Negative Brief: Abolishing Peace Corps

By Rebecca Sumner

***Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reform its foreign aid.***

This is the NEG brief against abolishing the Peace Corps. The AFF case will argue: that Peace Corps (PC) members are unqualified, that the projects fail, that there are various abuses and failures of the PC that leaves their volunteers vulnerable, and that PC promotes the idea of “white savior complex”—that poor people of color in poor countries need us white folks to go over there and tell them how to do things is condescending and demeaning to cultures thousands of years older than our own.

NEG will argue that Peace Corps is trying to make the world a better place, that volunteers have training specific to the field they’ll be going into, PC has new policies in place to make sure the volunteers are safe, and that there’s a diverse group of volunteers—it’s not all white rich folk. The disadvantages are about hurting those who have been working in Peace Corps, along with the countries that will be losing the benefits of Peace Corps.

Negative: Abolishing Peace Corps 3

NEGATIVE PHILOSOPHY 3

The Peace Corps is one of the great beacons of American idealism 3

Peace Corps is needed now more than ever 3

The Peace Corps is playing a more important role than ever 3

TOPICALITY 4

1. Foreign vs. Domestic Aid 4

What exactly Peace Corps Response Program does 4

Peace Corps Response has been used in the United States 4

Example: Hurricane Katrina 5

INHERENCY 5

1. Reforms are underway 5

They have established six strategic and management objectives to better pursue their goals 5

New strategic plan, new assessments, impact measurements, better targeting of resources, country reviews, and better training 6

2. Critics advocate reform, not abolition 6

Robert Strauss, critic cited by AFF, advocates exactly the reforms Peace Corps is making 6

Ryan Rommann, critic cited by AFF, advocates reform, not cutting the Peace Corps 6

Tom Twardzik, critic cited by AFF, advocates reform, not abolition of Peace Corps 7

SIGNIFICANCE / HARMS 7

1. Financial Accountability 7

Link: The Peace Corps has won several awards for its financial accountability 7

The CEAR award program encourages the best use of taxpayer dollars 7

2. A/T: “Don’t meet their goals/Legacy of Failure”—That has changed 7

A 2011 survey of Peace Corps alumni shows the goals are met 7

Indicator goals are met: Countries invite P.C. to come back 8

3. Peace Corps makes the world a better place 8

Peace Corps is helping save lives by fighting malaria 8

P.C. fulfils moral responsibility to help those less fortunate 9

Peace Corps offers the opportunity to learn about those in other cultures 9

4. Effectiveness 9

Peace Corps provides goodwill, markets for US producers, and helps national security, at insignificant cost 9

5. A/T: “White Savior Complex”—Diverse groups of volunteers 10

Link: You don’t have to be a white American to get the job 10

Example: Danielle Ohemeng 10

6. A/T: “Unqualified”—Volunteers are provided with intensive training 10

Volunteers receive this training in several areas 10

A) Language training 11

B) Technical training 11

C) Cross-cultural training 11

7. Safety of the volunteers 11

A) Medical Care 11

Volunteers have full medical insurance coverage and benefits and they have recently been improved 11

B) Harassment threats 12

In 2014, the Peace Corps implemented a program to help deal with this 12

C) Violent threats to safety 12

Peace Corps has security officers who monitor countries for safety threats 12

Example of evacuations: 12

A) Niger 12

B) Burkina Faso 13

C) Kenya 13

DISADVANTAGES 13

1. Jobs lost 13

Link: 7,376 people currently work for Peace Corps 13

2. Lost benefits for workers 14

Link: Those who work for Peace Corps receive benefits such as health and life insurance, as well as retirement benefits 14

3. Lost Goodwill 14

Link: Peace Corps volunteers are carrying much of the responsibility of diplomats 14

Impact: Military generals agree: Peace Corps helps US national security by reducing conflict and risk to our military 15

4. Malaria program canceled 15

Link: Peace Corps has programs—like their “Stomping Out Malaria in Africa initiative”—that save lives 15

Impact: Losing lives to malaria 15

5. No help with disaster relief 16

Crisis Corps, which is under Peace Corps, aids in disaster relief 16

6. Weakens PEPFAR (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) 16

Link: PEPFAR relies on Peace Corps volunteers to implement 16

Quantification: 1000 P.C. volunteers involved with PEPFAR 16

Impact: Millions of lives at risk 16

Works Cited 17

Negative: Abolishing Peace Corps

NEGATIVE PHILOSOPHY

The Peace Corps is one of the great beacons of American idealism

Gabriel Krieshok 2017 (**Master of Science in Information** from the University of Michigan School of Information, **Master of Public Policy**from the University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy) 25 Sept 2017, “The Future of the Peace Corps…and how to stop it.” <https://medium.com/@gabrielkrieshok/the-future-of-the-peace-corps-and-how-to-stop-it-f2e0fe3aff50>

I firmly believe that the Peace Corps continues to be one of the great beacons of American idealism around the world, as cheesy as overwrought as that sentiment is in 2017. And it’s a tangible, individual-to-individual force for good that is one of the best bangs-for-our-congressionally-appropriated-buck around when it comes to crafting better people who live on this planet.

Peace Corps is needed now more than ever

Gabriel Krieshok 2017 (**Master of Science in Information** from the University of Michigan School of Information, **Master of Public Policy**from the University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy) 25 Sept 2017, “The Future of the Peace Corps…and how to stop it.” <https://medium.com/@gabrielkrieshok/the-future-of-the-peace-corps-and-how-to-stop-it-f2e0fe3aff50>

Peace Corps’ mission is more relevant today than ever before. Peace Corps is needed in order to foster the sort of face-to-face connectedness around the world that seems harder to come by in a world dominated by digital economies of insulated bubbles, Facebook friends, and Twitter followers. Peace Corps also acts as an open invitation to serve—an inspirational focal point that allows idealism and practicality to converge on a single point of service. I believe we can use Peace Corps’ unique history and its tethering to the ideals of an optimistic and tumultuous 1960s to slingshot ourselves from the 2010s into the next generation of service, fellowship, and global connectivity.

The Peace Corps is playing a more important role than ever

Christopher Hedrick 2013 (He was the CEO of Intrepid Learning, a Seattle-based corporate learning services firm, served as a science and technology advisor to the Governor of Washington state, and worked for the Gates Foundation and Microsoft Jake Nelson served as Lead Editor for this op-ed) 26 Feb 2013, “The New Peace Corps,” <http://yalejournal.org/op-ed_post/the-new-peace-corps/>

Despite its tight budget and rapidly churning workforce, the Peace Corps has endured for fifty-one years largely because of the simplicity and beauty of its mission: to help those in need across the globe and to enhance international understanding. The Peace Corps also holds a special place in the American collective consciousness, with more than 210,000 Americans having served as volunteers. The Peace Corps is playing a more important role than ever in meeting global development challenges by embracing the characteristics of its most successful volunteers: flexibility and nimbleness in the face of changing conditions.

