

KHOTSO

May 2012

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Message from the Country Director



CHED 10 Kelsey Marsh and Angel Makers at Laqooa Primary School.

Dear Volunteers,

In addition to slightly colder weather, April was filled with the ED 12 Phase III training, TOT for the CHED 12 PST, CHED 12 site identification, and great site visits (see photos). At Phase III, our soon-to-be ex-newbies (the ED12s) regaled us with their stories of community integration, gardening, class sizes exceeding 100 students and generally doing a wonderful job!

Elections: As you know, national elections are scheduled for May 26th. At this point, we believe that they will take place on this day and are preparing for the event. Obviously we can't predict the outcome but will be monitoring the situation closely with the US Embassy. Any helpful information we can share with you we will. In the meantime, if you hear anything that you think we should know, please contact nte Nthoalo. As a precautionary measure we will be issuing instructions for Volunteers as the elections approach.

Leave, Out-of-site and Whereabouts Reminder: Variations of the following message have been included in a few issues of the Khotso over the past year and discussed at trainings and VAC meetings: Volunteers are encouraged to review the leave and whereabouts policies (which are two distinct but related policies) in their Volunteer Handbook. We need to know where Volunteers are at all times, thus the whereabouts notification policy. In terms of leave, there are valid reasons for being out of site, one of which is annual leave. Annual leave is determined by the reason for the leave - not the destination or duration of the leave. For example, a trip to Mokhotlong to run a marathon is considered leisure and therefore leave must be taken. If, however, the trip to Mokhotlong entails taking a youth group to

run the marathon in conjunction with AIDS awareness raising, leave would not have to be taken since it could be argued that the primary reason for going to Mokhotlong is work-related. The fact that the Volunteer also gets to run in the marathon is a bonus. Also, the occasional short visit (preferably on a weekend) to another Volunteer's site (e.g., to exchange ideas, get a mental health break, help with an activity) would generally not be considered leave. This should not be abused, however, and if staff determine that such trips out of site are becoming excessive, they will discuss it with the Volunteer. Work travel out of Lesotho requires approval by your supervisor, APCD and CD. A leave request signed by your supervisor must be received by your ACPD at least one business day prior to travel. If a trip comes up at the last minute or you cannot submit a leave request in time, please have your supervisor contact your APCD. Whereabouts notification in all cases, regardless of the reason for being out of site (overnight or out of the country), is required. If you are unsure of a rule, please do not hesitate to ask your APCD to clarify it. Note that these leave and whereabouts notification policies have been in place since January 1, 2011 and have not changed.

CHED 10s: I'd like to wish the CHED 10s a wonderful COS conference and final few months in Lesotho. They are the first group whose service I will have seen from arrival in Lesotho to COS. Their first few months at site were tumultuous due to the events surrounding Volunteer Tom Maresco's death, but those who remained have demonstrated time and again their creativity, enthusiasm, resilience, and adaptability. Having visited all of them at their sites and worked with some in other ways (e.g., training, committees, etc.), I can attest to this. Thank you for your service.

Khotso,
Kathy

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From the Editor

Articles must be received by the 4th Monday of the month to be included in the following month’s edition of the Khotso. **When submitting articles, please provide the name of the person making the submission and a contact person for follow-up questions.** The Newsletter will be emailed and a hardcopy made available in the office on or about the 1st of each month. Please make sure that your email address is on file with Peace Corps. Remember that it is your responsibility to read the Khotso Newsletter for updates from Peace Corps Lesotho.

