

WOMEN

IN THE

PEACE CORPS



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No longer is it true — as Euripedes said it was true in the 4th Century B.C. — that “a woman should be good for everything at home, but abroad, good for nothing.” For the Peace Corps has already sent abroad several hundred women who are serving in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Of the Volunteers now overseas, one-third are women. They are teachers, nurses, home economists, social workers, laboratory technicians, and rural development workers. The record they are writing, supported by requests from 30 countries for 2,000 more like them, proves that Euripedes under-estimated the power of a woman — especially a woman in the Peace Corps.

WHO ARE THEY?

They are American citizens who have asked, “How can I serve my country?” and found the answer in the Peace Corps. Their average age is 28. The youngest is 18, the eldest 65.

They are women like **Karelyn Hodges**, 25-year-old nurse from Michigan, who arrived at a tiny island in the West Indies in time to help stem the tide of a typhoid epidemic. She is serving now as a rural nurse and hygiene instructor in St. Lucia.

Or like **Elizabeth Roseberry**, 53-year-old Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. A former dean of home economics at the University of Cincinnati, she is now teaching with the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone.

Or like **Brenda Brown, Barbara Bassett, Mary Teasler** and **Jan Wright** who serve nine months of the year as teachers' aides in the Philippines and have shown some of the initiative of their pioneer grandmothers by planning Naga City's first children's day camp for 200 children during the summer months.

Or like **Dorothy Crews** who piled her Nigerian history class into the school lorry and took them to the Eastern House of Assembly for a first-hand lesson in African history.

Or like **Carol Armstrong**, whose courtship with Peace Corps Volunteer George Roger Hamilton began while they were in training at the University of California at Berke-



ley for a Peace Corps assignment in Africa. They were married in Ghana, where both are teaching as Volunteers. (The Peace Corps accepts qualified couples if both husband and wife can perform a needed skill abroad. Peace Corps Volunteers can marry if both can continue their work.)

These women — and others like them in the Peace Corps — are chosen because their skills and professional training are needed in newly developing nations. Women Volunteers face the same tough selection process, the same intensive training program, and the same demanding living conditions as their male counterparts — but they also share the same sense of personal satisfaction which comes from useful service in helping other people to help themselves.

“The children are really something,” writes Peace Corps Volunteer Nancy Jeffers from the Philippines, where she is a teacher’s aide in a rural village. “Their faces are unforgettable. They are the faces of the poor, of the deprived, but they are also the faces of the gentle, the humble . . . and most of all, they are the faces of the eager and the willing.

“I am going to work with these children and their teachers for two years. Today one of the teachers told me

how grateful they all were . . . but as I stood in front of the school at the close of the day with the roses in my hand given me by one of the students, I shed tears of joy because I was so grateful to them for having accepted me with such open arms. I only hope that I will be able to help them in whatever small way I can."

WHAT OTHERS THINK

"The utilization of women in vast programs of national service was explored fully during World War II, when military planners found the great range of job classifications in which women excel. Historically, the Red Cross volunteers and Army Nurses Corps had pioneered, but the achievements of volunteers in all the women's services of World War II were of such quality that their place was permanently established.

"By the time the Peace Corps call for volunteers was sounded by President Kennedy, it was accepted as a matter of course that women would answer this call, as they answered the earlier calls to contribute their skills and talents wherever needed in service of their country."

—Oveta Culp Hobby, Editor, Houston Post Co., Publishers; Former Secretary, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.



"We of the General Federation of Women's Clubs are convinced that women belong in the Peace Corps; woman's place is in the home, and her home is the world. "The presence of women in the Peace Corps affords dramatic evidence of the part educated responsible women can play. Their participation in this unique venture demonstrates the role accepted by American world citizens — both men and women." — Mrs. E. Lee Ozbirn, President, General Federation of Women's Clubs.

"The Peace Corps offers a wide variety of tasks and adventures through which young people of different backgrounds can test their capabilities. Interesting possibilities exist for women, as well as for men. In fact, women are particularly well suited to many of the jobs that have been most urgently requested. Above all, service in the Peace Corps offers a chance to give tangible expression to youth's growing concern for the well-being of the human race." — Mrs. Mary I. Bunting, President, Radcliffe College.