TOPICALITY

1. Foreign vs. Domestic Aid

**The Peace Corps has a sector under it titled, “Peace Corps Response,” which basically reacts to natural disasters, and things like that. This program has been used in the United States, however, or *domestically*, which is quite different from *foreign* aid.**

**Domestic**: “Existing or occurring inside a particular country; not foreign or international.” (*Oxford Dictionaries, copyright 2016,* [*https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/domestic*](https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/domestic))

What exactly Peace Corps Response Program does

Curt Tarnoff 2018, (Specialist in Foreign Affairs with Congressional Research Service, a legislative branch agency within the Library of Congress) 26 Apr 2018, “The Peace Corps: Current Issues,” <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21168.pdf>

In 1996, Peace Corps introduced the Peace Corps Response Program (formerly Crisis Corps), which draws on “returned” (i.e., former) volunteers (RPCVs) and, since 2012, those with specialist professional backgrounds who have never been volunteers, for short-term (three months to one year) emergency, humanitarian, and development assignments at the community level with nongovernmental relief and development organizations. To date, more than 2,500 Peace Corps Response volunteers have served in 70 countries, including post-tsunami Thailand and Sri Lanka and post-earthquake Haiti. At the end of FY2017, there were 259 Peace Corps Response volunteers in 30 countries.

Peace Corps Response has been used in the United States

Peace Corps, 2006 (US government service agency) 29 June 2006, “1000th Crisis Corps Volunteer Sent to El Salvador as Crisis Corps Celebrates Decade of High-Impact Relief Work,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/1000th-crisis-corps-volunteer-sent-to-el-salvador-as-crisis-corps-celebrates-decade-of-high-impact-relief-work/>

As Crisis Corps celebrates its 10th anniversary this month, Michelle Cheltenham of Taylor, Mich., became the 1000th Crisis Corps volunteer sent into service. Since the organization's inception in 1996, Crisis Corps has served in 42 countries around the world, including the U.S. Cheltenham, 31, will spend the next six months in El Salvador, serving as a disaster preparedness specialist for the Fundacin para el Desarrollo (FUNDESA). “A decade ago, Crisis Corps was a budding notion and today it is an essential cornerstone of Peace Corps’ contribution to the world, one that demonstrates our ability to adapt to change and respond nimbly to various challenges around the globe, and even here on American soil,” said Gaddi H. Vasquez, director of the Peace Corps.

Example: Hurricane Katrina

The Connection Newspapers, 2005 (locally-owned media company founded in 1784, that publishes 15 weekly community newspapers reaching more than 100,000 households in suburban communities in the Washington metropolitan area with print editions, and with many more readers of specialized local web publications. They have won more than 200 editorial awards.) 4 Oct 2005 “Peace Corps Volunteers Help Katrina Victims,” <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2005/oct/04/peace-corps-volunteers-help-katrina-victims/#h0-p2>

For the first time in its 44-year history, the Peace Corps is allowing its volunteers to work domestically. Longtime Great Falls resident Nancy Osborne, 60, is one such former Peace Corps volunteer who decided to seize the opportunity to lend a hand stateside. As such, she has found herself working in Gulf Port, Mississippi for the last few weeks, helping with the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. “We're seeing a lot of people every day that need assistance,” said Osborne. “The devastation down here is really immense.” In early September, the Peace Corps activated its “Crisis Corps” to aid the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) relief operation in the gulf coast region. “If you've been a volunteer you're eligible for Crisis Corps,” said Osborne. She received an e-mail notifying her about the opportunity to help out in the South, and decided to offer her services. Peace Corps Director Gaddi H. Vasquez says that “while the Peace Corps is an international volunteer organization, the Peace Corps’ spirit of giving has no borders.” “Therefore, as thousands of Americans are suffering tremendous hardship, it is imperative for Peace Corps to respond and provide support to the relief efforts.”

INHERENCY

1. Reforms are underway

They have established six strategic and management objectives to better pursue their goals

Curt Tarnoff 2018, (Specialist in Foreign Affairs with Congressional Research Service, a legislative branch agency within the Library of Congress) 26 Apr 2018, “The Peace Corps: Current Issues,” <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21168.pdf>

The Peace Corps Strategic Plan for the period FY2018 to FY2022 poses six strategic and management objectives meant to further the agency’s three long-standing legislative goals. Each objective is associated with performance goals and identified measures of progress in achieving them, the results of which are to be published in the years to come. The objective of promoting sustainable change in the communities in which volunteers work is measured by the percentage of projects with documented gains in community-based development outcomes. Underlying that indicator are efforts made in recent years to describe and document expected volunteer contributions to host community development goals. Another indicator of sustainable change performance will be the result of annual impact studies, an innovation launched in 2008 and used to develop best practices for agency programs. Other objectives are to enhance volunteer effectiveness (indicators include improved language learning, an improved site management system, and strengthened project planning); to optimize volunteer resilience (indicators include increasing volunteer capacity to manage adjustment challenges and efforts to establish realistic expectations of service); to build leaders for tomorrow (measured in part by the number of opportunities for returned volunteers to engage in continued service); to improve agency services; and to proactively address agency risks through evidence- based decisionmaking (risks including safety and security of volunteers, risks to IT infrastructure, and emergency preparedness and response).

New strategic plan, new assessments, impact measurements, better targeting of resources, country reviews, and better training

Peace Corps 2014. (ethical disclosure: the article is undated but contains references to material published in 2014) "Agency Reforms" <https://www.peacecorps.gov/about/leadership/agency-reforms/>

The foundation of the Peace Corps’ reform efforts was a [Comprehensive Agency Assessment [PDF]](http://files.peacecorps.gov/multimedia/pdf/opengov/PC_Comprehensive_Agency_Assessment.pdf) commissioned in January 2010, a six-month process that resulted in a [new strategic plan [PDF]](http://files.peacecorps.gov/multimedia/pdf/policies/pc_strategic_plan_2014-2018.pdf). Beginning with this assessment, the Peace Corps has been firmly committed to operating as a data-driven agency, measuring for impact and highly focused on rigorous monitoring and evaluation of all programs. Strategically targeted resources and country presence for greatest impact:  
- Country Portfolio Review: Every year, the Peace Corps conducts an objective, data-driven analysis to guide strategic decisions regarding potential new country entries and allocations of Volunteers and other resources. The Country Portfolio Review results help the agency focus its work where the need is greatest, as well as ensuring the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars.  
- Focus-In/Train-Up: The Focus-In/Train-Up strategy dramatically strengthened the quality of technical training and program support for Volunteers. The Peace Corps partners with host governments, universities, nongovernmental organizations, and donors to ensure that Volunteers are focusing on projects that are needed by their communities and that have been proven to be most effective at achieving development results. The Focus In/Train Up strategy is further strengthened by the recommendations of the inter-office Monitoring and Evaluation Task Force.

