



Connecticut RPCV E-News

President: Terese Maineri-tmaineri@yahoo.com

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For the latest CTRPCV e-news - <http://www.ctrpcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/CTRPCV0914.pdf>

All membership, donation, activity announcements, Peace Corps stories, and correspondence may also be sent to **CTRPCV, P.O. Box 1803, Hartford, CT 06144.**

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Some Upcoming CTRPCV Events:

Saturday
Sept.13th

CTRPCV Annual Potluck Dinner
In Rockfall @ CT Forests & Parks Bldg.

- Board Meeting (2 PM)
 - All are WELCOME
- Optional hike on marked trails (4 PM)
- Potluck Dinner (5:30 PM)
- Presentation by Elizabeth Toomey
 - Built a bridge in Madagascar using a CTRPCV Community Service Grant

Advocacy

Have you paid your annual dues? You support helps us stay connected!

[Click here to join or pay your membership fees!](#)

Stay connected through our Peace Corps links - just click below!

[CT RPCV Website](#)

[National Peace Corps Association](#)

Stay connected to our national community and representation in

Monday, September 22nd

Peace Corps Happy Hour in Hartford,

7pm at [City Steam Brewery](#), 942 Main Street, Hartford.



CTRPCV POTLUCK DINNER

- ✓ Open board meeting
- ✓ Hike in the woods

CTRPCV Annual Potluck Dinner

Saturday, September 13 at 5:30 PM

at CT Forest and Parks Bldg. in Rockfall

- **Our Board Meeting** that is open to everyone will be held at **2 PM** in the same room as the potluck dinner. New ideas are always welcome!
- We are also planning a **hike from 4 - 5:30 PM**. The woods surrounding the CT Forest & Parks building where we meet has marked trails that are open to the public. So we would like to take advantage of that opportunity.
- Anyone interested in being with Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and hearing our Peace

Washington!

[Peace Corps Website](#)

The Mother Ship – full of information for RPCVs from how to spread the word to finding great job opportunities!

Contact Us

<http://www.ctrpcv.org>

ctrpcv@gmail.com

Other links of interest :

[Peace Corps Online](#)

[The Independent News Forum](#)

Corps stories is welcome to attend our events!!!

❖ **Elizabeth Toomey** will share with us photos that document her use of the CTRPCV Community Service Grant that she received while she was a **PCV in Madagascar**. A few of us have seen her presentation... you're going to love it!

❖ Come share some RPCV food at our annual potluck dinner.

- Meet & Greet 5:30 – 6 PM.
- Dinner will start at 6 PM.

What to bring:

Food for 6 to share according to the first letter of your last name:

- A-H: main dish for 6 people
- I-S: dessert for 6 people
- T-Z: side dish or salad for 6 people

❖ A **raffle item** or two (optional) - the perfect opportunity to regift!

❖ All the proceeds from the Instant Raffle go into our CTRPCV Community Service Grant Fund.

- Just look around your house...you probably have something that someone else would love. Perhaps you have something special from your country of service! A plant, a cake, a bottle of wine... you name it...

Where:

CT Forest and Park Association Building
16 Meriden Road, Rockfall, CT 06481
...between Meriden & Middletown on Rt. 66

Connecticut Forest & Park Association headquarters is located in the middle of Connecticut on Route 66 between Meriden and Middletown. It is a spacious room with all the tables and chairs that we could possibly want. There are large windows to let in sunlight.

We will meet on the first floor that is on ground level that makes it easy to get into the building because there are no stairs. There is a full kitchen and a bathroom for us to use. Maureen will stay in the room to accept food and raffle items since she cannot hike. Yes, her broken is healing... but hiking is not her best activity right now.

serving Returned

Peace Corps

Volunteers

[PC Online](#)

[Crossroads](#)

Links to every

Peace Corp website

you can think of!

Annual Potluck Directions...

Connecticut Forest and Parks Association <http://www.ctwoodlands.org/> (860) 346-2372]

Take I-84 to I-691 which becomes CT-Rt. 66. Coming from the Waterbury, drive approximately 4 mi. on Rt. 66 , CFPA will be on your left. It's just after the 4th stop light. Once you pass a used car lot that was a Citgo gas station, it will be the next driveway on the left. The driveway is hard to see at night.

