

annual report.

PEACE CORPS MALAWI



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What is Peace Corps?

Our mission is to promote world peace and friendship by fulfilling three goals.

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

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

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

Who are our Volunteers?

We are college-educated United States citizens from every age, background, race, and religion. We are committed to living in developing communities around the world while working hand-in-hand with local counterparts. Currently over 120 Volunteers work in Malawi as Education, Environment, Health, Response and GHSP Volunteers.





“We would like to extend our gratitude to the Government of Malawi and to all of our partners, including the many communities that have welcomed our Volunteers. It is inspiring to work with passionate individuals and organizations who strive every day to make positive change.”

-Country Director, Carol Spahn

Education

- S E C T O R -

Peace Corps Volunteers partner with the Ministry of Education to teach in rural schools. Across Malawi, they work to increase English language and literacy skills among their students. Volunteers facilitate teacher professional development by hosting pedagogical workshops and sharing best practices—all while working to build support among students, teachers, and communities to practice gender equality in the classroom.

7,860

Number of students who demonstrated improved English proficiency

2,758

Number of students who demonstrated at least one new or improved critical thinking skills

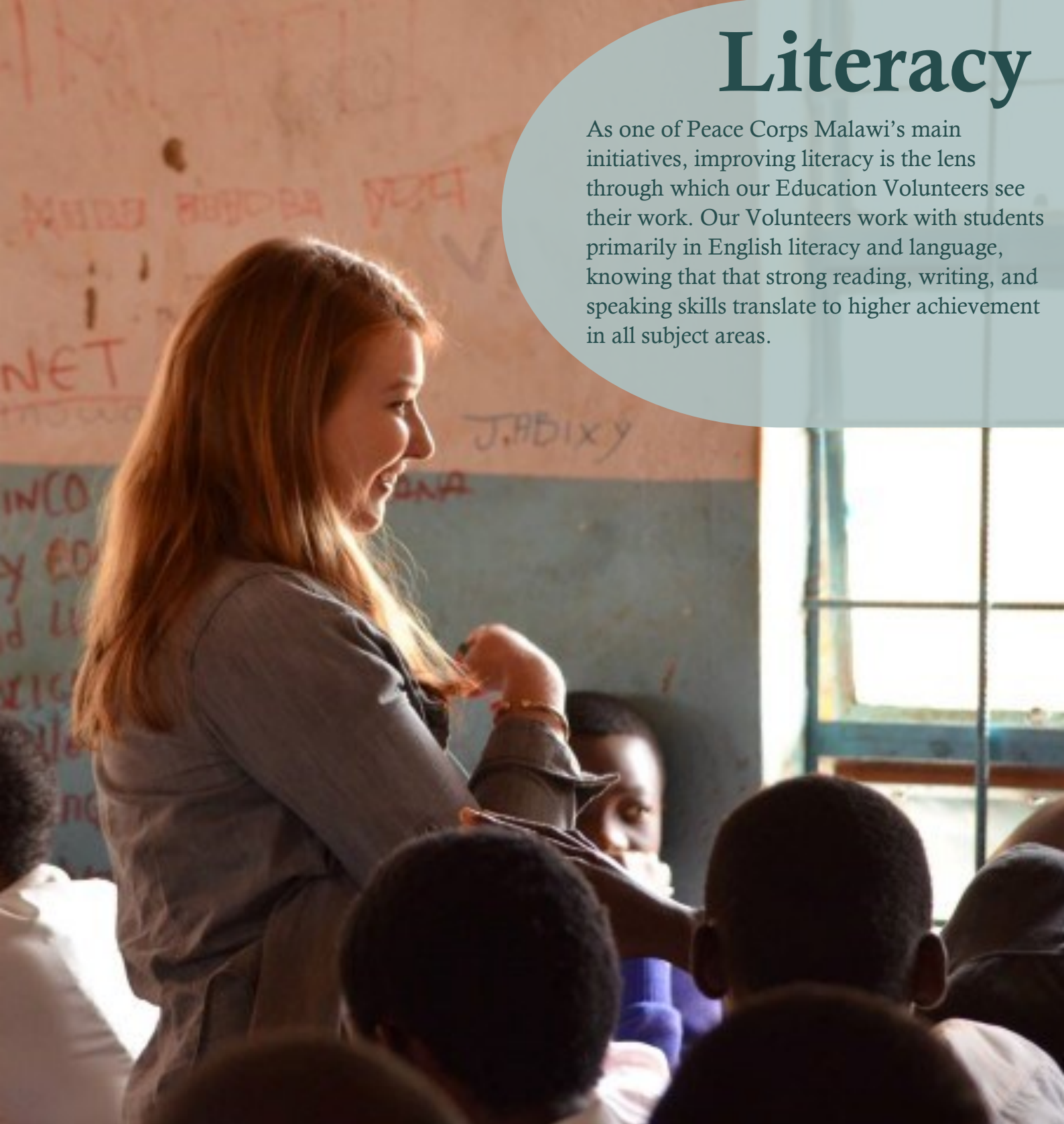
400

Number of teachers who increased their use of student centered teaching techniques and improved gender equitable classroom practices



Literacy

As one of Peace Corps Malawi's main initiatives, improving literacy is the lens through which our Education Volunteers see their work. Our Volunteers work with students primarily in English literacy and language, knowing that that strong reading, writing, and speaking skills translate to higher achievement in all subject areas.