2. Critics advocate reform, not abolition

Robert Strauss, critic cited by AFF, advocates exactly the reforms Peace Corps is making

Robert L. Strauss 2008 (He has been a Peace Corps country director, recruiter, consultant, and volunteer. He is a recipient of the State Department’s Meritorious Honor Award and lives in Madagascar, where he runs a management consulting company), 22 April 2018, “Think Again: The Peace Corps,” <http://foreignpolicy.com/2008/04/22/think-again-the-peace-corps/>

To become effective and relevant, the Peace Corps must now give up on the myth that its creation was the result of an immaculate conception that can never be questioned or altered. It must go out and recruit the best of the best. It must avoid goodwill-generating window dressing and concentrate its resources in a limited number of countries that are truly interested in the development of their people. And it must give up on the risible excuse that in the absence of quantifiable results, good intentions are enough. Only then will it be able to achieve its original objective of significantly altering the lives of millions for the better.

Ryan Rommann, critic cited by AFF, advocates reform, not cutting the Peace Corps

Ryan Rommann 2013 (journalist) 21 Nov 2013 THE GUARDIAN The Peace Corps: out-dated and out-performed? <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development-professionals-network/2013/nov/21/peace-corps-us-development-policy> (brackets added)

None of this is to say the Peace Corps needs budget tightening. Its $377m[illion] (£234m) budget is a rounding error compared to most government spending. The Peace Corps should not be targeted for cuts when $500m a year is spent on marching bands and the entire 50-year budget of Peace Corps amounts to 5 days of current military spending. Yet is the $46,700 it spends a year per volunteer immaterial compared to the 10 cent ORS treatment to save children dying of dehydration? The Peace Corps owes it to them to be better. As John Kennedy explained, "By defining our goal more clearly, by making it seem more manageable and less remote, we can help all peoples to see it, to draw hope from it, and to move irresistibly toward it."

Tom Twardzik, critic cited by AFF, advocates reform, not abolition of Peace Corps

Tom Twardzik 2018 (journalist, graduated from New York University with a Bachelor of Arts in English with a minor in Creative Writing) 29 Mar 2018 “Exploring the controversies surrounding the Peace Corps,” <https://www.libertyproject.com/united-states-peace-corps-controversies-2551344005.html>

This article has focused on the controversies that surround the Peace Corps not to debase the organization's mission, but because without the constant discussion of weaknesses and the incessant push to do better, these dangers will remain. Many volunteers who write about their unsatisfactory experiences maintain that the organization needs revision to do its work better, not to cease working altogether. [The mission of the Peace Corps](https://www.peacecorps.gov/about/) is important; therefore, it is important to ensure that its mission is carried out correctly and with care.

SIGNIFICANCE / HARMS

1. Financial Accountability

Link: The Peace Corps has won several awards for its financial accountability

Peace Corps 2018 (Peace Corps is a service opportunity for motivated changemakers to immerse themselves in a community abroad, working side by side with local leaders to tackle the most pressing challenges of our generation), 22 May 2018, “Peace Corps Honored for Excellence in Financial Reporting and Accountability,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-honored-excellence-financial-reporting-and-accountability/>

The Peace Corps won its 11th consecutive Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) award for its proven track record of financial transparency. The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) presents the CEAR award to federal agencies annually for producing high-quality Performance and Accountability Reports or Agency Financial Reports. The agency will be honored in a ceremony this evening.

The CEAR award program encourages the best use of taxpayer dollars

Peace Corps 2018 (Peace Corps is a service opportunity for motivated changemakers to immerse themselves in a community abroad, working side by side with local leaders to tackle the most pressing challenges of our generation), 22 May 2018, “Peace Corps Honored for Excellence in Financial Reporting and Accountability,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-honored-excellence-financial-reporting-and-accountability/> (brackets added)

The CEAR award program was started by the AGA [Association of Government Accountants] to encourage and incentivize federal agencies to make the best use of taxpayer dollars by continuously striving to strengthen reporting. Congress, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the U.S. General Accounting Office consider this notable award a clear validation of government agencies’ accountability.

2. A/T: “Don’t meet their goals/Legacy of Failure”—That has changed

A 2011 survey of Peace Corps alumni shows the goals are met

Terri Pous 2011 (journalist for TIME) 22 Sept 2011, “Alums Say the Program Helps U.S. Image but Falls Short on Service Goals,” <http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2094254_2094247_2094226,00.html>

The goals of the Peace Corps are three-fold: personal fulfillment, community service and to bolster the U.S.' image abroad. Fifty years into its mission, alums say the organization is doing a pretty good job. [According to a recent survey](http://newsfeed.time.com/2011/09/19/survey-peace-corps-alums-say-program-helps-u-s-image-but-falls-short-in-development-goals/) of Peace Corps alumni conducted by Civic Enterprises and the National Peace Corps Association, a two-year stint in the organization does indeed make the U.S. look good. An impressive 82% of those surveyed said their service fostered a better understanding of the U.S. in the communities they served. The alums also responded favorably to the program as a whole, with almost all responding that they would recommend it to friends and family.

Indicator goals are met: Countries invite P.C. to come back

Aneta Firýtová 2016 (**Author**: Firýtová, Aneta, **Advisor**: Dr. Francis D. Raška, Ph.D. This was published with Charles University, a University in Prague, Czech Republic, under the Institute of International Studies, under the Dept. of American studies. This is from **page** 30, **Lihosit**—Lawrence F. Lihosit, former Peace Corps volunteer, graduate of Ariz. State Univ. and urban planner, “Peace Corps Chronology; 1961-2010” (Bloomington: iUniverse, 2011), 10), 9 Aug 2016, “The U. S. Peace Corps - Possible Areas of Improvement in the Third Millennium,” <https://dspace.cuni.cz/bitstream/handle/20.500.11956/82235/DPTX_2015_2_11230_0_416132_0_180434.pdf?sequence=1>

Peace Corps Three Goals   
On one hand, the success of the agency’s three goals is quite difficult to quantify. On the other hand, as a sort of indicator should serve a surprising number of nations, which the Peace Corps left and which later requested for it to return back, according to Lihosit. As for the objectives of the third goal, one in two hundred volunteers decides to write a book about their Peace Corps experience. There are similarities in their memoirs as they refer about loneliness, difficulty to understand and to adapt to culture and language that was foreign to them, constant struggle to maintain good health, and gratefulness for the opportunity to experience something different while having to work hard.

