



LET *
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The Complete Toolkit



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So, what is Let Girls Learn?

Let Girls Learn is a U.S. government initiative launched by the President and First Lady that helps adolescent girls attain a quality education and enables them to reach their full potential. Educating girls is essential to healthy and thriving communities but, globally, 62 million girls are not in school, and barriers to adolescent girls completing school are particularly significant.

As part of the initiative, the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Program encourages community-led solutions by empowering local leaders to put lasting solutions in place. Peace Corps Volunteers who live and work at the grassroots level serve as catalysts of change, and every American can get involved and make a difference.

As of March 2016, the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn program has **expanded to 35 countries, including:** Albania, Armenia, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, The Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Jamaica, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Moldova, Mongolia, Mozambique, Panama, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Vanuatu and Zambia.

Last year, **over 85,000 girls** and young women around the world participated in youth clubs and camps led by Peace Corps Volunteers.

More than 2,000 Peace Corps Volunteers led girls' education and empowerment activities in **over 60 countries last year.**

In the last two years, **1,400 Peace Corps Volunteers**, staff, and host country counterparts have been trained to respond to gender-based violence that prevents girls from learning in school and, in some cases, from attending school at all.



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A Call to Action How to Help

Are you a student or a teacher? A mom or a dad? You can help.

By hosting an event in your community—through your school, club, house of worship, or just with friends—you can raise funds to support girls' education around the world. Remember that 100 percent of your donation goes to support community training and Volunteer projects, and local communities pave the way by contributing at least 25 percent on their own!

Here are some ideas for individuals, groups, returned Peace Corps Volunteers, and other grassroots fundraisers to get involved and make a difference. Host one or more of these events in your community, and contribute the proceeds to the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Fund to support girls' education around the world.

Donations can be made at **donate.peacecorps.gov**



Sample Fundraising Ideas

Hold a silent auction or raffle

Ask community members to donate items to be auctioned or raffled off. Participants can bid on specific items, or purchase tickets for a chance to win.



Host a bake sale or book sale

Ask friends to help you bake treats or donate their gently used books, then sell those items to members of your community.

Have a car wash

A car wash is a low-cost, community event where all you need is a few volunteers willing to wash their way to making a difference.



Organize a walkathon or fun run

Participants collect pledges for walking or running a specific distance.

Lead a trivia competition or quiz night

Small teams compete to answer questions, and make a donation as an entry fee.



Start one penny at a time

Compete against other classrooms at your school or floors in your office building for a penny challenge. Each team gets a large container to fill with bills and coins. The lowest score wins, so fill your own container with pennies and your competitors' containers with dollar bills!

Host a talent show, concert or battle of the bands

Invite local musicians, comedians, or other performers to share the stage and collect admission fees to support the cause.



Look who's coming to dinner

Host a fundraising dinner where each guest makes a donation and brings a dish—each dish can represent a different country around the world.

Share your special day

Instead of gifts for a birthday, wedding, or other occasion, ask friends and family make a contribution to Let Girls Learn.



How to use this toolkit

This toolkit provides everything you need to host an event in support of the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn program. Your hard work will make a difference for girls around the world.

Whether you want to raise funds to support girls' education and empowerment or raise awareness about this important issue in your community, you can customize this toolkit to work for you.

The toolkit includes a postcard to mail to family and friends, a brochure with more information about Let Girls Learn, a flier to advertise your event, information cards to share with your guests, templates for name tags and event signs, and thank-you cards to show your appreciation to those who support Let Girls Learn.

For more information, visit peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn. To make a financial contribution, please visit donate.peacecorps.gov. Thank you for your support of Let Girls Learn!

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Donations can be made at donate.peacecorps.gov

Postcard

Description & Usage

This postcard is an overview of the Let Girls Learn program. Use it as a handout or a leave-behind at an event to spread the word to your friends and family. It's also a great reference to look over to be able to answer questions and start discussions about Let Girls Learn!

Printing & Trimming



Print the postcard in color, double-sided. Then cut along the dotted lines. Or have your local printer or copy shop print and trim them!



Educating and Empowering Girls

The White House

and the Peace Corps have come

together to launch Let Girls Learn, an initiative that empowers girls and addresses barriers to girls' education around the world. The goal is to increase girls' enrollment in school in targeted countries, and help them stay in school.

When a girl receives an education, she is more likely to earn a viable living, raise a healthy family, and improve the quality of life for herself, her family, and her community. Yet, 62 million girls worldwide are not in school; half of those not in school are adolescent girls.