"To me, the Peace Corps offers to women of every age a signally appealing opportunity to serve their country, their world neighbors — and themselves. My visits to 41 countries, as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, have convinced me that women have a unique capacity for broadening international understand-



ing and increased development through a partnership approach. And what American women can teach through sharing their experience and methods is as nothing compared to the enrichment of their own lives that Peace Corps service will bring. I only wish that I could go in some such capacity." —Honorable Marguerite Stitt Church, Member of Congress.

A TWO-WAY STREET

Service in the Peace Corps is a two-way street — a chance to serve and to learn.

The woman Volunteer may serve in a country where three out of ten babies die in the first year of life because health facilities are inadequate. She may serve in a country of two million people which has only 30 qualified social workers. She may serve in a country where five hospitals handle laboratory work for 63 others. Or she may serve in one of 30 countries which have said to the Peace Corps, "Send us teachers!" Wherever she serves, the woman in the Peace Corps will be sharing her skill and training with proud and grateful people who are beginning to seek a better way of life. She will learn, too. And when she returns home, she will bring with her the knowledge of a foreign country, its people and its language. Her experience will have enriched her own life. Professionally and personally, she will be better prepared to contribute as a responsible citizen to the life of her own country.

The American woman doing Peace Corps work abroad will also give a personal nudge to history in terms of



improving the status of women in many of the newly emerging nations of the world.

QUALIFICATIONS

Any American citizen over 18, who possesses the skill and training needed abroad, may apply for Peace Corps service. Married persons with no dependent children will be accepted if both can do needed jobs as Volunteers. Not all Peace Corps projects require a college degree.

Intensive training is provided Volunteers both in the United States and in the host countries. Some assignments require foreign language ability; however, language instruction is included in training, along with studies in the history and culture of the host country.

Volunteers serve for two years. They receive allowances for food, clothing, housing, medical care and transportation, plus a termination payment of \$75 for each month of service.

HOW TO APPLY: Fill out a Peace Corps Volunteer Questionnaire, available at all Post Offices or from Congressmen or college liaison officers, and mail to the Peace Corps, Washington 25, D. C.

WHEN TO APPLY: Now. The requests from abroad are urgent. The opportunities are immediate.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

TOGO

Dental hygienists
Registered nurses
Public health nurses
Laboratory technicians
Health education aides
English teachers

TANGANYIKA

Registered nurses

SIERRA LEONE

English teachers
Math teachers
General science teachers
Geography teachers
Home economics teachers
French teachers
Latin teachers
Music teachers
Physical education teachers
Commercial teachers

TUNISIA

Physical education teachers

GHANA

English teachers
Math teachers
Chemistry teachers
Biology teachers
French teachers

PHILIPPINES

Elementary teachers
English teachers
Science teachers
Physical education teachers

MALAYA

Nurses
Laboratory technicians
Biochemists
Librarians
Math teachers
Science teachers

THAILAND

Laboratory technicians
English teachers
Physical education teachers

NORTH BORNEO/SARAWAK

Registered nurses
Mental health workers
Laboratory technicians
Elementary teachers
English teachers

IRAN

English teachers
Physical education teachers
Home economists
Librarians

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN CONTINUED

IVORY COAST

English teachers
General science teachers
Physical education teachers
Home economists

LIBERIA

English teachers
Art teachers
Math teachers
General science teachers
Guidance and counseling
Registered nurses
Social workers

CAMEROON

Librarians
Physical education teachers
English teachers
Science teachers
Teacher-training

NIGERIA

English teachers
Geography teachers
French teachers
Math teachers
Science teachers
Social science teachers
Health education teachers

ETHIOPIA

English teachers
Math teachers
Chemistry teachers
Biology teachers
General science teachers
Geography teachers
Commercial teachers
Home economists
Guidance and counseling
Physical education teachers

SOMALIA

English teachers
Math teachers
Science teachers
Commercial teachers
Office assistants

INDIA

Physical science teachers

AFGHANISTAN

Registered nurses

BOLIVIA

Registered nurses
Social workers

HONDURAS

Nurses
Social workers

PERU

Public health nurses
English teachers
Adult education
Registered nurses

ECUADOR

Chemistry teachers
Physics teachers
Biology teachers
Math teachers

BRAZIL

Laboratory technicians
Social workers
Registered nurses

CHILE

Home economists
Social workers

VENEZUELA

English teachers

CEYLON

Math teachers
Biology teachers
General science teachers
Physical education teachers
Home economists

EAST PAKISTAN

Physical science teachers
Social science teachers

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, WRITE:

PEACE CORPS

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