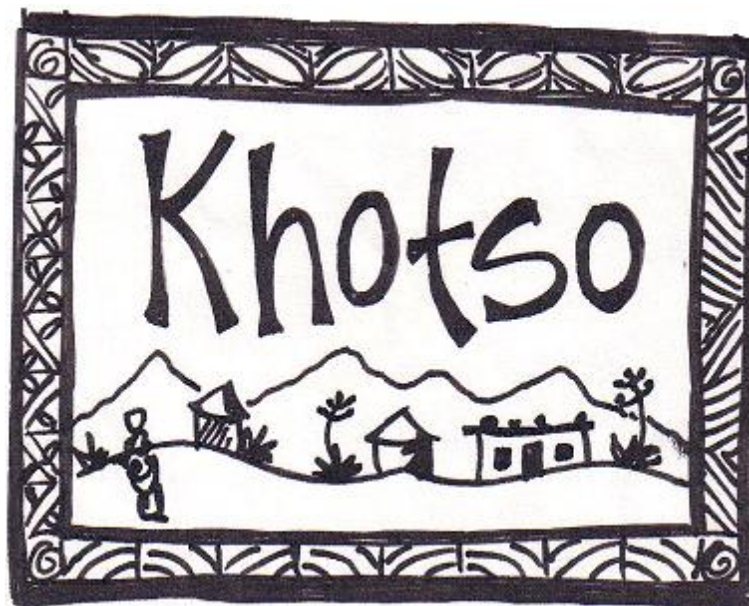
The editorial staff would like feedback from PCVs regarding the content. It is our desire to provide you with information that is useful, helpful, and encouraging. We would appreciate receiving constructive feedback from you.

By submitting articles, you are providing Peace Corps Lesotho with the right to reprint your article in full or part in any publication.

Deepak Pullanikkatil, Editor



Editorial



PCV & Staff Birthdays

Birthday greetings go out to the following Volunteers and staff!

May

Davies, Benjamin – 2
Majara, Ralintoane (Driver) – 2
Mapena, Masechaba (Training Manager) – 9
Good, Tommy – 22
Meyer, Barbara – 22
Delise, Brandon – 28
Leza, Janelle – 30

June

Feraco, Nancy – 8
McFarland, Carol – 11
Kang, Peggy – 16
Carson, Amy Jo – 17
Anderman-Hahn, Evan – 21
Campbell, Hannah – 23

Peace Corps Lesotho Holidays (Office closed these days)

May

Worker's Day (LS Holiday) – 1
Africa Heroes Day (LS Holiday) – 25
Memorial Day (US Holiday) – 28

June

Ascension Day (LS Holiday) – 2

Calendar of Events and Staff Travel

Apr 1 – May 30	Kathy on annual leave
Apr 25 – May 7	Victoria on leave
April 28 – May 6	Dr. Victor at CME in Pretoria
May 1 – 3	CHED 10 COS Conference in Semonkong
May 14 – 18	Nt. Nthoalo at SSC workshop in Pretoria
June 1	Arrival of CHED 12 trainees
June 2 – 15	Nt. Clement on leave
June 17 – 22	ED 12 PDM and HIV/AIDS workshops

Duty Officer Schedule

May 7 – 13	PTS ED
May 14 – 20	DPT
May 21 – 27	SSC
May 28 – Jun 3	ITS
June 4 – 10	FA
June 11 – 17	GSO
June 18 – 24	CD
June 25 – Jul 1	DMO



STAFF OF THE MONTH – Bernard Letsella, Gardener

Ntate Bernard quietly goes about his work without complaint and is consistently recognized by staff as hard working and reliable. During the month of April with winter approaching (and most every other month), his gardens and rose bushes brighten the Peace Corps compound and make the office a pleasant place to enter.

ADMIN CORNER by Jim

Mid Year Review

On May 20th we completed and submitted our Mid-Year Budget Review that is required by PC HQ. Although the budget is an area of concern in every country where Peace Corps currently operates, we are managing to “navigate” through 2012 pretty successfully. Thank you all for your diligence in submitting reimbursement requests accurately and in a timely manner. It goes a long way to making sure we have sufficient funds to successfully operate all the components of Peace Corps Lesotho.

Excess Baggage Reimbursement

Due to recent fare increases by the airlines, we will be raising the amount we provide for excess baggage from \$50.00 to \$75.00 effective immediately. COSing Volunteers receiving cash in lieu of a return air ticket do not receive the excess baggage allowance.

