From: Meg Carter
To: PCFR

Subject: Comment on Peace Corps Returned Volunteer Impact Survey

Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 8:20:56 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.jpg</u>

Date: 22 July 2019 To: Virginia Burke

FOIA/Privacy Act Officer

Peace Corps
From: Marauerite Carter

360 Vernon Street, #109 Oakland, CA 94610

Re: Peace Corps Returned Volunteer Impact Survey

Document Number 2019-14718

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I agree that an impact survey is necessary to understand the impact of volunteer service on RPCVs. The data collected in country focuses on the impact of our service in our communities and sectors. We aren't able to fully evaluate the impact of our service on our own lives until several years after our COS. While Peace Corps has anecdotal information about those impacts and can gather data from other federal agencies regarding RPCV federal employment, this is a small part of the picture.

Volunteers are at the core of Peace Corps' mission. They fulfill our Three Goals. They never cease to be Peace Corps Volunteers. Even after they return to the States, they commit to service, if only to the Third Goal. The Peace Corps organization includes an office for returned volunteers. So, it's not only appropriate but essential to capture data on RPCV well-being and engagement.

Since one of the benefits of Peace Corps service is NCE for federal positions, it's clear that Peace Corps intends to act as a feeder for public service. To assess its efficacy, it's necessary to collect data on RPCVs who subsequently commit to public service, regardless of whether through NCE or other channels.

I hope that Peace Corps will initially reach out through NPCA to invite all RPCVs to complete the impact survey so that Peace Corps can gather longitudinal data and evaluate differences over time and across countries, regions, and sectors.

I hope the survey will capture employment with federal, state, and local government agencies, as well as with international non-governmental organizations. I hope it will capture engagement with NPCA and its chapters, and volunteer activities in civil society. I hope it will capture continuing connections with our Peace Corps country offices, Peace Corps staff, and our local communities and counterparts. I hope it will also capture second tours of duty, Crisis Corps service, and Peace Corps Response service.

I hope the survey will be deployed online – web and mobile – with an option for

paper/postal mail.

I hope cumulative survey trends will be posted publicly.

Thank you for your service!

Marguerite Carter RPCV Senegal (1975-1977), Crisis Corps Uganda (2007), Peace Corps Response Guinea (2009-2010)