For more information, visit peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn



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For more information, visit peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn

Peace Corps Volunteers, who live and work at the grassroots level, are catalysts for community-led change. They work closely with local leaders and change-makers in their communities to implement long-lasting grassroots projects that meet local needs.



Here's what the Peace Corps is doing to advance girls' education:

1. Training Volunteers and local community leaders to be champions of girls' education
2. Building support among Americans for community-based solutions abroad through the Peace Corps Partnership Program and the Let Girls Learn Fund
3. Expanding the number of Volunteers focused on advancing girls' education and empowerment

For more information, visit peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn

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For more information, visit peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn

FAQ Brochure

Description & Usage

This brochure answers frequently asked questions about the Let Girls Learn initiative. Use it as a handout or a leave-behind at an event to give your friends and family more information. It's also a great reference to look over to be able to answer questions and start discussions about Let Girls Learn!

Folded flier



Printing & Trimming



Print the brochure in color, double-sided. No trimming needed, just fold along the dotted lines to create your tri-fold brochure.

Q: What is Let Girls Learn?

A: Let Girls Learn is a program that addresses barriers to girls' education around the world by seeking to increase girls' enrollment in and completion of school.

Q: Why does this matter?

A: When a girl receives an education, she is more likely to earn a viable living, raise a healthy family, and improve the quality of life for herself, her family, and her community. Yet, 62 million girls worldwide are not in school, and half of them are adolescent girls. Countries with higher levels of female secondary-school enrollment have lower maternal mortality rates, lower infant mortality rates, lower birth rates, lower rates of HIV/AIDS, and better child nutrition. Every year of schooling increases a girl's individual earning power by 10–20 percent. Each extra year of a mother's secondary schooling reduces the probability of infant mortality by 5–10 percent.

Q: Why the Peace Corps?

A: Peace Corps Volunteers, who live and work at the grassroots level, have served as catalysts of community-led change in the countries where they serve for more than half a century. And when it comes to girls' education and empowerment, they have an established track record as a driving force for progress.

In the past year, more than 2,000 Peace Corps Volunteers led girls' education and empowerment activities in over 60 countries, and more than 85,000

girls and young women around the world participated in youth clubs and camps led by Peace Corps Volunteers. More than 1,400 Peace Corps Volunteers, staff, and host country counterparts were trained to respond to gender-based violence that prevents girls from learning in school and, in some cases, from attending school at all. Through Let Girls Learn, the impact and reach of Peace Corps Volunteers is continuing to grow.



Q: If I donate money as an individual or an organization, where will it go?

A: Individuals, groups, and organizations who want to support the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn efforts can do so at **donate.peacecorps.gov**. Donors can contribute to the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Fund, and can also browse specific Volunteer projects by country and subject area. Donations to the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Fund support Volunteers working to break down barriers to girls' education in the communities they serve, including support of specific Volunteers working side-by-side with local leaders on gender-

related projects through the Peace Corps Partnership Program, and support for training to help Volunteers address the challenges girls face in their communities and other Let Girls Learn priorities.

Q: What is the Peace Corps Partnership Program?

A: The Peace Corps Partnership Program connects Volunteers and their communities with members of the public and private sector in the U.S. and around the world to fund community-initiated, sustainable grassroots projects.

Volunteers submit proposals to the Partnership Program to obtain financial assistance for community projects. To receive funding, the local community must make a 25 percent contribution to the project, which helps ensure community ownership and promotes long-term sustainability. As of June 2016, the Let Girls Learn Fund has supported over 200 projects in 35 countries, touching the lives of X millions people around the world.

Q: How else can I help?

A: Visit **peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn** to learn more about girls' education and get involved.

Email letgirlslearn@peacecorps.gov for more information.

Join Us

We invite you to donate to the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Fund in support of this exciting effort. Contact the Peace Corps Office of Gifts and Grants Management to learn more about how your gift will impact girls' education worldwide: [202.692.2170](tel:2026922170) or donate@peacecorps.gov.



Further Resources

Browse the links below to find out more about how we're all working together to Let Girls Learn

Donate Now

donate.peacecorps.gov

Learn more about

Peace Corps' Program:

peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn

Learn more about

the U.S. government initiative:

letgirlslearn.gov



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FAQS

Check out the answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about the Let Girls Learn program.

Event Flier

Description & Usage

Use this flier to promote your event. Hand it out or post it on corkboards, at community centers, or places where interested people might see it.

Example flier



Printing & Trimming



Print the flier in color, double-sided. Cut it down the middle dotted line, and you'll have two fliers per page. It can also be printed blank and filled in by hand.



