

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:	195,000
Total number of countries served:	139

Current Director

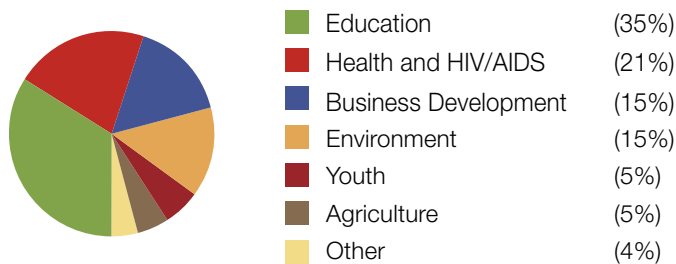
Ron Tschetter (India, 1966–68)

Current Volunteers

Volunteers and trainees:	7,876
Gender:	60% female, 40% male
Marital status:	94% single, 6% married
Minorities:	15% of Volunteers
Age:	Average—27 years old Median—25 years old
Volunteers over 50:	5% of Volunteers (oldest Volunteer is 84)
Education:	94% have at least an undergraduate degree 11% have graduate studies or degrees

Countries and Sectors

Current number of countries served:	76
Current number of posts:	70



Budget

Fiscal year 2009:	\$330.8 million*
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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, President, The Chrysler Foundation (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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