

HEALTH PROFESSIONS IN THE PEACE CORPS



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In much of Africa there is one physician for every 80,000 people. In some Asian countries there are fewer nurses than in just one of our large hospitals. In parts of South America, 300 children out of every 1,000 born alive die in their first year. In most of the world there is a colossal waste of humanity — millions of lives are lost to diseases we consider conquered.

We in the United States live in an era of remarkable medical progress. Morbidity and mortality rates have plummeted. Many age-old pestilences are under control and our life span is increasing.

But medical progress is unknown in many developing countries. Smallpox, malaria, tuberculosis, dysentery and nutritional deficiency continue to plague most of the

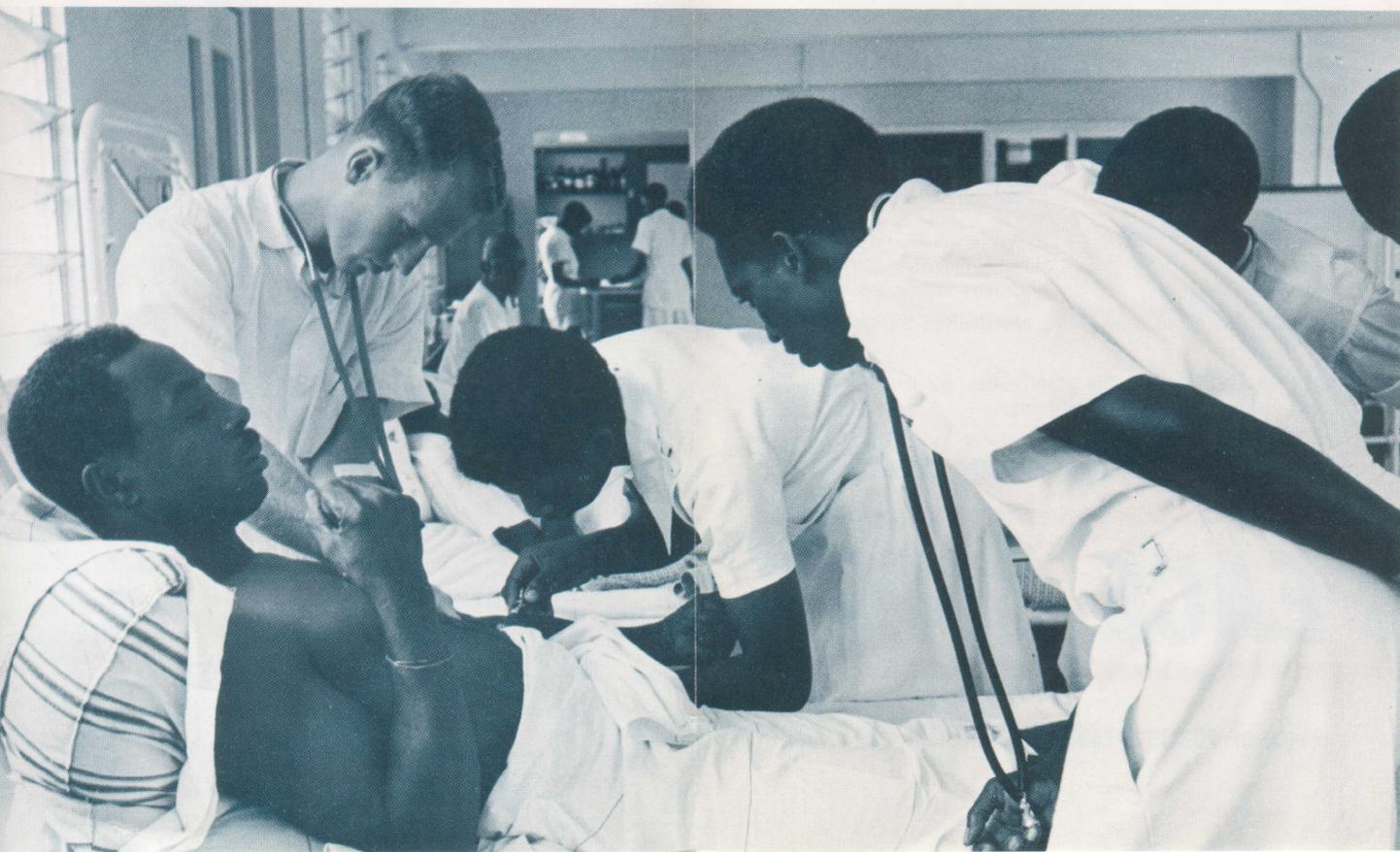
peoples of the world. Disease is a serious deterrent to national development.

