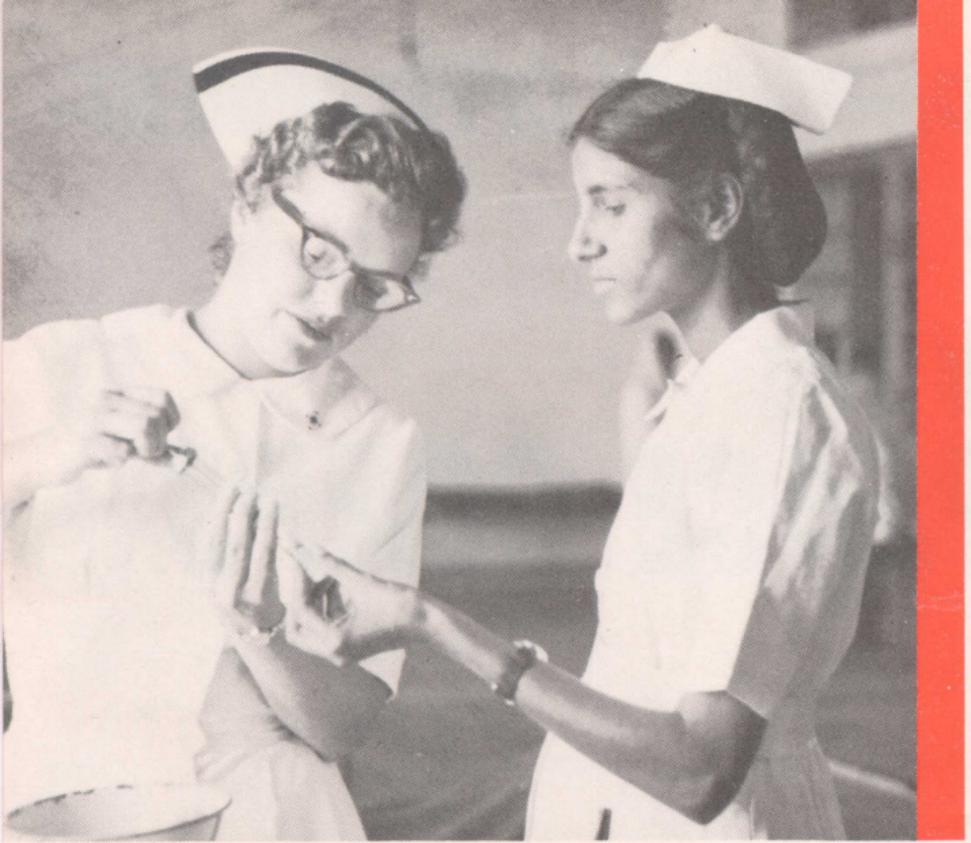


**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT-  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
JUNIOR COLLEGE GRADUATES  
IN THE  
PEACE CORPS**





*community development —*

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR JUNIOR COLLEGE GRADUATES IN THE PEACE CORPS**

The feeling of "community" is a built-in feature of American life. Through community action the PTA operates, car pools form, educational standards are raised, housing is improved, legislation is drafted or amended and many other problems which trouble our daily lives are solved.

This practice of organizing members of a community into action groups to get things done goes far back into our history. The frontier was guarded by volunteer settlers. Committees of Correspondence preceded our national government. Roof-raising and quilting parties were all part of early Americana. The Constitution was written through community action. Organization for action stems from the American tradition of democratic representation.

The Peace Corps hopes to translate this typically American technique into the cultures of other nations through community development projects. Peace Corps Volunteers are now participating personally and directly in programs which work on the lowest common denominator—the village level—where they basically

get the people together to talk about their problems and then organize them to find the answers. Here the human being discovers that he has resources; that he can use these resources and that by using them he builds a better life for himself and his community.

For example, in Tunia, Colombia, the villagers have had the money and material to build a school for the past four years. But they didn't build it. Two Peace Corps Volunteers were requested by the government and sent to this particular village. They, as Americans often do, formed a committee and inspired so much enthusiasm that, according to the Minister for Rural Development for that area, the people have actually been working in a deluge of rain to finish the school. Community action — individuals getting together talking, suggesting, discovering and then utilizing their resources in an effort to achieve an objective.

## WHAT WILL YOU DO?

The capital cities of Latin America are marvels of modern architecture. But they bear a blight. Outside the glamor and lights lie vast urban slums. Refugees from the bleak, primitive hinterlands have fled to the cities searching for jobs and help. They have found neither. Instead, they have joined the ever-increasing

numbers of unemployed jamming shantytowns which ring the cities. Here they live, without water, sewage, electricity, without adequate schools, nutrition, medical care, or a chance for self-improvement.