An invitation from [Kathryn Fidler\[kfidler@peacecorps.gov\]](mailto:kfidler@peacecorps.gov) to a Peace Corps Happy Hour in Hartford:

Monday, September 22nd, 7pm at [City Steam Brewery](#), 942 Main Street, Hartford.

“Hello RPCVs,

I hope all of you are well, it was great seeing you at the potluck a few weeks ago! I have an exciting announcement that I was hoping you could send out to the group:

The Peace Corps Northeast Regional Office is expanding our recruitment this year, and we are pleased to welcome Kate Schedel to our team as the Field Based Recruiter based in Springfield, MA. Kate served as a Health volunteer in Albania, and will be recruiting in Western Massachusetts and Central Connecticut. Starting this fall, Kate will be taking over recruitment in the Hartford area from Kathy Fidler (Kathy will remain the recruiter at UConn and in Eastern Connecticut, and Shannon McBride will continue to recruit in the New Haven area). Kate and Kathy will be in Hartford on **Monday, September 22nd**, and would like to invite any members of the group who are free that evening to join us for Happy Hour at **7pm** at [City Steam Brewery](#), 942 Main Street, Hartford. Come meet us for a drink or snack and get to know Kate. We look forward to seeing you there!

(*all attendees must be over 21, and are responsible for purchasing their own food and drinks at the event)

Thanks,

Kathy”

CTRPCV ANNUAL SUMMER Picnic 2014!!!

'Twas an afternoon of fun in the sun for Connecticut RPCV's!





What: Potluck style picnic near the beach

When: Noon - 3pm, Saturday, August 2nd

Much Thanks to Joan & Jeff Leonard

**Do you have another Event
or a Community Service Project
that may be of interest to CTRPCVs?**

Please email David Stoloff [eNewsletter editor, stoloffd@easternct.edu]
to let him know about your project.

MEET AND GREET FELLOW RPCVS

- Create a NIGHT OUT with CTRPCVs that can be as simple as “Lets meet at [your favorite bar or restaurant].
- Host a POTLUCK DINNER and get to know more CTRPCVs.

Are you involved in a Community Service Project that could use some helping hands?

Let David Stoloff (stoloffd@easternct.edu) know and we can let other CTRPCV members know the details.

**PCV Isabel Bauerlein in Nicaragua
received a CTRPCV Community Service Grant**

Dear Connecticut Returned Peace Corps Volunteers,

I would like to give you all great big hugs in person, but seeing as though I'm in the middle of the Nicaraguan jungle, an email to show my gratitude will have to suffice.

Thank you so much for your incredibly generous donation to my Peace Corps Partnership Project to start a community English learning center. The donation from CT RPCVs made a huge difference and helped us get the funds quickly.

My community and I are so excited to begin work on the building renovations, making the furniture, transporting the thousands of donated books to Nueva Guinea and starting to organize the library. We are thrilled to connect teachers to teaching materials, students to practice materials, and community members to opportunities to learn English. The lending library will also work to help cultivate a culture of reading here. We are excited to meet the community's interests and needs and to empower local community members to learn and teach English. I'm confident this project will greatly help the people of Nueva Guinea grow in their educational and professional opportunities.

Without your help and support, this project would not have been possible. Thank you so much.

Abrazos,

Isabel Bauerlein



Nominations open for the Harris Wofford Global Citizen Award - deadline October 31

The National Peace Corps Association's Harris Wofford Global Citizen Award is named for the former U.S. Senator and special assistant to U.S. President John F. Kennedy who was instrumental in the formation of the Peace Corps. It is given annually to an outstanding global leader who grew up and continues to live in a country where Peace Corps Volunteers served and whose life was influenced by the Peace Corps. We invite NPCA member groups to identify and nominate candidates for this award.

Past winners of this award are:

- 2011 - Atiku Abubakar of Nigeria
- 2013 - Dr. Mohamud Sheikh Nurein Said of Kenya
- 2014 - Dr. Surin Pitsuwan of Thailand

While nominations are accepted year-round, to be considered for the 2015 award, all nomination materials must be received by October 31. Please visit

<http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/about/awards/> - for nomination instructions and to learn about the past winners.