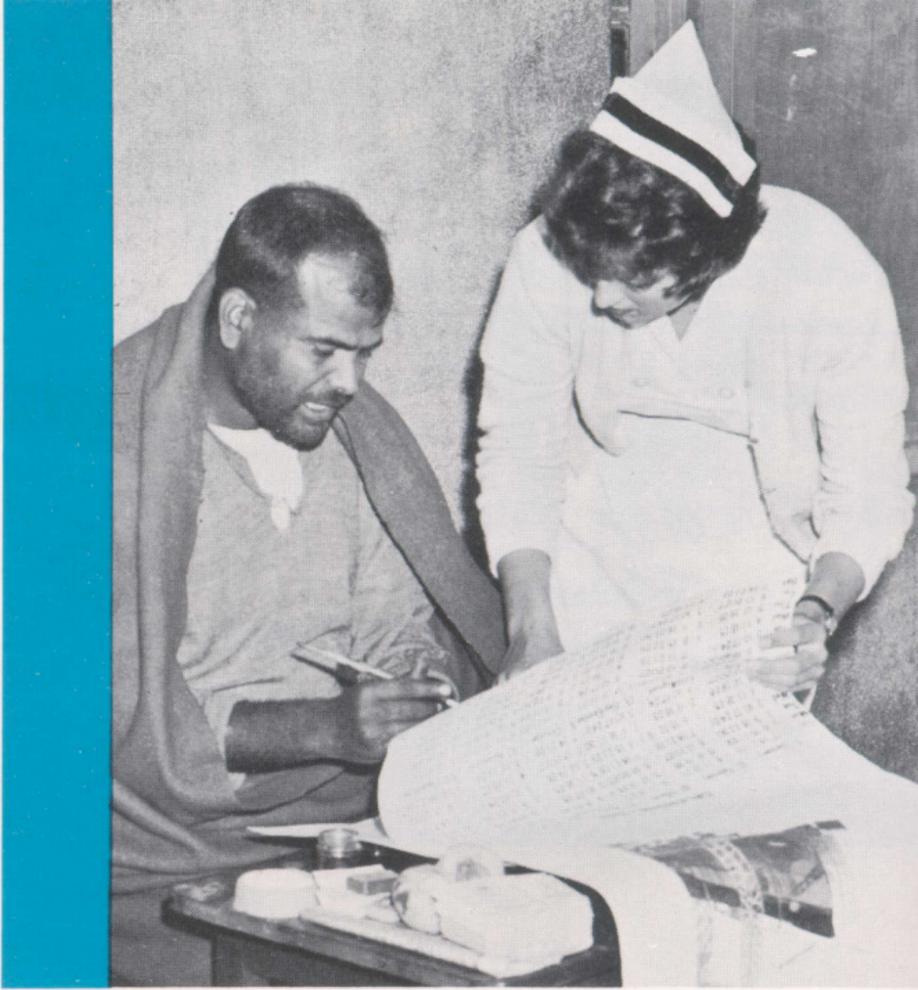
A major part of the United States Peace Corps program is designed to assist these peoples in meeting their needs. The Peace Corps provides Americans an opportunity for improving understanding among peoples and for serving the cause of peace and humanity in a direct and personal way.

Peace Corps Volunteers work under local supervision, serving local institutions and agencies, while living among the people with whom they are working.