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Transforming the lives of girls around the globe

Place info about the event here

Place a brief description
of the event here

Place Location Info Here

Place Date and time Info Here

Place Contact Info Here



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Place Contact Info Here

Wallet Cards

Description & Usage

These small handouts are simple, direct, and easy to carry in a wallet. They inform people where they can go to contribute or to learn more about Let Girls Learn.

Printing & Trimming



Print the cards in color, double-sided. They are designed to work with standard business card templates available at office supply stores. If you don't have perforated business card paper, just print and trim along the dotted lines.

**LEARN
MORE**

at peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn

GIVE

at donate.peacecorps.gov

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Name Tags

Description & Usage

Name tags make it easy for people to introduce themselves and recognize the people helping with the event. Be sure to encourage everyone involved to wear one!

Printing & Trimming



Print name tags in color, single-sided. They will fit standard name tag templates available at office supply stores, or just print and trim along the dotted line. (They fit into standard name tag holders, but could also be printed on stickers, or pinned on a shirt.)

HELLO
my name is



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HELLO
my name is



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Event Signage

Description & Usage

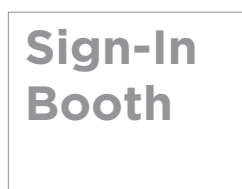
Signs help direct event-goers to your correct location. The sign template has an empty field for you to fill in. For example, you could write “Registration” to use on or near a table where people register. Other examples are “Snacks,” “Beverages,” “Raffle,” or whatever is appropriate for your event.

Printing & Trimming



There are two sign options: horizontal and vertical. Feel free to fill in as needed, and print in color, single-sided.

Example signs



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PowerPoint

Description & Usage

Use this PowerPoint file to create a presentation for your event. Click on the link at right, download the file to your computer, then add information about your event. Use it during your event for a polished presentation.

Link

http://files.peacecorps.gov/lgl/Toolkits_LGL_Powerpoint_05212015_sm.pptx.zip

Thank-You Cards

Description & Usage

Thank-you cards can be given to contributors at any level. The front message thanks them for helping the Let Girls Learn mission, and the blank back allows you to write a personal note specifying how they helped!

Printing & Trimming



Print the cards in color, single-sided. Then trim along the dotted lines. (The back will be blank for a personal touch!)



Thank you for making a difference for girls around the world!



Thank you for making a difference for girls around the world!



Thank you for making a difference for girls around the world!



Thank you for making a difference for girls around the world!



The Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Program Three Pillars

1

Empowering Leaders

2

Working Hand in Hand
with Communities

3

Increasing the Impact of
Peace Corps Volunteers

1 Empowering Leaders

The Peace Corps Let Girls Learn program will help promote girls' empowerment and increase gender awareness by delivering targeted trainings to thousands of Volunteers and tens of thousands of community leaders over the next five years to be champions of girls' education.

Peace Corps Volunteer Sam Ginty couldn't help but notice that the girls in his community in Benin dropped out of school at a higher rate than the boys. An Education Volunteer in a secondary school, Sam saw that girls sometimes faced harassment in the classroom and felt discouraged from learning. But he also saw their interest in learning and their potential and wanted to make sure the girls felt empowered to stay in school and continue learning. There were other teachers in his community who wanted to make a difference for girls, too.

As a first step, Sam and his community members designed a teacher training focused on student-centered learning and gender equality, with funding from the Peace Corps Partnership

Program. This intensive two-day training would give teachers a chance to learn lesson planning and classroom management techniques that would help all students feel more engaged. It would also provide specific ways that teachers could help increase gender equality and prevent gender-based harassment in their classrooms. With these new concepts, teachers could help make sure the girls in their classrooms felt welcome and inspired to stay in school.

When the first day of the training arrived, Sam and the organizers were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the 18 teachers who attended. They were engaged throughout the two days, participating in hands-on activities and thoughtful discussions. And the teachers felt energized by the opportunity to focus on their own professional development. Since the training, the teachers said they have applied what they learned in their own classrooms and have shared techniques with fellow teachers in their schools who could not attend.

"An important lesson learned is that teachers are very interested in attending trainings but are not often given the opportunity," Sam said. Projects like this help give teachers the tools they need to make their classrooms safe spaces for girls and ensure they have the same chance as boys to learn and stay in school.

With increased focus on breaking down barriers to girls' education and training local leadership in gender equality, Peace Corps Volunteers like Sam will be able to make an even bigger, more sustainable difference in the lives of young women around the world.



