



ROTARY AND PEACE CORPS PARTNERSHIP FACT SHEET

Peace Corps, an independent U.S. federal agency, sends U.S. citizens abroad to help tackle the most pressing needs around the world while promoting better international understanding of American culture and enhancing global awareness. Peace Corps Volunteers live and work alongside the people they support for a period of two or more years and concentrate efforts to create sustainable change that lives on long after their period of in-country service. Peace Corps currently has volunteers in more than 60 countries.

While in service, each Peace Corps Volunteer is tasked with addressing one of the following sectors:

- Education
- Health
- Community Economic Development
- Environment
- Youth in Development
- Agriculture

These sectors align closely with Rotary's areas of focus, which provide the framework for Rotary members' work around the globe.

Learn more at www.peacecorps.gov.

Why work with a Peace Corps Volunteer?

A Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV) offers access to local contacts, community development insights, and funding possibilities within a particular community. Involving a PCV in your project will increase its reach, impact, and sustainability.

Peace Corps Volunteers work with nongovernmental organizations, host-country governments, and local community members to identify and address local needs. PCVs can help you identify prospective beneficiaries and work with you to find the most effective way to address a community's needs. They also can help oversee a project's implementation, assist with training, and help you make arrangements with community members to ensure a project's sustainability.

Rotary and Rotaract club projects are strengthened when clubs in different countries form an international partnership. Returned Peace Corps Volunteers often maintain relationships with their host community. Returned Peace Corps Volunteers can help connect clubs at home in the U.S. to ones with which they worked while abroad. Such links can lead to international Rotary partnerships that provide resources for projects in the host country.

How to work with a Peace Corps Volunteer

Peace Corps Volunteers live in the community they are helping, and are eager to meet with others who are invested in improving communities. To introduce Rotary to a Peace Corps Volunteer:

- Invite the volunteer to a club meeting or Rotary event.
- Invite the volunteer to visit a project your club has undertaken in your community.
- Invite the volunteer to make a presentation at a club meeting about his or her work and experiences in-country.
- Explore how the volunteer can serve as a cross-cultural liaison between the host club and existing or potential club project partners in the U.S.
- Ask for the volunteer's assistance translating documents and communications from English into the local language.

To identify collaboration opportunities, check Peace Corps' website for [lists of countries](#) where Peace Corps works. Even if a volunteer lives far from your club's area, he or she still may be able to assist with contacts in your region.

Contact rotarypartnership@peacecorps.gov to connect with Peace Corps post in your country.

How to create a Rotary Community Corps in collaboration with Peace Corps Volunteers

Rotary Community Corps (RCCs) are made up of people who are not Rotary members but who work in partnership with Rotary clubs to improve their communities. Each RCC is sponsored by a Rotary club and acts as its partner in service.

Some RCCs are created for a specific project, while others tackle larger, entrenched problems on an ongoing basis. Each RCC sets its own goals based on its community's specific needs. As representatives of the community being served, RCC members bring enthusiasm, creativity, and sustainability to the projects they help design and implement. They offer community solutions for community challenges.

Work with the community's Peace Corps Volunteer to determine whether a new RCC should be established to undertake project work and to ensure a project's sustainability after the volunteer has returned home. Learn more about [Rotary Community Corps](#).

How to work with Returned Peace Corps Volunteers

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs), volunteers who've completed their service abroad and have returned to the U.S. often maintain strong relationships with their host communities and with the local Rotary or Rotaract clubs. To introduce your club to a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer:

- [Contact a Peace Corps Regional Recruitment Office](#) to connect with the local RPCV alumni network in your region
- Invite a returned volunteer to attend your club meeting or a Rotary event.
- Invite a returned volunteer to make a presentation about his or her work abroad and, if applicable, about how he or she worked with local Rotary or Rotaract clubs.
- Ask a returned volunteer to facilitate an introduction to the Rotary or Rotaract clubs with which he or she worked while abroad.
- Invite a returned volunteer to use his or her community development expertise to assist your club with its projects.