Physicians (general practitioners and specialists), registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, health educators, medical technologists, physical and occupational therapists, hospital administrators, pharmacists, medical record librarians, and many others are called for in projects that will enter training in the next few months.

Peace Corps health teams staff clinics, teach public health and preventive medicine and provide medical





administration. These services are needed in urban hospitals but especially in rural health centers, and dispensaries.

REWARDING EXPERIENCE

Peace Corps Volunteers from the medical professions will deal first hand with health conditions and clinical situations infrequently encountered in North America.

Peace Corps experience will broaden medical horizons, increase the knowledge of other people's social and economic problems, and help to develop skills in the broad field of international health which can be used in a variety of careers.

Peace Corps service may prove valuable for future work in medical education, public health, clinical medicine, research and medical administration. Career opportunities for such work will be available with foreign governments, in universities and with private commercial operations abroad. United States Government and international health organizations, and state and local public health agencies will seek the services of Americans with this experience.



QUALIFICATIONS

WHO MAY APPLY: Any person over the age of 18 who is a United States citizen may apply for service as a Peace Corps Volunteer. There is no upper age limit. Married couples without dependent children under 18 will be accepted if both can do needed jobs as Volunteers. In some cases, married persons with dependents will be chosen as Volunteer Leaders. Volunteers must be in excellent physical and mental health.

HOW TO APPLY: You may apply by filling out a Peace Corps Volunteer Questionnaire. Write to the Peace Corps, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for the Peace Corps booklet and the Volunteer Questionnaire. The latter serves as a combination application and inventory of skills, interests and experience.

Questionnaires are also available at Post Offices, from your Senator or Congressman, Peace Corps Liaison Officers at colleges and universities, field offices of the U.S. Civil Service Commission, or from the Peace Corps, Washington 25, D. C.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES, CULTURES: Volunteers will **not** need to have previous knowledge of foreign languages and customs when applying for Peace Corps service. They will, however, receive instruction in the language and culture of the host country in a special training program.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES: During the training period all necessary travel, books, food, housing, incidentals and medical care are provided by the Peace Corps. During overseas service, Volunteers are paid a living allowance sufficient to provide simple, healthful and unpretentious living.

Volunteers receive a termination payment of \$75 for each month of service. In two years, this would amount to a lump sum of \$1800. However, during service, while these funds are accumulating, they may be used to repay educational loans previously incurred.

The head of a medical team may serve as a Volunteer Leader and therefore be entitled to a slightly larger termination allowance.

TRAVEL AND LEAVE: Volunteers receive 30 days leave each year. During leave time they will be paid their usual living allowance. A small additional allowance will be provided for travel away from their duty stations. Volunteers are encouraged to use their leave to travel in the host country or to visit neighboring countries.

DISABILITY BENEFITS: Disability benefits, including medical care, will be provided 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 Selective Service and Reserve obligations for the period of their overseas service at the discretion of local Selective Service Boards.

OPPORTUNITIES

OPPORTUNITIES: The following list will give you an idea of the types of Peace Corps Volunteers being requested for health and medical projects:

MALAYA

Nurses
Laboratory Technicians
Biochemists
Bacteriologists

TOGO

Doctors
Dental Hygienist
Dentists
Registered Nurses
Public Health Nurses
Laboratory Technicians
Health Education Aides

THAILAND

Laboratory Technicians

TANGANYIKA

Registered Nurses

BOLIVIA

Sanitary Engineers
Nurses
Licensed Practical Nurses
Health Education Workers

HONDURAS

Nurses
Medical Technologists
Social Workers

PERU

Public Health Nurses

NORTH BORNEO/SARAWAK

Nurses
Mental Health Workers
Malaria Eradication Workers
Laboratory Technicians

This list is not all inclusive. Other opportunities are developing rapidly.

WHEN TO APPLY: Now! The opportunities are limitless — the need — both immediate and continuing.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, WRITE:

PEACE CORPS

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