



Frequently Asked Questions

Peace Corps Operations in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala

Please refer to Peace Corps news releases on these programs, available here:

Peace Corps Reviews Operations in Honduras, December 21, 2011

www.peacecorps.gov/index.cfm?shell=resources.media.press.view&news_id=1932

Peace Corps Reviews Operations in El Salvador and Guatemala, December 21, 2011

www.peacecorps.gov/index.cfm?shell=resources.media.press.view&news_id=1933

Q: Is Peace Corps/Honduras closing?

A: In January 2012, the Peace Corps temporarily paused its Volunteer operations in Honduras to conduct a full safety and security assessment. This assessment was completed in February 2012, and the Peace Corps will soon determine the extent of future operations. All Volunteers have safely left the country and have completed their service. While no final decision has been made, over the next four to six months, Peace Corps will continue analyzing the feasibility of establishing a smaller program in Honduras.

Q: Was there one specific incident in Honduras that led the Peace Corps to decide to remove Volunteers from Honduras and place them on administrative leave?

A: There was not one specific incident that led the Peace Corps to remove Volunteers from Honduras. The safety and security of all Peace Corps Volunteers is the agency's highest priority, and the Peace Corps closely monitors the safety and security climate in all countries in which it operates. After a detailed review of safety data, the Peace Corps determined it was necessary to temporarily pause operations in Honduras to conduct a more in-depth assessment of safety and security conditions. Peace Corps will continue monitoring the safety and security environment in Honduras while the agency assesses if programming should continue.

Q: What happened to the projects that Volunteers were working on in Honduras?

A: Peace Corps Volunteers worldwide work in collaboration with local partners to address host country development priorities and meet community needs. Peace Corps Volunteers work to support projects that can be sustained by local communities long after the Volunteer has completed service. If programming in Honduras is reestablished, Peace Corps will continue working with strong counterparts committed to programmatic and safety and security support of our Volunteers.



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Peace Corps Operations in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala

Q: Are the Peace Corps programs in El Salvador and Guatemala closing?

A: The Peace Corps has determined that operations will continue in El Salvador and Guatemala. All currently serving Volunteers in El Salvador and Guatemala are safe and accounted for. The agency postponed 2012 Volunteer training classes for El Salvador and Guatemala in order to enhance Volunteer support and consolidate operations in smaller geographical areas in El Salvador and Guatemala. The Peace Corps will continue to place Volunteers in areas in El Salvador and Guatemala where they can have a safe and productive service. The Peace Corps continues to closely monitor and assess the safety and security climate in these countries.

Q: When will the Peace Corps send more Volunteers to El Salvador and Guatemala?

A: The Peace Corps plans to send Volunteers to El Salvador and Guatemala in early 2013.

Q: What additional safety and security measures is the Peace Corps considering in Central America?

A: As a result of recent safety and security assessments in El Salvador and Guatemala, the Peace Corps is enhancing Volunteer support in these countries by: 1) consolidating operations in safer geographical areas over the next several months; 2) developing alternative transportation options for Volunteers to safely travel in each country; and 3) enhancing Volunteer training and support.

ABOUT PEACE CORPS/HONDURAS:

The Peace Corps has operated in Honduras since 1963. More than 5,500 Americans have served in Honduras since the program was established, working with communities on projects focused on health and HIV/AIDS prevention, water sanitation, and youth development.

ABOUT PEACE CORPS/EL SALVADOR:

The Peace Corps operated in El Salvador between 1962 and 1979, and returned in 1993. Over 2,000 Americans have served in El Salvador since the program was established, working with communities on projects focused on community, economic, and youth development. There are 73 Volunteers currently serving in El Salvador.

ABOUT PEACE CORPS/GUATEMALA:

The Peace Corps has operated in Guatemala since 1963. Over 4,800 Americans have served in Guatemala since the program was established, working with communities on projects focused on health, youth development, environment, and agriculture. There are 160 Volunteers currently serving in Guatemala.