ATM Cards

Please be reminded that when using your ATM card, you only have two tries to input your PIN number correctly before the machine will keep your card. If a card is confiscated by the machine it is retrieved at the end of the day and sent to the Maseru or camp town Standard Lesotho Bank branch where you will have to go with your Peace Corps passport and bank account number in order to get it back. It might take a day or two for them to release it to you so if you enter your PIN number incorrectly the first time you are at an ATM, please try and be certain of it before you try the second time. If you do lose your card and are unable to retrieve, contact Admin.

Living Allowance Deposits

In the March Khotso we listed the dates you should expect to have your living allowance deposited each month through the end of this year. If that date comes and you don't see it in your account please let us know ASAP. It may take Standard Lesotho Bank a few more months to work out the “kinks” of their new software and we don't want any of you to suffer for it. If you let us know you didn't get your deposit, we can usually get it in your account within 24 to 48 hours.

Absentee Voting

Some of you have had problems registering to vote via absentee ballot by using the web site www.FVAP.gov. We recently received a hard copy of the 2012-2013 Voting Assistance Guide, which details in writing each state's requirements. There is copies in the VRC and my office. if you won't be getting to Maseru anytime soon and need information, let me know.

Have a great month of May, everyone, and as always please stay safe...!

EDUCATION CORNER by Nt. Clement & 'Me Malitaba

At last we have managed to complete our site visit cycle with the last two Volunteers and a Peace Corps Response Volunteer visited in April. The trio, bo-'m'e Rusty, Lisa and Andrea are doing extremely well as they prepare to wrap up their assignments in Lesotho. On that note, please note that PCRV Lisa Dold is due to depart Peace Corps early June after a short, but rather productive, 10 months in Lesotho. She will leave a huge footprint at Thuso e tla tsoa kae in Botha Bothe and during our recent visit to the Centre, her supervisor remarked “[Lisa] has met our ex-

pectations, training the teachers, demonstrating effective teaching techniques.... she was also instrumental in the construction of a new vocational technical classroom block...she was always available". We all have been truly blessed to have had a chance to work with her and we wish her well in her future endeavors.

HIV/AIDS Capacity Building and Project Design and Management Workshop

As has been indicated before, the PDM and the HIV/AIDS Capacity Building workshops will be held June 18 – 22 at the Blue Mountain Inn in TY. You are requested to bring a counterpart with you. This person can be anyone with whom you think you will be conducting activities. It does not have to be your supervisor or IL and must commit to participating for the duration of the workshop. An information letter will be sent at the beginning of May.

Suggested Activities for Winter Break

During Phase III Training we discussed activities you can pursue during the winter break. "Winter School" is an area where Volunteers, particularly but not exclusively secondary teachers, can be very useful. Where possible we encourage Volunteers to participate in these. We also hope the PDM/HIV Capacity Building workshop will set a great foundation for activities you can possibly engage in during this period. (We are hopeful that the counterparts who will attend these workshops will be 'available' to work on activities during the winter.) Yes, winter is cold, days are short and life slows down, but with some creativity and effort productive activities are possible. Please take a moment to go through the ICE publication entitled *Working with Youth: Approaches For Volunteers*. A brief summary of this resource is provided below. If you do not have a copy, make sure to request one.

WHY A VOLUNTEER MANUAL ON WORKING WITH YOUTH?

Since the first Volunteer stepped off the airplane in Accra, Ghana, in 1961, and in other countries around the world since then, local youth have been watching and interacting with Peace Corps Volunteers. Local young people offer Volunteers opportunities to develop enriching relationships that can satisfy Volunteers' aspirations to make a meaningful difference, participate in family life activities, and have fun.

Sustainable development must include young men and women. Helping youth build their knowledge and skills is an important investment in the future and should be part of every Volunteer's work. Fortunately, young women and men are like sponges. When given the opportunity, they can absorb and retain a wealth of information and experiences that can strongly influence their development and that of their families and communities.