3. Peace Corps makes the world a better place

Peace Corps is helping save lives by fighting malaria

Christopher Hedrick, updated 2014 (He was the CEO of Intrepid Learning, a Seattle-based corporate learning services firm, served as a science and technology advisor to the Governor of Washington state, and worked for the Gates Foundation and Microsoft), 11 Nov 2013 **Updated** **23 Jan 2014**, “The New Peace Corps: Fighting Malaria, Saving Lives,” <https://www.huffingtonpost.com/christopher-hedrick/the-new-peace-corps-fight_b_4233558.html>

Long-lasting insecticide treated bed nets can prevent mosquitoes from biting sleeping children, but only if they are distributed to every family and consistently used and repaired. New and inexpensive rapid diagnostic tests can cheaply tell if a fever is malaria or not. But that’s only useful information if you get tested soon after falling ill. Medicine to treat malaria is highly effective, curing almost all malaria cases, but only if the treatment is given in time. Working with partners to promote access to and effective use of each of these technologies, Peace Corps volunteers are helping save lives across the continent. Volunteers have fought malaria since the early days of Peace Corps, but only recently have access to these new malaria tools and the explosion of information technologies allowed Peace Corps to scale up its malaria control efforts and be part of a global team that is dramatically cutting deaths from this disease. A half century after its founding, Peace Corps is playing a more important role than ever in meeting global development challenges by embracing the characteristics of successful volunteers: flexibility and nimbleness in the face of changing conditions.

P.C. fulfils moral responsibility to help those less fortunate

Esther Katcoff updated 2013 (Peace Corps Volunteer living in Paraguay. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, her current work includes supporting a local community center, fostering youth leadership, working with city social services, and teaching computer, English, and business classes. She also runs a girls´ self-esteem group called Princesas en Acción), 1 Nov, 2012 **Updated** 1 Jan 2013, “Peace Corps Guilt,” <https://www.huffingtonpost.com/esther-katcoff/peace-corps-guilt_b_2059161.html> [Ellipses in original]

Someone is drowning in a lake and you are watching. She is sinking lower and lower, her head tossed back so that she can just barely manage a gulp of air. You can save her. Most people would argue that ethically you *must* save her. In his 1971 essay “Famine, Affluence, and Morality,” ethicist Peter Singer compares the general moral obligation to help the drowning to every privileged individual’s moral obligation to alleviate global poverty. People all over the world are dying. They are suffering and we are watching. It is *immoral*, says Peter Singer, not to do everything in our power to help them. iPods, spankin’ new cars, vacations to Disney World... we spend money on these things instead of paying for life-saving surgeries, feeding hungry children or investing in third world economies. According to Singer, the fact that we don’t need to watch the poor suffer doesn´t change the fact that they are drowning and we know it. And we let them.

Peace Corps offers the opportunity to learn about those in other cultures

Esther Katcoff updated 2013 (Peace Corps Volunteer living in Paraguay. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, her current work includes supporting a local community center, fostering youth leadership, working with city social services, and teaching computer, English, and business classes. She also runs a girls´ self-esteem group called Princesas en Acción), 1 Nov, 2012 **Updated** 1 Jan 2013, “Peace Corps Guilt,” <https://www.huffingtonpost.com/esther-katcoff/peace-corps-guilt_b_2059161.html>

I have — we have — a real opportunity to help others back home understand the amazing culture of Paraguay, the complicated nature of development work, and the lives of those who fight for their communities. For me, this is the solution to the heap-ton of Peace Corps guilt clamping down on my shoulders. Goal 3: to help people back home understand human need and realize their responsibility to throw that lifesaver. In a sustainable way, of course. Because the guilt that we are allowing people to drown is not mine. It is ours.

4. Effectiveness

Peace Corps provides goodwill, markets for US producers, and helps national security, at insignificant cost

Ted Mooney 2017 (former Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, and a Peace Corps Country Director in Uganda and Lesotho) Peace Corps spreads U.S. values in far off lands, 16 Apr 2017 ST AUGUSTINE RECORD <http://digital.olivesoftware.com/Olive/ODN/StAugustineRecord/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=SAR%2F2017%2F04%2F16&entity=Ar02102&sk=D04A2C08>

I urge you to support the base level funding of $410 million for the Peace Corps and $60 billion for the International Affairs Budget for fiscal year 2018. The Peace Corps budget comprises 0.01 percent of the federal budget. The total development and diplomacy budget is 0.9 percent of the federal budget. Moreover the value for these programs is astonishing when seen in context of establishing goodwill, promoting viable markets for U.S. goods and services, and contributing in a meaningful way to our national security.

5. A/T: “White Savior Complex”—Diverse groups of volunteers

Link: You don’t have to be a white American to get the job

Janine Faust 2016 (Staff writer & administrator at The Pitt News, the daily student newspaper at the University of Pittsburgh), 27 Oct 2016, “Peace Corps alumni discuss diversity,” <https://pittnews.com/article/112753/top-stories/peace-corps-alumni-discuss-diversity/>

Other panelists also discussed the way traveling and living in other countries had shifted their own cultural understanding — which was a broader goal of the panel, according to Pitt Peace Corps recruiter Nicholas Langston. “We want people to know that the Peace Corps isn’t just made up of a bunch of white guys,” Langston said. “And that anyone can discover more about themselves and others, gain experience and make connections through working as a Peace Corp volunteer.” According to the Peace Corps website, 28 percent of accepted volunteers identify as minorities in America based on their race or sexuality.

Example: Danielle Ohemeng

Danielle Ohemeng 2018 (began Peace Corps service as a secondary school math teacher in Ghana in June 2018), 1 June 2018, “Giving back to Ghana, my parents’ homeland,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/stories/why-you-should-join-the-peace-corps-straight-out-of-college/>

People in the U.S. know me as Danielle, or Dani, but my full name is Danielle Adwoa Serwah Ohemeng and my parents are from Ghana. My father came to the U.S. in 1979 to obtain a degree at U.C. Berkeley and my mother came in 1991 to complete a master’s degree in business administration at Baylor University in Texas. I was born and raised in California, just south of San Francisco. After living in California for 18 years, I went across the country to North Carolina to attend High Point University. I majored in math and minored in educational studies, and graduated in August 2017. I wanted to volunteer with the Peace Corps so I could do something I enjoy and make an impact for more than a few weeks or months. I applied for the secondary math teacher position in Ghana because I wanted to spend my time doing something that combined my two top interests: travel and education. With both of my parents coming from Ghana, and a majority of my family still living there, I wanted to serve in Ghana so I could connect more to my roots. My parents felt it was serendipitous that Peace Corps Volunteers serve in Ghana. All of my relatives greatly appreciate that I am going to give back to my community.

