



PEACE CORPS

Work Sectors

WHAT VOLUNTEERS DO

Peace Corps service can be the first step toward a career or the continuation of a life's work. Sharpen your skills in a field you've always loved, or challenge yourself with a new opportunity. Volunteers partner with communities abroad to work on projects in the following six sectors:



AGRICULTURE

Volunteers work with small-scale farmers and families to increase food security and production and adapt to climate change while promoting environmental conservation.

They work side by side with farmers on techniques that prevent soil erosion, reduce the use of harmful pesticides, and replenish the soil. They also work in collaboration with farmers on integrated projects that often combine vegetable gardening, livestock management, agroforestry, and nutrition education.



COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Volunteers work with local municipalities, development banks, and nongovernmental organizations to encourage economic opportunities in communities. They frequently teach in classroom settings and work with entrepreneurs and business owners to develop and market their products.

Some Volunteers also teach basic computer skills and help communities take advantage of technologies that connect them to the global marketplace.



EDUCATION

Education is the Peace Corps' largest program area. Volunteers play an important role in creating links among schools, parents, and communities. They may work in elementary, secondary, or post-secondary schools, teaching subjects such as math, science, or conversational English. Or, they may serve as resource teachers or teacher trainers. Volunteers also assist in developing libraries and technology resource centers.



ENVIRONMENT

Volunteers lead grassroots efforts to protect the environment and strengthen understanding of environmental issues. They teach environmental awareness and conservation principles in schools and to local organizations, empowering communities to make their own decisions about how to conserve the local environment.

Volunteers also help mitigate environmental degradation by promoting sustainable use of natural resources.



HEALTH

Health Volunteers work within their communities to promote important topics such as nutrition, maternal and child health, basic hygiene, and water sanitation.

Volunteers also work in HIV/AIDS education and prevention programs, where they train youth as peer educators, provide support to children affected, and create programs that provide emotional and financial support to families and communities impacted by the epidemic.



YOUTH IN DEVELOPMENT

Volunteers use gender equitable approaches to work with youth in communities to promote life and employability skills, community engagement, health and HIV/AIDS education, environmental awareness, sports and fitness programs, and information technology.



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SECONDARY PROJECTS

In addition to the main work sector, as Volunteers gain firsthand understanding of their communities, they are encouraged to customize their time by developing a secondary project that matches their interests with the needs of the community.

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Learn more about what Volunteers do by searching for a particular opening at [peacecorps.gov/openings](https://www.peacecorps.gov/openings).