This manual is intended to complement knowledge, intuition, and good intentions in your encounters with youth. It can support your efforts by helping you make more informed and thoughtful decisions as you engage young people in discussions and activities. Through advice and information from Volunteers, staff, and experts, this manual will provide you with creative and innovative ideas for activities that are founded on development principles and gathered from experience throughout the world. This manual is not only an information resource, but we hope also a source of encouragement and inspiration.

CHED CORNER by Charles and 'Me Selloane

Likhomo tseo le manemane a tsona! Let us all join our hands to welcome Ntate Charles back to the Mountain Kingdom! It's been a long time, Ntate, but surely that was the most needed vacation for you to recharge and be ready for the new group! Rea u amohelela kannete! Your seat was kept warm while you were away!

New CHED Programming and Training Specialist (PTS) Litaba tse monate! We are happy to announce that 'me Mamakheta Moranye has been selected as the new CHED PTS. (Her bio will be included in the June Khotso.) Although we await her security clearance for to start officially, she was able to join us for the CHED 12 PST TOT. We look forward to her coming on board full time in early May.

CHED 12 Site Identification

It is that time of the year where we make plans for the new group, which is anticipated to arrive in Lesotho on June 1, 2012. For those whose supervisors/host organizations would like to request another Volunteer, please tell them to contact us ASAP. Also, if you perhaps hear or know of an organization that could potentially host a Volunteer, just give us a shout. As always, your support in the site identification process cannot be overemphasized! Please note that CHED does not intend to have Volunteers placed with schools as primary assignments anymore as this is the Education project's field of expertise.

Remember that a good site must have:

- ◆ a well-defined job
- ◆ a supervisor and counterpart/s interested in working alongside a Volunteer
- ◆ plenty of work that involves mitigating the impact of HIV and AIDS on individuals and communities
- ◆ a house that meets PC/L's safety and security standards.

CHED 10 COS Conference

Time flies by so fast! Can you believe that the CHED 10 group is about to leave Lesotho! In honor of their contribution to Lesotho's development goals, we will be celebrating their time of service from May 1-3 2012 in Semonkong. Then they will have time to wrap up their projects and say their "good byes" between then and August. Congratulations to them for their contribution to Lesotho's development! Surely the experience you acquired has been worthwhile.

CHED 12 PST Resource Volunteers

Thank you to all Volunteers who submitted letters of interest to assist in the CHED 12 PST. This demonstrates your passion and determination to support the CHED program and your fellow Volunteers. We have already sent letters informing you of your selection for TOT and/or helping with PST. More specifics on dates you will be needed will be sent as soon as possible.

Gold Star Activities

Thanks to all Volunteers for your hard work. Below are a few "Gold Star" activities we've pulled from the VRFs over the last few weeks. They help to illustrate the importance of persistence, patience, and creativity.

CHED 10 Mike Kerr: Mike was approached by a South African trout farm, Highlands Trout, which has set up shop in the Katse Reservoir not far from the Katse Dam, to train their locally hired Basotho staff on basic swimming skills, life jacket safety, water safety rescue skills and boat safety. Mike is working with a group of eight Basotho to cover the following skills:

- ◆ Basic swimming: Starting with putting their faces in the water and exhaling, floating, comfort building, kicking and elementary backstroke
- ◆ Life Jacket safety: They covered how to enter the water, how to exit the water, how to assist someone in exiting the water, how to swim backstroke and front crawl.
- ◆ Water Safety and Rescue Skills: They discussed how to be aware of their surroundings at all times with constant "survey of the scenes". The lesson also included demonstrations as well as "surprise rescues." and surprise rescues.

Boat Safety: Highlands Trout has a few motorized boats that are piloted by Basotho employees hired from Maseru. The lesson included a practical on falling out of boats, rescues from boats and capsized boats.

CHED 10 Brandon Delise: Brandon started a lifting group in Ha Ntlama, which seems to be going strong. Currently there are 9 lifters who lift in the evening. They also receive nutrition advice and learn the art of confidence. Two shepherds have turned into lifting leaders and can effectively teach all the exercises to the group on their own.

