

From: Anne Baker groups@peacecorpsconnect.org
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National
Peace Corps
Association

Affiliate
Group News

Dear Affiliate Group Leaders,

On behalf of our team at NPCA, thank you all for your leadership and engagement with the Peace Corps community. It's exciting to see some groups starting up again with some in-person activities. As always, please keep us posted (via groups@peacecorpsconnect.org) and let us know how we can best support you.

Hannah Wishart has been a strong voice and stalwart in her efforts as the Affiliate Group Network Coordinator on the NPCA Board of Directors for the past year. Unfortunately, she has resigned from the NPCA Board and that AGN-C role. We will miss her contributions and commitment to NPCA and returned Volunteers around the country. We wish her good luck and happiness in her new endeavors. **We are actively seeking candidates to run for the Affiliate Group Network Coordinator role** in the next election cycle. Read below for more details on that process.

As in each month's Affiliate Group News, we have some announcements for the broader community — including a number directly from other affiliate groups. Encourage your members to help us **tell the world about the impact of Peace Corps service** [through our survey](#). Collaborate with other groups, build member engagement, and address issues in a meaningful way through a **new role on your leadership team: Social Action Liaison**. And expand your collaboration and networking at the informal **Affiliate Group Networking Hours**, moving this month to Thursdays at 6 pm Eastern. [Register online to](#)

[get the Zoom link.](#)

Read on, and visit our [Affiliate Group News](#) page for other important updates. Thank you for all you do for and with the Peace Corps community!

In Service,



Anne Baker
NPCA Vice President

NPCA News and Resources

Serve your Community as the Affiliate Group Network Coordinator

The NPCA Board of Directors is **seeking nominations for the Affiliate Group Network Coordinator**. This role brings a crucial voice to the NPCA Board and strengthens the collaborative efforts of the affiliate group community. Among key responsibilities: Preside at meetings of the Affiliate Group Network; appoint members of the AGN Advisory Committee; facilitate communication between the AGN and the Board; and serve on the Executive Committee of the Board.

Know a good potential candidate? The first step is to **submit a non-binding Expression of Interest**. Candidates will be contacted by Governance Chair Chip Levingood to schedule a conversation, highlight next steps, and explore the best fit for NPCA Board service. Following this step, candidates interested in pursuing Board service as the AGN Coordinator will need to complete a formal nomination. Elections (exact dates TBD) will be held in early 2022. Thanks for helping to identify worthy candidates for this most important position. [Learn more and express interest.](#)

Add a Social Action Liaison to your Leadership Team

National Peace Corps Association supports a vibrant Peace Corps community of affiliate groups whose key priorities include global issues and social causes. This community increasingly advocates for expanded inter-group collaboration to build member engagement and to address issues in a meaningful way. At the request of affiliate groups, **we encourage groups to consider a new role on your leadership team: Social Action Liaison.** The Social Action Liaison will:

- Serve as the point of contact for other affiliate groups
- Actively evaluate possible areas for collaboration with other groups, especially as it relates to social causes
- Attend, as possible, networking events or forums with other affiliate group leaders
- Poll group members on issues they might want to pursue as a group and provide information about cause-related affiliate groups in membership meetings
- Assist in elevating the message of other affiliate groups to the broader Peace Corps community through various social media platforms, newsletters, etc.
- Connect your members with opportunities to act — letter writing, advocacy, volunteering, and more
- Highlight calls to action on key legislation and other advocacy initiatives with members

This is a position that can help a broader array of group members get involved. One suggestion: An individual could serve as liaison to more than just one social action group.

Interested? Here are some connections to get you started:

- NPCA Advocacy program: [Jonathan Pearson](#)

- **Peace Corps Community for Refugees** is urgently seeking liaisons in over half of U.S. states to assist with the Afghan refugees: [Don Drach](#)
 - **RPCVs for Environmental Action:** [Kate Schachter](#)
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Affiliate Group Quarterly Meeting Highlights

Thank you to all **Workplace Affinity Groups** who were able to join our quarterly meeting on November 4. Here are a few highlights of the great work WAGs are doing:

- Regular “Lunch & Learns” for members and agency employees
- Inter-agency networking events
- DE&I efforts, including trainings
- Language learning clubs
- Regional liaisons
- Promotion of RPCV hiring and understanding of Non-Competitive Eligibility

Be sure to [join the next WAGs meeting](#) on **Wednesday, January 12** to discuss plans for Peace Corps Week!

Thank you **U.S. Geographic Groups** for joining the quarterly meeting on October 18. Make sure to join the next quarterly meeting on **Tuesday, January 18 at 8:00 pm Eastern** to discuss how your group might address diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) in your community. [Click here](#) to register to receive the Zoom information. We hope to see you there!

Want to engage in quarterly meetings with other affiliate groups like yours? Email us at groups@peacecorpsconnect.org to get started!