NEW! Education Small Grants

We are pleased to announce a new small grants program for members and member groups with grants of up to \$500 awarded quarterly to fund community projects/events that promote Peace Corps' Third Goal. This goal is to "strengthen Americans' understanding about the world and its peoples" by way of

returned and current volunteers, as well as friends of the Peace Corps, sharing their Peace Corps experience and host country culture. These grants are intended to educate Americans about other peoples and countries of the world. The project must be short term (less than one month) and of a local scope and scale. Projects will engage with local schools, libraries, and/or community organizations.

Applications and supporting materials will be accepted on a rolling basis. Applications will be reviewed and awarded quarterly. Learn more and download the application from

<http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/resources/education/> .

Communicate with your representative to the NPCA Board of Directors

To facilitate your communication with the NPCA Director elected to represent your region on the NPCA Board of Directors, we established permanent emails as follows

Northeast: NPCANortheast@peacecorpsconnect.org (Teresa Devore)



See the latest news at

<http://www.mailoutinteractive.com/Industry/View.aspx?id=605567&q=775353531&qz=b3add0>

Sherry Anderson, RPCV, Panama 2000-2002 announces this volunteer opportunity - no payment would be received:

"Last September, I trained in the internship at CTV-21 in Newtown, Charter Communications cable community access television with Max Arzu, among others.

Max has developed a 30 minute career development show in which he interviews guests from different parts of Connecticut about their careers. The main goal of the show is to make sure that viewers are getting the best information possible to assist them in what steps to take to be successful in their chosen career path. The show is for all audiences, but is mainly directed towards H.S. and college students. So far he has had a basketball coach, a social worker, and an illustrator (painter) for children's books. It would be great to have someone (or two people) in a career post Peace Corp to talk about his or her experiences in the PC and then getting into his or her career. Max's next show will be taped in July, but he will be doing one about once a month. If anyone is interested, they can reference my name (I'm usually graphics person on his show) and email Max at max_arzu@yahoo.com or call him at 203 437 2295. The taping is done in the CTV-21 studio in Newtown off Exit 10 of I-84.

Also, as a separate program, I am planning on producing a show interviewing a small panel of RPCV's demonstrating our diversity and discussing our experiences. This would either be 30 or 60 minutes. If anyone is interested in the panel program or has questions about it, please email me at Lillysail@yahoo.com with your age group, ethnic group, and country. This will be an informative and fun experience for all. I have no particular date in mind at this time. Maybe in the fall, depending on the participants.

Thank you for your interest in our Third Goal."

THE MRZU SHOW

An opportunity from [Hesperian Health Guides](#)

Peace Corps Volunteers and RPCVs tell wonderful stories about how [Where There Is No Doctor](#) and other Hesperian books have helped them handle emergencies, promote health, help their host families, or care for their own health during their time in the Peace Corps. Whether *Where There Is No Doctor* was your go-to health reference or just your bedtime reading, every story you share helps us develop books and resources that better meet the needs of Peace Corps host communities and Volunteers.

[Send us](#) your story about using Hesperian books during your time in the Peace Corps, and be entered to win a Hesperian library for your host community. Humor, heroism, hysteria, hypochondria - we want to hear it! Include in your submission the name of the country, region and village where you worked and how you used *Where There Is No Doctor* or other Hesperian book. You'll get bonus points if you include a photo or video. **The three Peace Corps Volunteers or RPCVs who submit the best stories will win a complete library of Hesperian publications, to be designated to their host community.**

So write a few paragraphs and send them to us by **September 30th**. Your participation will help extend the impact of these books and Peace Corps Volunteers for a new generation. Send your story to Lizzie LaCroix at rpcv@hesperian.org.

Please help us spread the word to other RPCVs! Share this email and join "[Friends of Where There Is No Doctor](#)" on Facebook to stay connected with other RPCVs dedicated to global community health issues. [Hesperian Health Guides](#) is a small nonprofit organization and depends on your support to keep our books updated and translated. Please consider [purchasing](#) a book or making a [donation](#) today.