CHED 11 Jasmine Smith: Jasmine Smith, based in Pitseng Ha Raphoka, together with other Help Lesotho staff members have embarked on an empowerment activity for bo-Nkhono who reside at the Point Main Mission in a charity-run home for the elderly. Their activity entails a weekly meeting to encourage the ladies to engage in sporting activities to support their social, emotional and physical well-being. The grannies are also joined by three staff members from the charity home.

SAFETY & SECURITY CORNER by Nt. Nthoalo

EAP

We appreciated your cooperation with the recent EAP exercise, which indicated that our communications system is reliable and staff and Volunteers are ready to handle an emergency situation.

To ensure that our EAP is successful in an emergency, please remember the following:

You must adhere strictly to all directives you receive from a staff member or District Security Representative. If the stand fast order is given, you are to remain at your site (or wherever you are) until you are given the all clear or informed that another stage of the EAP has been activated.

If your phone number, or that of your supervisor, counterpart, host family or someone else on your site locator form, changes, please inform us. We found in the recent exercise that having additional numbers to call was extremely useful for reaching Volunteers if their cell phone network is unreliable.

If you have a question when informed that the EAP (or a test) has been activated, please do not hesitate to ask. Challenging instructions, however, is not appreciated and, in a real emergency, could waste precious time.

It would not hurt to dust off and review your EAP manual so you are clear on what you should do in the event the EAP is activated.

Volunteer Safety Report

Peace Corps/Washington recently published the 2010 *Safety of the Volunteer* report, which provides statistics on crime events reported by Volunteers around the world. Three main categories are featured: sexual assault, physical assault, and property crime. Lesotho was above the global and Africa region averages for incidence rate of sexual assault (5th highest in Africa) and below the average for property crime (3rd lowest in Africa). Volunteers in Lesotho reported no physical assault events in 2010 representing a 0.00 per 100 Volunteers versus 0.98 in Africa and 1.23 globally. (Physical assault does not include murder.) Although official stats for 2011 have not been published, in Lesotho Volunteers reported no sexual assaults, one attempted robbery and a few cases of minor theft, and we are seeing a general decline in crime incidents against Volunteer in 2012. We attribute this in large part to a reduction of time spent by Volunteers in Maseru and improved training. We want you all to have a safe and productive 2 years and encourage everyone to continue to put safety and security first!

IT CORNER by Deepak

Are Macs Safer than PCs?

...they had found a botnet comprising over half a million infected Mac computers. Macs were becoming infected with Flashback malware after users were redirected to a rogue website from a compromised site. JavaScript code was used to load a Java-applet which exploited a vulnerability... Apple has traditionally marketed its systems as being more secure than those running Microsoft Windows, but how true is that? ... Fundamentally, there is no reason why Macs should not be targeted using malware in the same way that viruses, Trojans and worms are built to target Windows systems. You might run, for example, a piece of JavaScript that steals credentials, or a keylogger, without necessarily attacking the operating system. Likewise, you might exploit a vulnerability in a third party application, as happened recently when a backdoor Trojan embedded inside booby-trapped Word documents successfully ran on Macs. ... Those using Windows have been aware for a long time that their systems have vulnerabilities, and so they are much more likely to use some form of protection such as anti-virus software. Windows users also typically update their software when an update is released by Microsoft; they know updates mean that vulnerabilities may have been found, and it is safer to update than be exposed. Those using Mac OS have, perhaps, been lulled into a false sense of security. Mac OS users think their systems are somehow inherently "secure" and hence they are less likely to update as frequently as Windows users, or to use tools such as anti-virus software. A Mac OS user is less likely to be attacked than a Windows user, but that is nothing to do with the level of vulnerability in the operating system. It has everything to do with the fact that over 80% of the personal computers in use run the Microsoft Windows operating system. Those building malware would rather attack the vast majority of the users. ... What is now catching up with Mac OS users is that their platform of choice is now becoming popular enough to be considered worthy of hackers' efforts. ... Mac OS users may be "safer" than Windows users, simply because they have fewer attacks focused on their systems, but they are not more "secure..."