6. A/T: “Unqualified”—Volunteers are provided with intensive training

Volunteers receive this training in several areas

Michael R. Lewis, 2015 (Retired corporate executive and entrepreneur. During his 40+ year career, he created and sold ten different companies ranging from oil exploration to healthcare software. He has also been a Registered Investment Adviser with the SEC, a Principal of one of the larger management consulting firms in the country, and a Senior Vice President of the largest not-for-profit health insurer in the United States), 5 Nov 2015, “Should I Join the Peace Corps? – Benefits & Drawbacks of Service,” <https://www.moneycrashers.com/join-peace-corps-benefits-drawbacks-service/>

Volunteers receive two to three months of language, technical, and cultural training in the country they will serve before beginning their two-year service.

A) Language training

Peace Corps 2016 (US volunteer service agency), 1 June 2016, “Preparation & Training,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-honored-excellence-financial-reporting-and-accountability/>

Language skills are critical to your job performance, help you integrate into your community, and are essential for developing meaningful relationships with community members, so language training is at the heart of the training program. Language training will incorporate both classroom and community-based approaches, with language instructors teaching small-group language classes five days a week and assignments for you to work on with your host family and in your community. Your goal will be to gain basic social communication skills so you can practice and develop language skills further once you are at your site. To become a Volunteer, you must meet minimum language requirements.

B) Technical training

Peace Corps 2016 (US volunteer service agency), 1 June 2016, “Preparation & Training,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-honored-excellence-financial-reporting-and-accountability/>

Technical training builds on skills you have and emphasizes learning to transfer your skills to your community. Peace Corps staff will make sure you build the technical skills needed—from agriculture to education to community development—to undertake project sector activities, report progress, and be productive in your community.

C) Cross-cultural training

Peace Corps 2016 (US volunteer service agency), 1 June 2016, “Preparation & Training,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-honored-excellence-financial-reporting-and-accountability/>

Intercultural training allows you to reflect on your own cultural values and how they influence your behavior in-country. You’ll also discuss the questions you have about the behaviors and practices you observe in-country, exploring the underlying reasons for these behaviors and practices—and your role as a facilitator of development. Training will cover topics such as the concept of time, power and hierarchy, gender roles, communication styles, and the concept of self and relationships. Because adjusting to a new culture can be very challenging, you will participate in resiliency training, to give you a framework and tools to help with adjustment issues. The host family experience is a key component intercultural learning, and will ease your transition to life at your site.

7. Safety of the volunteers

A) Medical Care

Volunteers have full medical insurance coverage and benefits and they have recently been improved

Michael R. Lewis, 2015 (Retired corporate executive and entrepreneur. During his 40+ year career, he created and sold ten different companies ranging from oil exploration to healthcare software. He has also been a Registered Investment Adviser with the SEC, a Principal of one of the larger management consulting firms in the country, and a Senior Vice President of the largest not-for-profit health insurer in the United States), 5 Nov 2015, “Should I Join the Peace Corps? – Benefits & Drawbacks of Service,” <https://www.moneycrashers.com/join-peace-corps-benefits-drawbacks-service/>

Medical Benefits  
Volunteers have full medical insurance coverage and dental benefits for 100% of primary care, hospitalization, medical evacuation, and all prescriptions (including birth control). Each post has a “medical officer” to cover basic care. Due to complaints about the quality of medical service, the Peace Corps has made extensive changes since 2014 in its procedures including implementing new standards for medical personnel and responses to sexual assault.

B) Harassment threats

In 2014, the Peace Corps implemented a program to help deal with this

Michael R. Lewis, 2015 (Retired corporate executive and entrepreneur. During his 40+ year career, he created and sold ten different companies ranging from oil exploration to healthcare software. He has also been a Registered Investment Adviser with the SEC, a Principal of one of the larger management consulting firms in the country, and a Senior Vice President of the largest not-for-profit health insurer in the United States), 5 Nov 2015, “Should I Join the Peace Corps? – Benefits & Drawbacks of Service,” <https://www.moneycrashers.com/join-peace-corps-benefits-drawbacks-service/>

The Peace Corps implemented a comprehensive Sexual Assault Risk Reduction and Response program that same year. While the Peace Corps makes every effort to protect volunteers, it notes that it cannot eliminate every risk a volunteer may face. According to the Peace Corps, “Living and traveling in an unfamiliar environment, having a limited understanding of local language and culture, and being perceived as financially well-off are some of the factors that put volunteers at risk.”

C) Violent threats to safety

Peace Corps has security officers who monitor countries for safety threats

Christina Kay 2016 (a returned Peace Corps Volunteer who served in Benin from 2011 to 2013, immediately after graduating from Tufts University. As a Rural Community Health Volunteer, she initiated projects related to nutrition, hygiene and sanitation, and girls’ empowerment. She now works at a nonprofit serving the homeless in the Denver area), 1 July 2016, “Why you should join the Peace Corps straight out of college.” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/stories/why-you-should-join-the-peace-corps-straight-out-of-college/>

Additionally, each Peace Corps country has a safety and security officer who is constantly monitoring the country for safety threats to volunteers and sending out alerts if there is something you need to know. This skilled staff person is also available to help in the case of theft or any other threat to safety at your post. Finally, Peace Corps can and does evacuate volunteers if the situation in the country (or region of the country) becomes unsafe.

Example of evacuations:

A) Niger

Peace Corps 2011 (US government service agency), 17 Jan 2011, “Peace Corps Suspends Program in Niger; All Volunteers Evacuated Safely,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-suspends-program-in-niger-all-volunteers-evacuated-safely/>

Peace Corps has suspended its program in Niger due to ongoing concerns about volunteer security. All 98 volunteers are safe and accounted for and have been safely evacuated to another country. Volunteers will take part in a transition conference and if possible will be offered the option to complete their service in another Peace Corps country. Peace Corps will continue to assess the safety and security climate in Niger. The safety and security of volunteers is the Peace Corps' highest priority.