2

Working Hand in Hand with Communities

Thousands of Peace Corps Volunteers work side by side with local leaders to achieve community-based solutions through the Peace Corps Partnership Program, which connects Peace Corps Volunteers and their communities with the private sector in the U.S. to fund small, sustainable, grassroots projects. From a school library to a technology camp for girls, Peace Corps Volunteers working on gender-related projects can now apply for support through the Let Girls Learn Fund.

When Peace Corps Volunteer Jennifer Jiggetts began teaching at a primary school in Lesotho, her fellow educators noted how the students, many of whom were orphans, had to trek half a mile up the mountain to get water from the springs. Instead of studying, they spent hours to get water. Because getting water is considered women's work in Lesotho, the girls' trek directly impacted their learning. If they had a water pump by the school where they could fill their water bottles, they'd be able to dedicate more time to their studies.



With this incentive and Jennifer's background in craftmaking, she and her students created a jewelry-making business to raise money to purchase a pump. Their contributions helped buy the pump, which was funded with additional support from the Peace Corps Partnership Program, a program where anyone can support grassroots projects designed and implemented by Peace Corps Volunteers and members of their communities.

Her students made beads from clay, then made bracelets, necklaces, earrings, and bookmarks, as well as jewelry from other locally available resources, including safety pins and seshoeshoe—Lesotho's national fabric. Together, Jennifer, fellow teachers, and her students used social media and the Internet to promote and sell the jewelry, as well as selling it at local markets.

In addition to learning a craft, Jennifer's students learned to start and run a business: how to write a business plan, open a bank account, balance a budget, and market and sell products. They learned to set goals, apply for a grant, and design and manage a project. More than that, they learned to use the skills and tools they already had to develop new skills, building their self-confidence to take their futures in their own hands.

After almost two years, the students raised enough to install the water pump. Their next goal? They'd like to raise money to build a better classroom.

With access to funding specifically dedicated to girls' education and empowerment projects through the Peace Corps Partnership Program, Peace Corps Volunteers like Jennifer will be able to make an even bigger, more sustainable difference in the lives of young women around the world.

3 Increasing the Impact of the Peace Corps Volunteers

A major component of the program will support Peace Corps Volunteers working to break down barriers to girls' education in the communities they serve. Under Let Girls Learn, the Peace Corps will expand the number of Volunteers focused on advancing girls' education and empowerment, and will engage returned Peace Corps Volunteers in support of this program.

When Peace Corps Volunteer Danielle Carrillo took a group of students to a girls' leadership camp last year in her province in Cambodia, they came home with a challenge: to implement a project in their community. Their idea? To address a local public health problem by building a bathroom for the local primary school, which didn't have one.

The girls, who attended a Girls Leading Our World—GLOW—Camp, got to work quickly. Danielle helped the girls write a grant proposal, using the Peace Corps Partnership Program, and the girls committed themselves to asking community members for contributions and to each lead two hand-washing and hygiene lessons for their fellow students.



After construction on the bathroom finished, and the girls worked steadily to deliver their message of hand-washing and hygiene, using glitter to demonstrate how germs are spread and how to use soap to wash “germs” off.

For her part, Danielle is organizing this year's Camp GLOW in her province, and plans to lead sessions on gender roles, life skills, and leadership.

“I think that Camp GLOW truly empowers the girls who attend,” Danielle said. “Since camp last year, I have seen real changes in their attitudes toward themselves and in their perspective of their futures. Their confidence has been boosted and they are so much more excited for the possibilities life has to offer. My community members and students are very excited to do it again this year.”

At the end of the camp, Danielle, her community members, and the girls will bring their new skills and knowledge back to their villages and empower even more young women. With increased focus on girls' education, Peace Corps Volunteers like Danielle will be able to make an even bigger, more sustainable difference in the lives of young women around the world.

Donations can be made at donate.peacecorps.gov



Thank You for Your Support!

The Let Girls Learn program needs the support of Americans from all walks of life who share the belief that every girl's education matters. The Let Girls Learn Fund will support Peace Corps Volunteers working alongside local leaders to break down barriers to education in their communities. If you join us by making a donation to the Let Girls Learn Fund, your contribution will reach those in need and make a difference. Most importantly, 100 percent of your donation to the Let Girls Learn Fund directly supports Volunteer projects and community training around the world.

Please tell us how you used this toolkit by emailing letgirlslearn@peacecorps.gov.

For more information, visit peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn

Further Resources

Browse the links below to find out more about how we're all working together to Let Girls Learn

Donate Now

donate.peacecorps.gov

**Learn more about
Peace Corps' Program:**
peacecorps.gov/letgirlslearn

**Learn more about
the U.S. government
initiative:**
letgirlslearn.gov