<http://nakedsecurity.sophos.com/2012/04/10/macsafer-than-pcs/>

PCV CORNER

DAR NEWS

By Brandi Helm (CHED 10), QN DAR Rep



In Ha Sekake I have struggled finding new and innovative ways to keep my kids interested in learning about and discussing HIV. I am sure that many of you have shared in this struggle as well. Last month I came across a website created in South Africa called Love Life that my students have enjoyed. It is a bright, fun and incredibly informative site all about HIV and sexual health.

Love Life can be found at:

<http://www.lovelife.org.za/youth/>

Here are some of the features you can find on the site:

Link to Uncut Online: South Africa's Biggest Youth Magazine

LoveFacts: Covers topics such as the risk of HIV infection, getting tested, ARVs, prevention, living positively, building self-esteem, growing up, building healthy relationships, knowing your rights, no means no, condoms and contraception, sex for

money, STDs and drugs and alcohol

MizzB: A place where teens can ask questions and read the answers to others' questions in the areas of sexual health, relationships, puberty and growing up, family issues, drugs and alcohol and living positively.

LoveTalk: An online discussion board covering a variety of relationship topics

Heroes: Stories of young people across South Africa that are acting as change activists in their schools, communities and country. They are making their move by taking small steps every day to make big changes.

Fun and Games: Interactive games and quizzes on topics from self-esteem to condoms.

Even if your students do not have access to the Internet, this site is a great resource for PCVs. You can share the quizzes, stories and facts with your students in the classroom or one-on-one. The discussion board and MizzB page can give you great ideas for group discussions or debate topics.

Lastly, Love Life has also has a section for parents on ways to talk to their children about sexual topics. There is a publication with a wealth of great tips and information for adults called Love Them Enough to Talk about Sex. Here is the link:

<http://www.lovelife.org.za/research/loveLife%20Booklet.pdf>

Recovering Lesotho's Past By Danielle Sanni (CHED 10)



Archeologists are unearthing some amazing artifacts on the Berea Plateau! An hour trek from my village led me and Zenon high schools students to a cave on the other side of the Puthiatsana River. There a team of seven is working to recover some of Lesotho's past before the completion of the Metolong Dam. The Metolong Authority recognizes the importance of preserving the country's heritage before the expected completion of the dam in 2013. All team members enthusiastically encourage schools, as well as village members, to visit their excavation sites. Our guide Lineo is one of a few female archeologists in Lesotho and since 2010, has worked on tracing 29 rock art sites on the Berea Plateau. Shortly, archeologists will be headed to the southern districts. Visiting these sites can be a great school trip or youth group activity. To request more information contact: lesothoheritage@gmail.com.



KATHY'S SITE VISITS IN QACHA'S NEK



CHED 10 Benja Davies and 'me Itumeleng at support group's chicken house under construction.



CHED 11 Shane McFarland, his supervisor and 'me Itumeleng at Snake Park in QN.



'me Itumeleng and ED 12 Norma Lynn Hood.



CHED 11 Tommy Good and 'me Itumeleng.



'me Itumeleng, ED 12 Shanelle France and neighbors.



ED 12 Peggy Kang and 'me Itumeleng.



CHED 11 Carol McFarland measuring a child's arm circumference at WFP feeding site.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PEACE CORPS WORLD

Gallery Project

By Jessica Wuyek, Peace Corps Volunteer, Republic of Moldova

Dear Prospective Participants:

Thank you for your interest in the Sharing Spaces community gallery project. The idea for the Sharing Spaces project was inspired by my role as a Peace Corps volunteer and my involvement in the Paul D. Coverdell Worldwide Schools-Correspondence Match program. The program matches U.S. classrooms to Peace Corps volunteers in order to expose students to culture and the volunteer experience itself. In an effort to expose my matched classroom to international communities on a more personal level, I designed this contest based on the American Planning Association's Kids & Community City Gallery activity.

