

Name: Annabella  
Cockerell

Local Name: Bella



Country: Kosovo

Sector: Education



**What is the country population?**

About 1.86 million people. Kosovo is about the size of Delaware

# Country Information

**What is the climate and geography like?**

I am from Ohio and I like to say that it is just like Ohio here with all 4 seasons. There are lots of mountains and hills but where I live it is pretty level.

**What is the population of your site?**

Not sure of the exact number but it is a very small village

**Describe your living arrangements.**

I live with a very large host family (5 sisters, 1 brother) in a one floor, two bedroom home. No one in my host family speaks English



# Culture

**What do people wear?**

Typical clothing. Some women wear a hijab

**What is the food like?**

Lots of bread, pickled vegetables in the winter, more bread, soups, rice , potatoes, peppers, and finally...bread.

**What is the main religion?**

Muslim

**What holidays do people celebrate?**

Bajram is a major holiday here

**Are there any interesting customs or traditions?**

Every night after dinner everyone drinks Russian tea while conversing with the family or guests.

**How does transportation work?**

There are lots of taxis, buses, bikes, and some have their own cars.



# Work

## What is your primary project?

I started a “Dinner with Teacher Bella” night where every Monday and Thursday I eat dinner at a different students house to get to know them, their families, and my community better.

## What are your secondary projects?

I have had a few secondary projects. I started a cross country club, I had a local spelling bee, I worked with a program called ACCESS which strives to teach English to Serbians and Kosovars together, and I am currently working on a grant to hold free English courses for all of the mothers in my village.

## What has been your biggest success?

Living with a family who doesn't speak English

## What has been your biggest setback?

Adjusting to the cultural differences and being homesick





# Fun Facts

What is your favorite moment in your service so far?

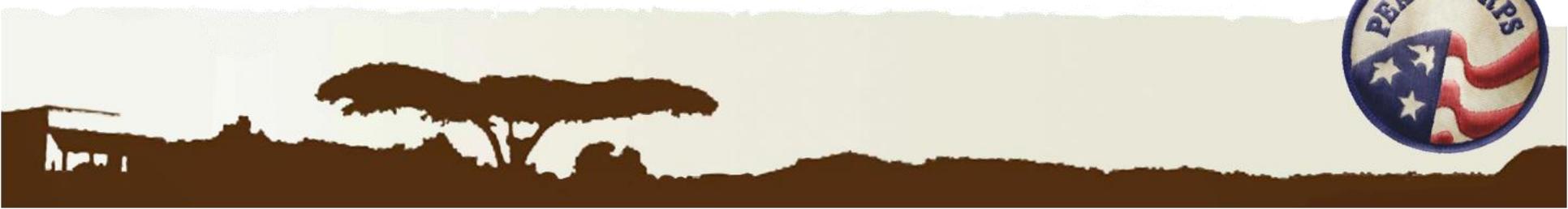
Getting to know my community

What is the strangest thing that has happened to you as a Volunteer?

Someone asked me if Obama is my cousin

What is your favorite part of being a Peace Corps Volunteer?

Being able to learn another language and communicate with locals



# Fun Facts

What is your favorite word or phrase in the local language?

Cka me bo? And kikirike

What are things that you've found that are done better in your host country than America?

Everyone has a garden to grow vegetables

What aspects of your host country do you wish you could bring back to America?

Eating together as a family