New Day, New Time, New Name: Affiliate Group Leaders Networking Hour

Starting this week, we have a new day, new time, and new name for the weekly gathering of Affiliate Group leaders. Introducing the **Affiliate Group Leaders Networking Hour on Thursday, November 18 at 6:00 pm Eastern**. We hope to see some new faces who couldn't make it to previous meetings when we hosted Friday Leaders Lunches. These discussions are fairly informal and are a place to share ideas and opportunities for increased coordination between groups. NPCA staff members will be on hand to listen in and facilitate discussion. We hope that at least one member of each group's leadership team will be able to join each week. [Register here](#) for the next networking hour on Thursday, November 18. **NOTE: We will not be meeting on Thursday, November 25.**

December 8: Ethical Storytelling Workshop with Peace Corps



Peace Corps invites representatives from NPCA affiliate groups to participate in a **90-minute workshop on Peace Corps' approach to ethical storytelling on Wednesday, December 8 at 8:30 pm Eastern**. This workshop is a critical step in development of a toolkit to be shared with the Peace Corps community on or around Peace Corps Week in March 2022. Attendees are asked to be active and engaged participants and offer feedback via a survey following the workshop. Help shape a toolkit that fosters increasingly intentional choices about how, when, and why stories are told — and nurtures narratives that are inclusive of multiple viewpoints and experiences. We ask that each affiliate group submit the names of no more than two group members who are available and interested in participating to [Laura Loveland](#) no later than

November 29. Include the name of your affiliate group as well as the full names, email addresses, countries, and years of service for all participants. Note that capacity for this workshop is limited and attendees will be accepted in the order responses are received. For those who respond after event capacity is reached, we will make every effort to accommodate you in a future session.

News for Your Members — Please Share!

[**Returned Volunteer Survey: Help Us Tell the World About the Impact of Peace Corps Service in Your Life**](#)



Sixty years ago, in convincing a skeptical Congress of the value of the Peace Corps, President Kennedy stated that Peace Corps would not only share the talents of its Volunteers within their countries of service and work to build peace and friendship abroad, but that Returned Peace Corps Volunteers would unequivocally provide a significant dividend to the United States. Although anecdotal evidence exists of that dividend, there has never been an empirical study to determine the extent to which the Peace Corps experience has made a difference in the lives of returned Volunteers and in our country. Take part in a survey of returned Volunteers and help others understand that impact as never

before. **EXTENDED DEADLINE: December 1.**

Please encourage your Affiliate Group members to [take the survey!](#)

Affiliate Group News and Collaborations

Calling Past Peace Corps Post Groups: Peace Corps Iran Association Wants to Talk to You



Peace Corps Iran Association has formed a task force to plan for our future. Volunteers served in Iran from 1962 to 1976, and while decades have passed since that time, our mission to foster understanding between Americans and Iranians is crucial. We are exploring a number of options for the years to come. As part of this process we would like to talk to other affiliate groups representing countries where Peace Corps is unlikely to return. If interested, please contact PCIA President [Jeanette Gottlieb](#).

RPCV Madison Small Grants Program: Apply Now





Do you need up to \$500 to promote global understanding? The **Global Diversity Mini Grants help educators and community leaders** create projects that facilitate appreciation of the similarities and diversity of the global cultures. The Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin-Madison are dispersing funds from the sale of the *WE ALL* posters. (In case you were wondering, no remaining posters are for sale!) The next Global Diversity Mini Grants **application deadline is December 1 at midnight Central**. Here's the simple [Education Grant application form](#). Questions? Contact [Char Thompson](#).

November 23 | Join RPCVs for Environmental Action for a Session on Writing Letters to the Editor that Actually Get Published

The Build Back Better Act is our greatest opportunity to pass effective climate policy. After months of writing newspapers voicing support for carbon pricing in the budget resolution, we hope to see it pass. In our November Letter to the Editor Meeting on **Tuesday, November 23 at 8:00 pm Eastern**, we will once again write letters in support of carbon pricing to get it over the finish line. Don't forget that these meetings are beneficial to everyone, even if you aren't particularly interested in climate change. [Register here](#) to receive Zoom information.



Sacramento Valley RPCVs Launches New Website



Now celebrating a new group launch on our community builder platform: welcome



Welcome Sacramento Valley Returned Peace Corps Volunteers!

to Sacramento Valley RPCVs! SVRPCVs envisions a welcoming and understanding home for the greater Peace Corps community through their shared values of support, connection, global mindedness, and service. [Learn more \(and join!\).](#)

Reminders

- November 18: [Affiliate Group Leaders Networking Hour](#) (Note new day, new name, new time!)
- November 18: [Global Allies Program Global Policy Forum](#)
- November 23: [RPCV4EA LTE Team Meeting](#)
- November 29: [Peace Corps Community Connect Leaders Meeting](#)
- December 2: [Affiliate Group Leaders Networking Hour](#)
- December 9: [Global Allies Program Monthly Meeting](#)
- December 20: [Peace Corps Community Connect Leaders Meeting](#)
- January 12: [Quarterly WAGs meeting](#)
- January 18: [Quarterly U.S. Geographic Groups Meeting](#)

Action Items

- Cause-related group presentations to engage your members:
 - [Peace Corps Community for Refugees and Friends of Afghanistan](#)
 - [RPCVs for Environmental Action](#)
 - [Global Allies Program: Partners Ending Poverty with RESULTS](#)
 - [Partnering for Peace: Friends of Peace Corps and Rotary](#)
 - [RPCV Oral History Archive Project](#)
- Submit your [2021 Group Reaffiliation](#).
- Host a screening of [A Towering Task: The Story of the Peace Corps](#).
- Add your [NPCA Board Divisional Director](#) to your email list.
- Update or add [group leaders](#) to your directory page.
- Looking for capacity-building resources? Check out our [Affiliate Group Resource Library](#) and [webinar recordings](#).

- “Peace Corps Connect to the Future” — Read the full report [here](#) and listen to the [podcast](#).
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Thank you to our donors!

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of our community. We're grateful to the following affiliate groups who contributed to Community Fund projects and NPCA programs supporting our community.

- **RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison:** TCP Global

Every gift makes a difference — no matter the size. Especially now.

[Make a Gift](#)

Email us at groups@peacecorpsconnect.org if you need anything.

National Peace Corps Association

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www.peacecorpsconnect.org

Have you recently moved? Make sure we can connect you to our community's news and events by [managing your profile](#).

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