

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: 190,000

Total number of countries served: 139

Current Director

Ron Tschetter (India, 1966–68)

Current Volunteers

Volunteers and trainees: 8,079

Gender: 59% female, 41% male

Marital status: 93% single, 7% married

Minorities: 17% of Volunteers

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

Volunteers over 50: 5% of Volunteers
(oldest Volunteer is 80)

Education: 95% have at least an undergraduate degree
11% have graduate studies or degrees

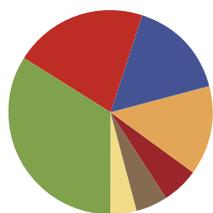
Countries and Sectors

Current number of countries served: 74

Current number of posts: 68

Budget

Fiscal year 2008: \$330.8 million



Education	(36%)
Health and HIV/AIDS	(21%)
Business Development	(15%)
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, 1979–81)

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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