PEACE CORPS
from the Director

Monday, July 28, 2014

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Dear Peace Corps Family:

As you probably know, The New York Times has just published a story on the tragic death of Nick Castle, a Volunteer in China who died in February 2013. As the person whose responsibility it is to notify a fallen Volunteer's family with news that I know will forever change their lives, I can assure you that I experience deep grief with every Volunteer we lose—just as we mourn for every volunteer who is injured or sick while serving in the Peace Corps. The loss of a Volunteer is a tragic event for the entire Peace Corps family—from that person's fellow Volunteers, to their Peace Corps staff, to their host and home communities, to Volunteers and RPCVs across the globe. I want to assure you that as part of our commitment to honor the memory of those we have lost, including Nick, we are dedicated to doing everything we can, every single day, to protect your health, safety and security.

Before I go any further, I want to thank you for your service. I have traveled extensively in the past four years to more than 30 states, and feel so fortunate to have met many of you. I am inspired by your stories of Peace Corps service and the work that you continue to do back home in advancing the Third Goal. You are heroes, every one of you, for you have all chosen to take the

path less traveled to serve in areas of great need—and great potential—and in so doing, you have shown your host communities our country's very best. We all know that we get more than we give through the Peace Corps experience. But you have given, and continue to give, so much. I am inspired by you every day.

But our good work does not come without cost. And it is not news to you that operating in the environments in which we serve can be difficult and poses risks. If it were easy, we wouldn't be there. The vast majority of our Volunteers have safe, healthy, and productive volunteer experiences that they cherish for the rest of their lives. But we have not been immune to tragedy over the years. We are glad that the number of Volunteers who die in service has dropped dramatically since the beginning of Peace Corps. Throughout our history, the number of Volunteers who have died in service is less than two-tenths of one percent. But even one death is too many. Each of our losses is personal—he or she is someone's daughter or son, mother or father, brother or sister, friend or loved one.

We have been working very hard for the past four years to improve the quality of our support to Volunteers, particularly in the areas of health care, safety and security, and programming and training. If you aren't aware of all the things we have done to improve the quality of our support to Volunteers, I encourage you to read about the reforms at [peacecorps.gov](https://www.peacecorps.gov).

Nothing is more important to the Peace Corps than our Volunteers, and though we can never fully overcome the fundamental challenges of operating abroad, we will never stop pushing the limit to try. We are a vibrant and caring agency. We represent the commitment of nearly a quarter of a million Americans who have served since 1961 and the thousands serving today. The legacy of your compassion and committed service is our strength. We will work through this as we always have, as a family.

Thank you for your service, for your commitment to our mission, and for representing us so well in communities across our nation.

Warm regards,

Carie Hesch Radelet

Director
Peace Corps



From

www.peacecorps.gov/thirdgoal

Peace Corps Office of Third Goal and Returned Volunteer Services
1111 20th St NW
Washington, DC 20526

We have two reasons for reaching out to you today. First is to say **thank you** for all you do to share your

Peace Corps experience with others here in the U.S. Whether you've been back weeks, years, or decades, you are integral to achieving Peace Corps' Third Goal of creating a better understanding of other peoples on behalf of Americans.

Second, we're asking for **60 seconds** of your time. Each year, we report to Congress and other stakeholders on the number of RPCVs who are involved in Third Goal activities, and we gather this through the Third Goal activities that RPCVs register on our website. We know this doesn't come close to getting a true picture as most of the great work you do happens without us ever knowing about it. However, if you have completed a Third Goal activity since September 2013 and have not yet registered it, **please do so today at this [link](#)** -

<https://www.peacecorps.gov/resources/returned/thirdgoal/register/?from=rsb> .

You can also register an upcoming activity there, and we'll send you free Peace Corps materials to support your efforts.

On a related note, we are looking to spotlight RPCVs who demonstrate the continued impact RPCVs have long after their service. If you would like to be considered for such a feature or if you have a great Third Goal activity/event we can spotlight, please contact us at thirdgoal@peacecorps.gov.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

The Office of Third Goal and Returned Volunteer Services Team

CTRPCV needs more PAID MEMBERS

You are one of over 400 returned Peace Corps volunteers and/or friends of the Peace Corps who are receiving this e-newsletter. The Connecticut RPCV has about 85 dues paying members.

If you are interested in participating in the above CTRPCV events, please also consider joining our group. [Please click here to join and/or pay your annual membership fees!](#)

Please also consider joining the **Connecticut Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Facebook group** at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/37593849149/>.

