

NPCA Group/Regional Advocacy Coordinator

Introduction

To strengthen Peace Corps community impact on matters of public policy and grassroots citizen lobbying, the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) seeks interested volunteer Advocacy Coordinators to serve as a liaison with NPCA's Advocacy Program staff in Washington D.C. Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) or former Peace Corps staff are preferred. However, others with strong interest in advocacy who have an understanding of the NPCA and passion for the Peace Corps and its mission will also be considered.

Overview

Based on capacity and circumstance, Advocacy Coordinators will be assigned on a city, state or regional basis. They will have an identified coverage area for their work with congressional districts for which they are responsible. Where applicable, coordinators will be a liaison with NPCA affiliate groups in their coverage area.

Minimal Expectations

With the understanding that this is a volunteer position, it is our hope that Advocacy Coordinators can meet the following expectations:

- Make a minimum two-year commitment to the position.
- Join monthly national conference calls (or listen to recordings of these calls).
- Assist NPCA with advocacy mobilization and activity at least twice a year, including the annual National Days of Action in Support of the Peace Corps, held each March.
- Take action and share information in conjunction with NPCA action alerts.
- Be familiar with NPCA advocacy initiatives and priorities, and be knowledgeable of key NPCA advocacy resources, including NPCA's electronic letter writing action center and NPCA's state resources page.

Other Opportunities

Beyond the expectations outlined above, NPCA Advocacy Coordinators can also play a key role in our movement through any of the following activities (assisting in at least one of the following tasks is encouraged).

- Assist NPCA during critically important advocacy fundraising initiatives.
- Assist NPCA in building 3 – 6 member grassroots Peace Corps advocacy teams in every congressional district.
- Assist NPCA in building 3 – 6 member grassroots NPCA Advocacy Advisory Councils in each state.

- Organize/conduct an NPCA advocacy training or other promotional/introductory event in your region.
- Conduct at least one attempt for earned media in your region (e.g., television interview, letter-to-the-editor, etc.).
- Assist NPCA with state or local public policy issues (e.g., Peace Corps resolutions, state retirement credit legislation).

Skills/Attributes

- A good working knowledge of Capitol Hill and citizen lobbying is highly desired, but not mandatory.
- Community organizing and outreach skills are very important to help build our advocacy network.
- Strong communications and interpersonal skills are critical in conveying NPCA issues and talking points to members of the Peace Corps community and Congress.
- An ability to listen and engage in dialogue with others who share differing views is essential.
- Strong social media skills.
- Because the NPCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, coordinators understand and adhere to the non-partisan nature of NPCA advocacy, and is prepared to reach out to all policy makers - regardless of party affiliation - with respect and anticipation that all policy makers have the potential to be supporters of a strong, vibrant and improved Peace Corps.