B) Burkina Faso

Peace Corps 2017 (US government service agency), 3 Sept 2017, “Peace Corps Burkina Faso Volunteers Evacuated Safely,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-burkina-faso-volunteers-evacuated-safely/>

The Peace Corps today announced that, acting with an abundance of caution and considering the unique circumstances of their service, all Peace Corps Burkina Faso volunteers have been successfully evacuated out of the country due to security concerns. The Peace Corps has been closely monitoring the safety and security environment in Burkina Faso and will continue to assess the situation. The Peace Corps looks forward to a time when volunteers can return while underscoring that the safety and security of its volunteers are the agency’s top priority. There were 124 volunteers working in Burkina Faso on projects in community economic development, education and health. The Peace Corps has enjoyed a long partnership with the government and people of Burkina Faso and hopes to be able to continue volunteers’ work there. More than 2,075 Peace Corps volunteers have served in Burkina Faso since the program was established in 1966.

C) Kenya

Peace Corps 2014 (US government service agency) 29 July 2014, “Peace Corps Kenya Volunteers Safely Close Their Service, Program Suspended,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-kenya-volunteers-safely-close-their-service-program-suspended/>

The Peace Corps today announced that all Peace Corps Kenya volunteers have safely and successfully closed their Kenya service. Due to escalating concerns after closely monitoring the security environment in Kenya in recent months, the agency has suspended the program. The Peace Corps will continue to assess the safety and security climate in Kenya. While the agency hopes volunteers can return, their safety and security are the Peace Corps’ top priorities. More than 50 Peace Corps Kenya volunteers were working in the areas of education, health and community economic development. The Peace Corps has enjoyed a long partnership with the government and people of Kenya and hopes to be able to continue volunteers’ work there. Since the program was established in 1964, more than 5,155 Peace Corps volunteers have served in Kenya.

DISADVANTAGES

1. Jobs lost

Link: 7,376 people currently work for Peace Corps

Peace Corps, updated 2017 (Peace Corps is a service opportunity for motivated changemakers to immerse themselves in a community abroad, working side by side with local leaders to tackle the most pressing challenges of our generation), 30 Sept 2017, “Fast Facts,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/fast-facts/>

**History**

* Peace Corps officially established: March 1, 1961
* Americans who have served: More than 230,000
* Host countries served to date: 141

**Today**

* Current number of Volunteers and trainees: 7,376
* Gender: 63% female, 37% male
* Marital status: 98% single, 2% married
* Minorities: 32% of Volunteers (excludes non-responders)
* Average age: 28
* Volunteers over age 50: 6%

2. Lost benefits for workers

Link: Those who work for Peace Corps receive benefits such as health and life insurance, as well as retirement benefits

Peace Corps, 2001 (Peace Corps is a service opportunity for motivated changemakers to immerse themselves in a community abroad, working side by side with local leaders to tackle the most pressing challenges of our generation), 1 Feb 2001, “Salary & Benefits,” <https://www.peacecorps.gov/about/agency-jobs/salary-and-benefits/>

**Health insurance**

Employees may enroll in one of the many health plans offered to federal employees. These include fee-for-service, point of service, and health maintenance organizations. The cost is shared by the government and no physical examination is required.

**Life insurance**

Low-cost life insurance is available. Like health insurance, the cost is shared by the government and no physical examination is required.

**Retirement**

New employees are automatically enrolled in a three-tier system that includes Social Security, a basic pension plan (Federal Employees Retirement System), and a Thrift Savings Plan. Under the Thrift Savings Plan, employees may contribute up to 10 percent of basic pay into a tax-deferred interest account. The government will match the employee's contribution, up to 5 percent of basic pay.

3. Lost Goodwill

Link: Peace Corps volunteers are carrying much of the responsibility of diplomats

Robert L. Strauss 2008 (He has been a Peace Corps country director, recruiter, consultant, and volunteer. He is a recipient of the State Department’s Meritorious Honor Award and lives in Madagascar, where he runs a management consulting company), 22 April 2018, “Think Again: The Peace Corps,” <http://foreignpolicy.com/2008/04/22/think-again-the-peace-corps/>

With diplomats stuck inside barricaded compounds or loath to venture from expatriate residential ghettos, a Peace Corps volunteer is likely to be the only representative of the U.S. government that poor, rural populations ever see. As the State Department cuts back on its public diplomacy and cultural exchange programs, the Peace Corps predominantly young volunteers wind up carrying more and more of the responsibility for demonstrating that the United States still has good intentions abroad.

Impact: Military generals agree: Peace Corps helps US national security by reducing conflict and risk to our military

Ted Mooney 2017 (former Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, and a Peace Corps Country Director in Uganda and Lesotho) Peace Corps spreads U.S. values in far off lands, 16 Apr 2017 ST AUGUSTINE RECORD <http://digital.olivesoftware.com/Olive/ODN/StAugustineRecord/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=SAR%2F2017%2F04%2F16&entity=Ar02102&sk=D04A2C08>

Over 120 retired three and four-star generals agree. In a recent letter to Congressional leadership, these generals wrote: “The State Department, USAID, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Peace Corps and other development agencies are critical to preventing conflict and reducing the need to put our men and women in uniform in harm’s way.” Four of the 121 signatures include four former admirals who live in or near St. Augustine. And, as Defense Secretary James Mattis said while Commander of U.S. Central Command, “If you don’t fund the State Department fully, then I need to buy more ammunition.” Yet the Peace Corps and International Affairs are under threat of deep cuts in the administration’s budget proposal. I submit that we take our military leaders at their word and assure that U.S. diplomacy supports our overall security through outreach, longterm relationship building, assistance and development of emerging allies and the assertion of our values as we learn and understand the values of others.

4. Malaria program canceled

Link: Peace Corps has programs—like their “Stomping Out Malaria in Africa initiative”—that save lives

Impact: Losing lives to malaria

Christopher Hedrick 2013 (He was the CEO of Intrepid Learning, a Seattle-based corporate learning services firm, served as a science and technology advisor to the Governor of Washington state, and worked for the Gates Foundation and Microsoft Jake Nelson served as Lead Editor for this op-ed) 26 Feb 2013, “The New Peace Corps,” <http://yalejournal.org/op-ed_post/the-new-peace-corps/>

The Peace Corps’ Stomping Out Malaria in Africa initiative, launched in 2011, can serve as a model for this fresh, “New Peace Corps” approach. The program uses Skype to bring in world experts for intensive training seminars, Google Drive’s cloud storage for knowledge collaboration, and Facebook groups to build communities of learning and expertise across twenty-four countries in sub-Saharan Africa in order to fight malaria, which kills hundreds of thousands of children every year. The Peace Corps is now an integral part of the international team battling malaria. More than 3,000 Peace Corps volunteers across sub-Saharan Africa are engaged in this campaign at little incremental cost to the U.S. government. And they aren’t working alone: they work in partnership with USAID, the Centers for Disease Control, and others. This collaboration adds value to the global fight in a way that only the Peace Corps can: through community engagement and education at the grassroots level. The impact has already become clear in the number of incidents of disease avoided and lives saved.