“The relationship we develop with our students and the progress they make is the highest reward. It makes the hot, crowded, hectic days in the classroom worth every moment.”

-Amanda Stubbins, Education Volunteer

Environment

- S E C T O R -

Peace Corps Volunteers work with Malawi's Department of Forestry, Parks and Wildlife, and Agriculture Extension to increase awareness and understanding of environmental conservation, reduce the impact that people have on protected areas, and improve agricultural practices to address food security. Volunteer activities include the development of tree nurseries, promotion of fuel efficient cook stoves, and encouraging the use of sustainable farming techniques.

13,931

Trees planted by
community members who
work with Volunteers

760

Individuals trained on
constructing fuel efficient
cookstoves

3,534

Individuals received agricultural
productivity or food security
training





Food Security

The agriculture sector accounts for about one third of Malawi's GDP and employs around 80% of the country's population. However, Malawi faces challenges securing enough food for its dense and quickly growing population. Low agricultural productivity has led to food shortages and malnutrition. Peace Corps Volunteers in Malawi address these issues by working with their community members to set up improved irrigation systems and permagardens, and training local groups how to recognize, grow, and cook inexpensive, nutrient-rich foods.

Health

- S E C T O R -

Peace Corps Volunteers work within Malawi's Ministry of Health facilities, usually at community hospitals and rural health centers. In 2017, Volunteers partnered with health center staff and community members on a range of activities to promote HIV prevention and testing; nutrition education; youth friendly health services; malaria prevention; and general hygiene.





HIV

We work in partnership with the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to address prevention of new infections and to provide care services for people living with HIV. Volunteers in Malawi engage youth in HIV prevention activities to promote positive behavior change.

Malaria

We partner with the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) to minimize the spread of this disease in Malawi. Volunteers use evidence-based malaria prevention strategies, including the importance of sleeping under bednets, and seeking early diagnosis and treatment.

8,331

Priority population trained and supported with HIV prevention interventions

9,820

Community members trained in malaria behavior change communication, prevention and treatment

Response

- P R O G R A M -

The Peace Corps Response program brings seasoned international development professionals and former Peace Corps Volunteers to Malawi to serve in targeted, short-term assignments ranging from six months to a year. Response Volunteers in Malawi partner with government ministries and non-governmental organizations whose missions align with Peace Corps Malawi's focus areas. Volunteers contribute their professional skills and experiences to support the organization's strategic goals and objectives.



As the National Education Coordinator with the Lilongwe Wildlife Trust, Response Volunteer Anya Russom works with her conservation team to plan and facilitate wildlife education programs across Malawi and train teachers in environmental activities.



As the DREAMS District Coordinator, Response Volunteer Nyassa collaborates with NGO partners to collect data and address implementation challenges on the ground. Her project focuses on reducing HIV/AIDS in girls and young women.

“Working with the DREAMS program is so fulfilling. I love when I’m able to go into communities and speak with young women about how activities under DREAMS has helped them, changed their path, or improved their health. It’s truly invigorating and it keeps me constantly reminded of why I love the work I do.”

-Nyassa Kollie, Response Volunteer

GHSP

- P R O G R A M -

The Global Health Service Partnership (GHSP) is a collaboration among Peace Corps, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), and Seed Global Health. GHSP places American nurses and physicians at Malawi's colleges of medicine and nursing to serve as adjunct faculty, helping the country to meet its needs for highly skilled medical professionals. GHSP Volunteer nurses and medical doctors teach classes, demonstrate clinical skills, participate in ward rounds, and introduce new teaching methodologies.

2,287

Students trained or mentored by GHSP Volunteers

15,528

Patients treated, taught, or advised by GHSP Volunteer's students or GHSP Volunteers themselves

25,670

Number of hours taught by GHSP Volunteers in classroom or clinical settings





“My students are a great group of individuals to work with. Since the Global Health Services Partnership focuses on specific countries with great need of healthcare professionals, I really enjoy the growth in myself as well as in the students.”

-Liliana Oscanoa, GHSP Volunteer

- A FOCUS ON - Gender

Gender is a critical component of all Peace Corps Malawi programming, including building awareness and understanding of gender related issues, making sure girls and women know their rights, developing projects and activities to keep girls in school, and training women to create income-generating projects. In 2017 Peace Corps piloted the Grassroots Soccer SKILLZ Guyz curriculum in an effort to take a more holistic approach by engaging boys and men in promoting gender equitable practices. Many Peace Corps Volunteers also facilitate GLOW (Girls Leading Our World) camps and BRO (Boys Respecting Others) camps in their communities.



“Being a part of the Gender Committee has truly made my Peace Corps experience worthwhile. In order to start challenging gender norms, it simply starts with a conversation. We have to understand each other so we can make a positive change in our communities. ”

-CJ Mishima, Environment Volunteer/Gender Committee Chair

5,064

Number of individuals
trained in gender practices
and girl empowerment

1,860

Number of girls and
women trained on how to
make reusable menstrual
pads

83

Number of boys and men
who were trained on how
to make reusable
menstrual pads



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Thank you to our partners:



Peace Corps