Help Wanted at CTRPCV:

- **FILLED>>>** We need a **SECRETARY** to take notes at our board meetings that occur 3 to 4 times a year.
- **FILLED>>>** We need someone who will be our **CALENDER poster** who will update our CTRPCV calendar, post our events on the NPCA website, and just get our info about events “out there”.
- **Connect RPCVs with requests for speakers.** We get about 3- 6 requests a year.
- **Fundraiser-** we need to think of ways to replenish the funds for our CTRPCV Community Service Fund. We can think big& small... all ideas are welcome.
- **Restaurant/Potluck/Friday Night Out... Coordinator...**

Basically someone who is interested in hosting one of these events contacts you and you share “The Plan” that CTRPCV has developed to help them organize their event.

JOBS ARE BEING FILLED 😊

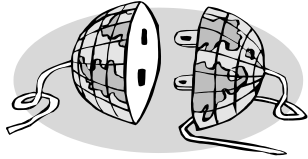
- **Jonathan Rosario** is connecting CTRPCV members through the social media on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.
- **Carmen Britton** is our new secretary.
- **Dan Rosanno** is our new membership chair.
- **Doug Latham** is our member-at-large and he will also assist with the membership.
- **Elizabeth Toomey** will be our calendar updater and will post information on appropriate websites.

WHY someone should **join** CTRPCV.

We need to create a list of **benefits** when one is a member of CTRPCV or a few reasons why we should be members of CTRPCV.

- a chance to break bread with people who are not only like you, but also LIKE you.
- connect with an RPCV who might just be your neighbor!
- ability to receive CTRPCV Directory so you can request help with your favorite community service project.
- if you are newly returned RPCV... we will LISTEN to your story because we too have been there! RPCVs are FAMILY. We never tire or hearing your stories, frustrations, what you miss and what you are finding strange about your return
- help an RPCV find a new job through the Mentor program. Mentor a newbie RPCVs and help them navigate their transition
- help support PCVs and/or CTRPCVs through the CTRPCV Community Service Grant Program.
- keep in the PCV loop, know about short-term stints if you are interested.
- find opportunities to continue to serve locally or overseas.
- find someone who: has kids the same age as yours; others who have married host country nationals.
- let others know about YOUR art, social, sport or local community service project.
- spread the GOOD WORD about the Peace Corps.

- We want to add a page to our website that would offer FREE ADVERTISING for CTRPCV members who own a business.



STAY CONNECTED!!!!

Volunteer opportunities

The International Institute of Connecticut is looking for volunteers to become mentors to our refugee client one day a week for one hour. When a refugee arrives in Bridgeport, they often come with nothing and know no one. A mentor would be a liaison between the client and the Bridgeport community. Mentors can do a variety of activities with their mentee. They may bring refugees grocery shopping, they may cook a meal together or they may just do something fun to build a friendship.

If this is something you believe your members may enjoy, please feel free to pass on our the attached flyers and e-mail me for more information. I would also be pleased to come speak with your group. We would love to have your help. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mattea Heller
Volunteer
International Institute of Connecticut
Bridgeport, Connecticut

<http://iiconn.org/>

The International Institute of Connecticut (IICONN) is a non-profit, non-sectarian agency dedicated to helping foreign-born persons achieve self-sufficiency. Our services include refugee resettlement, English and citizenship classes, counseling, translation/interpretation services and legal assistance.

IICONN advocates for fair and equitable treatment of immigrants, refugees and others, and works to increase public awareness of the contributions of foreign-born persons to American culture and values.

From <http://www.peacecorps.gov/response/>

Addressing Critical Needs Around the Globe

Peace Corps Response provides qualified professionals the opportunity to serve in rewarding, short-term assignments, in various programs around the world. When you serve as a Peace Corps Response Volunteer, you bring your skills and experience to projects in places where you are needed most.

Search for positions, apply, or modify an existing application here:

[Search](#) ♦ [Apply](#) ♦ [Update](#)

See the latest resources at <http://www.peacecorps.gov/resources/returned/home/>

Other Upcoming events

of potential interest:

These are events that involve fellow RPCVs...
we'd like to let you know about them...

**(Please send David – stoloffd@easternct.edu info about an event
that you want to publicize!!!)**

Send me your news and announcements for the next E-news! MaureenShanley@hotmail.com.

Have you paid your dues??? Do you have a new email address???

[Click here to join or pay your membership fees!](#)