador, 1965-67)

Alberto Ibarguen, President and CEO, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation (Venezuela, 1966-68)

Chris Matthews, Journalist (Swaziland, 1968-70)

Maureen Orth, Journalist (Colombia, 1964-66)

Rep. Thomas E. Petri, R-Wisconsin (Somalia, 1966-67)

Donald J. Putrimas, Vice President, Warner Bros. (Brazil, 1976-78)

Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Connecticut (Fiji, 1968-70)

Kathleen Tierney, CEO, Sur La Table, Inc. (Fiji, 1967-69)

Rep. James T. Walsh, R-New York (Nepal, 1970-72)

Priscilla Wrubel, Founder, The Nature Company (Liberia, 1963-64)

## Contact

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Website [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)