Sharing Spaces is designed to encourage youth to explore their communities through an artistic lens in order to identify strengths and weaknesses that they otherwise overlook or fail to appreciate. Project participants will examine their communities and select one 'Great Place' and one 'Lousy Place' to be drawn, painted, or photographed.

In addition to analysis of their own communities, Sharing Spaces will allow youth to review a gallery of submissions from a community in each of the 50 states as well as 50 other countries. Sharing Spaces aims to expand perceptions of community structures and offer youth inspiration to improve and maintain their own communities.

Contest registration forms may be obtained on the website or by email. For more details and contest rules, please visit the Sharing Spaces website (www.wix.com/sharingspaces2012/pc) or contact me at sharingspaces2012@gmail.com.

Thank you, and I look forward to getting to know your community!

Sincerely,

Jessica Wuyek
Community & Organizational Development Advisor

Community Participation Registration:

Please provide the details to the information requested below in an email to sharingspaces2012@gmail.com.

Contest Coordinator Information

Name:

Age:

Occupation:

Telephone number:

Email address:

Community information

Organization name:

Community name:

City:

U.S. state (if applicable):

Country:

Expected number of participants:

Expected age group of participants:

Please provide a community biography. This information will be published on the Sharing Spaces website in order to introduce other participating communities and the general public to your community. Some details you may want to include are history,

climate, architectural style, cultural beliefs and characteristics, economy, demographics, crime, government, education, sports. Please include enough detail to thoroughly introduce someone to your community. Please be sure to also tell us about your group of youth. Describe why your group wanted to participate and what they're hoping to gain from the experience. Describe the backgrounds and lifestyle of the youth in your group.

Peace Corps Volunteers Celebrate Global Youth Service Day

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 20, 2012 – Peace Corps volunteers worldwide commemorate Global Youth Service Day by working with children, youth and young adults to be more active citizens in their communities. This year, many volunteers are using Global Youth Service Day activities to promote environmental awareness on Earth Day.

Observed April 20 to 22, Global Youth Service Day provides volunteers with an opportunity to engage youth and local community members in long-term service projects. For more than 10 years, Peace Corps volunteers and their community partners have celebrated Global Youth Service Day and Earth Day through various activities.

Throughout the year, Peace Corps volunteers work with youth to foster skills for transitioning from school to work, and becoming engaged in their communities. Volunteers also develop extracurricular activities that help local youth build confidence and develop decision-making, communication and leadership skills that promote positive relationships with peers, parents and adults.

Five percent of Peace Corps volunteers work in the youth in community development sector as their primary assignment, while another 40 percent of volunteers work in the education sector.

Examples of Peace Corps Youth Projects:

Costa Rica: Peace Corps volunteers Kevin Klott and Megon Coon of Anchorage, Alaska, organized a four-day cross cultural home stay in their rural Costa Rican village for 12 8th-grade students from North Carolina. Each visiting student was matched with a Costa Rican host family and contributed to everyday household chores and events. The students also participated in cross cultural activities, such as reading to students in Spanish, eating traditional Costa Rican foods, learning traditional dances, and discussing different customs and traditions found in the United States. Additionally, the students built a trail system behind the village elementary school which is now utilized by local students, teachers and community members on a daily basis.

"During the exchange, the students and community members gained invaluable cultural insight and formed relationships that help shape the way they see the world," said Klott, a graduate of The University of Alaska Anchorage.

Morocco: Peace Corps volunteer Josef Saei of Knoxville, Tenn., helped facilitate a month-long series of youth-led workshops on painting, theater, dance and music for 75 youth in his South-eastern Moroccan village. The series took place at the local youth center and was organized, monitored and implemented by Saei and a team of 15 local high school students. During the last weekend of the series, the participants put on a final presentation for their families and community members to showcase the new skills learned throughout the month.

"During the final presentation, the youth were able to celebrate their accomplishments and demonstrate how creative they can be when given the chance to express themselves," said Saei, a graduate of College of Charleston.