5. No help with disaster relief

Crisis Corps, which is under Peace Corps, aids in disaster relief

Mark Lydon, 2005 (Earned an undergraduate degree with a major in Chemistry and a minor in French from Creighton University. He then served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Arusha, Africa, where he taught Chemistry and Physics to secondary school children. While earning a graduate degree in International Education from SIT, he is working as the U.S.-Azerbaijan School Partnerships Coordinator for Project Harmony in Waitsfield, VT.), spring 2005, “Converging Paths: The Peace Corps and Sit,” <https://abroadviewmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/closer_look_all.pdf>

Following the tsunami disaster, the Peace Corps received an outpouring of support from former volunteers willing to return to the devastated area. More than 200 volunteers completed the Crisis Corps application. The Peace Corps sent an assessment team to Thailand and Director Vasquez arrived shortly after. Thirty former volunteers were then selected, the majority of whom served in Thailand and speak the Thai language and know the customs and culture. The volunteers will assist various aid organizations in rebuilding devastated areas. The Peace Corps has also established the Southeast Asia Tsunami Fund. As with all donations to the Peace Corps Partnership Program, 100 percent of every donation will be used in the affected communities. To support the volunteers visit www. PeaceCorps.gov and click on “Donate Now.” Crisis Corps has responded to more than 300 natural disasters since 1996.

6. Weakens PEPFAR (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief)

Link: PEPFAR relies on Peace Corps volunteers to implement

National Peace Corps Association 2017. (association of former Peace Corps volunteers) "*President Proposes Largest Cut to Peace Corps In Over 40 Years"* <https://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/articles/president-proposes-largest-cut-to-peace-corps-in-45-years>

The president’s proposed cuts come at a time when the Peace Corps is poised to heighten its impact. Applications to the agency remain well above 20,000 and global demand for more volunteers continues to increase, especially in emerging economies. The President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), global food security programs, and other whole-of-government programs all rely on Peace Corps Volunteers to implement their projects.

Quantification: 1000 P.C. volunteers involved with PEPFAR

Peace Corps 2016. (ethical disclosure: article is undated, 2016 is derived contextually by reference to 2015 events being in the past) "President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief" <https://www.peacecorps.gov/about/global-initiatives/pepfar/>

In 2015, over 750 PEPFAR-funded Volunteers focused on building target-group HIV knowledge and skills through camps, clubs, Grassroot Soccer, and in-school programs; mobilizing target populations; and strengthening linkages to care and key services. In the past year, more than 1,000 of all Peace Corps Volunteers reported involvement in HIV prevention messaging activities, reaching a total of 172,426 individuals in 60-plus countries.

Impact: Millions of lives at risk

Former President George W. Bush 2017. WASHINGTON POST 7 Apr 2017 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/george-w-bush-pepfar-saves-millions-of-lives-in-africa-keep-it-fully-funded/2017/04/07/2089fa46-1ba7-11e7-9887-1a5314b56a08_story.html?utm_term=.a72fc463f038>

My administration [launched](https://2006-2009.pepfar.gov/about/index.htm) PEPFAR in 2003 to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic that threatened to wipe out an entire generation on the continent of Africa. Nearly 15 years later, the program has achieved remarkable results in the fight against disease. Today, because of the commitment of many foreign governments, investments by partners, the resilience of the African people and the generosity of the American people, nearly 12 million lives have been saved.