Government leaders in Latin America are looking to the Peace Corps for assistance in solving these demoralizing problems. The answer is community development through slum clearance and low-cost housing construction. Here Peace Corps Volunteers will function as social workers, family educators, health assistants, sanitation experts, construction workers, teachers of vocational arts. The slum families will be an integral part of the program. With Volunteer instruction and guidance, they will build their own homes on a "do-it-yourself" basis.

But community development is more than a new house. It includes converting the new house into a home. A new house means that the head of the family must have a job. People living in a new house must learn how to manage its equipment. All the basic elements — hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, cooking will have to be explained. The teaching of a trade or a new skill is also part of community development. And the whole family must be integrated into the pattern of society as a responsible social unit, a productive factor in the development of the country.



## WHO IS NEEDED?

Junior College graduates with their wide spectrum of skills are particularly valuable to community development projects. More than ten per cent of the Volunteers now in training and overseas are graduates of Junior Colleges. The Peace Corps has used their skills and training in almost every project and in every country where it operates.

In Ecuador, where Peace Corps Volunteers are involved in community development, Patricia A. Kohn, from Salem, Massachusetts, studied at Dean Junior College, before volunteering. Ronald J. Peters was a history major at Everett Junior College, Everett, Washington, while working in his father's lumber business; James W. Capps majored in the humanities and social science at San Diego Junior College. He also had a part-time job on a poultry ranch.

Mary R. Coronado from Huchuca City, Arizona, is assigned to the Peru urban development program. She took a business course at Merritt Junior College in Oakland, California, and has lived in both Mexico and Peru. Billy R. Montgomery of Rose Hill, Virginia, was a student at Howard County Junior College, Big Springs, Texas, where he improved his agricultural background and experience. And Joyce Butler, serving in Peru, received her business and secretarial training at Chamberlayne Junior College, Boston.

In short, most Americans over 18 who are citizens and possess a desire to share what they know and are willing to learn from others can find a wealth of opportunities in the Peace Corps. Community development projects cover a wide variety of skills.

## QUALIFICATIONS

**WHO MAY APPLY:** Any American citizen over 18 may apply for service with the Peace Corps. There is no upper age limit. Married persons with no dependent children are eligible if both can do needed jobs as Volunteers. Volunteers must be in excellent physical and mental health, emotionally mature, and upright in their personal conduct.

**HOW DO I APPLY?** By filling out a Peace Corps Volunteer Questionnaire. Write to the Peace Corps, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for the Questionnaire and the Peace Corps booklet. The Questionnaire merely tells the Peace Corps what your experience is and that you would like to be considered for service. Peace Corps Questionnaires are also available at Post Offices, through the offices of your Senators and Congressmen and from any local Bureau of Employment Security Office.

**TRAINING:** Once you have been selected as a Volunteer you will be invited to participate in a thorough, comprehensive training program. Competent experts in the field of community development will instruct you. You will receive language training, area studies, refresher courses in your skill and background courses in American history along with courses in the history and culture of your host country. This training has been especially tailored for community development so that you can make the most of your own experiences in helping others.

**PAY AND ALLOWANCES:** During training and overseas service, all expenses — including travel, food, clothing, housing, medical care, and incidentals — will be paid by the Peace Corps. Upon completion of Peace Corps service, Volunteers will receive a termination payment equal to \$75 for each month of service.

**TRAVEL AND LEAVE:** Volunteers will receive 30 days leave with allowances each year and will get a small additional allowance for travel from their duty stations.

**DISABILITY BENEFITS:** Disability benefits, including medical care, will be provided for Volunteers and any illness or injury incurred in the line of duty will be covered.

**MILITARY OBLIGATIONS:** Military obligations are not met through Peace Corps service, but Volunteers can be deferred from the Selective Service and Reserve obligations for the period of their Peace Corps service, at the discretion of local Selective Service boards.

**WHEN TO APPLY?** Now. The opportunities are limitless — the needs both long range and immediate.

## RURAL AND URBAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### SOUTH AMERICA

Bolivia  
Chile  
Colombia  
Dominican Republic  
Guatemala  
Brazil  
El Salvador  
Ecuador  
Honduras  
Venezuela  
West Indies  
Peru

### AFRICA

Sierra Leone  
Cameroon  
Morocco  
Somalia  
Senegal

### FAR EAST

Thailand  
Malaya  
North Borneo  
Sarawak  
Philippines

### NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

Iran  
Nepal  
Pakistan

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, WRITE:

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# PEACE CORPS

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OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.