Works Cited

1. Gabriel Krieshok 2017 (Master of Science in Information from the University of Michigan School of Information, Master of Public Policyfrom the University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy) 25 Sept 2017, “The Future of the Peace Corps…and how to stop it.” https://medium.com/@gabrielkrieshok/the-future-of-the-peace-corps-and-how-to-stop-it-f2e0fe3aff50
2. Christopher Hedrick 2013 (He was the CEO of Intrepid Learning, a Seattle-based corporate learning services firm, served as a science and technology advisor to the Governor of Washington state, and worked for the Gates Foundation and Microsoft Jake Nelson served as Lead Editor for this op-ed) 26 Feb 2013, “The New Peace Corps,” http://yalejournal.org/op-ed\_post/the-new-peace-corps/
3. Curt Tarnoff 2018, (Specialist in Foreign Affairs with Congressional Research Service, a legislative branch agency within the Library of Congress) 26 Apr 2018, “The Peace Corps: Current Issues,” https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21168.pdf
4. Peace Corps, 2006 (US government service agency) 29 June 2006, “1000th Crisis Corps Volunteer Sent to El Salvador as Crisis Corps Celebrates Decade of High-Impact Relief Work,” https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/1000th-crisis-corps-volunteer-sent-to-el-salvador-as-crisis-corps-celebrates-decade-of-high-impact-relief-work/
5. The Connection Newspapers, 2005 (locally-owned media company founded in 1784, that publishes 15 weekly community newspapers reaching more than 100,000 households in suburban communities in the Washington metropolitan area with print editions, and with many more readers of specialized local web publications. They have won more than 200 editorial awards.) 4 Oct 2005 “Peace Corps Volunteers Help Katrina Victims,” http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2005/oct/04/peace-corps-volunteers-help-katrina-victims/#h0-p2
6. Peace Corps 2014. (ethical disclosure: the article is undated but contains references to material published in 2014) "Agency Reforms" https://www.peacecorps.gov/about/leadership/agency-reforms/
7. Robert L. Strauss 2008 (He has been a Peace Corps country director, recruiter, consultant, and volunteer. He is a recipient of the State Department’s Meritorious Honor Award and lives in Madagascar, where he runs a management consulting company), 22 April 2018, “Think Again: The Peace Corps,” http://foreignpolicy.com/2008/04/22/think-again-the-peace-corps/
8. Ryan Rommann 2013 (journalist) 21 Nov 2013 THE GUARDIAN The Peace Corps: out-dated and out-performed? https://www.theguardian.com/global-development-professionals-network/2013/nov/21/peace-corps-us-development-policy (brackets added)
9. Tom Twardzik 2018 (journalist, graduated from New York University with a Bachelor of Arts in English with a minor in Creative Writing) 29 Mar 2018 “Exploring the controversies surrounding the Peace Corps,” https://www.libertyproject.com/united-states-peace-corps-controversies-2551344005.html
10. Peace Corps 2018 (Peace Corps is a service opportunity for motivated changemakers to immerse themselves in a community abroad, working side by side with local leaders to tackle the most pressing challenges of our generation), 22 May 2018, “Peace Corps Honored for Excellence in Financial Reporting and Accountability,” https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-honored-excellence-financial-reporting-and-accountability/
11. Terri Pous 2011 (journalist for TIME) 22 Sept 2011, “Alums Say the Program Helps U.S. Image but Falls Short on Service Goals,” http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2094254\_2094247\_2094226,00.html
12. Aneta Firýtová 2016 (**Author**: Firýtová, Aneta, **Advisor**: Dr. Francis D. Raška, Ph.D. This was published with Charles University, a University in Prague, Czech Republic, under the Institute of International Studies, under the Dept. of American studies. This is from **page** 30, **Lihosit**—Lawrence F. Lihosit, former Peace Corps volunteer, graduate of Ariz. State Univ. and urban planner, “Peace Corps Chronology; 1961-2010” (Bloomington: iUniverse, 2011), 10), 9 Aug 2016, “The U. S. Peace Corps - Possible Areas of Improvement in the Third Millennium,” https://dspace.cuni.cz/bitstream/handle/20.500.11956/82235/DPTX\_2015\_2\_11230\_0\_416132\_0\_180434.pdf?sequence=1
13. Esther Katcoff updated 2013 (Peace Corps Volunteer living in Paraguay. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, her current work includes supporting a local community center, fostering youth leadership, working with city social services, and teaching computer, English, and business classes. She also runs a girls´ self-esteem group called Princesas en Acción), 1 Nov, 2012 **Updated** 1 Jan 2013, “Peace Corps Guilt,” https://www.huffingtonpost.com/esther-katcoff/peace-corps-guilt\_b\_2059161.html [Ellipses in original]
14. Ted Mooney 2017 (former Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, and a Peace Corps Country Director in Uganda and Lesotho) Peace Corps spreads U.S. values in far off lands, 16 Apr 2017 ST AUGUSTINE RECORD http://digital.olivesoftware.com/Olive/ODN/StAugustineRecord/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=SAR%2F2017%2F04%2F16&entity=Ar02102&sk=D04A2C08
15. Janine Faust 2016 (Staff writer & administrator at The Pitt News, the daily student newspaper at the University of Pittsburgh), 27 Oct 2016, “Peace Corps alumni discuss diversity,” https://pittnews.com/article/112753/top-stories/peace-corps-alumni-discuss-diversity/
16. Danielle Ohemeng 2018 (began Peace Corps service as a secondary school math teacher in Ghana in June 2018), 1 June 2018, “Giving back to Ghana, my parents’ homeland,” https://www.peacecorps.gov/stories/why-you-should-join-the-peace-corps-straight-out-of-college/
17. Michael R. Lewis, 2015 (Retired corporate executive and entrepreneur. During his 40+ year career, he created and sold ten different companies ranging from oil exploration to healthcare software. He has also been a Registered Investment Adviser with the SEC, a Principal of one of the larger management consulting firms in the country, and a Senior Vice President of the largest not-for-profit health insurer in the United States), 5 Nov 2015, “Should I Join the Peace Corps? – Benefits & Drawbacks of Service,” https://www.moneycrashers.com/join-peace-corps-benefits-drawbacks-service/
18. Michael R. Lewis, 2015 (Retired corporate executive and entrepreneur. During his 40+ year career, he created and sold ten different companies ranging from oil exploration to healthcare software. He has also been a Registered Investment Adviser with the SEC, a Principal of one of the larger management consulting firms in the country, and a Senior Vice President of the largest not-for-profit health insurer in the United States), 5 Nov 2015, “Should I Join the Peace Corps? – Benefits & Drawbacks of Service,” https://www.moneycrashers.com/join-peace-corps-benefits-drawbacks-service/
19. Christina Kay 2016 (a returned Peace Corps Volunteer who served in Benin from 2011 to 2013, immediately after graduating from Tufts University. As a Rural Community Health Volunteer, she initiated projects related to nutrition, hygiene and sanitation, and girls’ empowerment. She now works at a nonprofit serving the homeless in the Denver area), 1 July 2016, “Why you should join the Peace Corps straight out of college.” https://www.peacecorps.gov/stories/why-you-should-join-the-peace-corps-straight-out-of-college/
20. Peace Corps 2011 (US government service agency), 17 Jan 2011, “Peace Corps Suspends Program in Niger; All Volunteers Evacuated Safely,” https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-suspends-program-in-niger-all-volunteers-evacuated-safely/
21. Peace Corps 2017 (US government service agency), 3 Sept 2017, “Peace Corps Burkina Faso Volunteers Evacuated Safely,” https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-burkina-faso-volunteers-evacuated-safely/
22. Peace Corps 2014 (US government service agency) 29 July 2014, “Peace Corps Kenya Volunteers Safely Close Their Service, Program Suspended,” https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/library/peace-corps-kenya-volunteers-safely-close-their-service-program-suspended/
23. Peace Corps, 2001 (Peace Corps is a service opportunity for motivated changemakers to immerse themselves in a community abroad, working side by side with local leaders to tackle the most pressing challenges of our generation), 1 Feb 2001, “Salary & Benefits,” https://www.peacecorps.gov/about/agency-jobs/salary-and-benefits/
24. Ted Mooney 2017 (former Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, and a Peace Corps Country Director in Uganda and Lesotho) Peace Corps spreads U.S. values in far off lands, 16 Apr 2017 ST AUGUSTINE RECORD http://digital.olivesoftware.com/Olive/ODN/StAugustineRecord/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=SAR%2F2017%2F04%2F16&entity=Ar02102&sk=D04A2C08
25. Mark Lydon, 2005 (Earned an undergraduate degree with a major in Chemistry and a minor in French from Creighton University. He then served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Arusha, Africa, where he taught Chemistry and Physics to secondary school children. While earning a graduate degree in International Education from SIT, he is working as the U.S.-Azerbaijan School Partnerships Coordinator for Project Harmony in Waitsfield, VT.), spring 2005, “Converging Paths: The Peace Corps and Sit,” https://abroadviewmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/closer\_look\_all.pdf
26. National Peace Corps Association 2017. (association of former Peace Corps volunteers) "President Proposes Largest Cut to Peace Corps In Over 40 Years" https://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/articles/president-proposes-largest-cut-to-peace-corps-in-45-years
27. Peace Corps 2016. (ethical disclosure: article is undated, 2016 is derived contextually by reference to 2015 events being in the past) "President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief" https://www.peacecorps.gov/about/global-initiatives/pepfar/
28. Former President George W. Bush 2017. WASHINGTON POST 7 Apr 2017 https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/george-w-bush-pepfar-saves-millions-of-lives-in-africa-keep-it-fully-funded/2017/04/07/2089fa46-1ba7-11e7-9887-1a5314b56a08\_story.html?utm\_term=.a72fc463f038