

The Peace Corps Community in Indiana

Indiana Peace Corps Volunteers Through the Years

INDIANA
VOLUNTEERS
SINCE 1961

3,637

2020: **110**

2017: **104**

2019: **122**

2016: **113**

2025
INDIANA
VOLUNTEERS

49

2018: **110**

1966: **238**

5 Things to Know about the Peace Corps Community in Indiana

1

Peace Corps has educational partnerships with four universities: Indiana University-Bloomington, Earlham College, Purdue University, and the University of Notre Dame.

2

The University of Notre Dame played an important role in the early history of the Peace Corps. Father Theodore Hesburgh was involved in discussions and planning with early Peace Corps leadership. The university also served as a training site for some of the very first Peace Corps Volunteers.

3

National Peace Corps Association affiliate groups include the Indy Peace Corps Community, whose goals include speaking to groups and schools about the Peace Corps experience, and to support Indianapolis through volunteerism.

4

Notable Indiana RPCVs include the 2023 Indiana Teacher of the Year, Tara Cocanower of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District (who served in Romania), Venezuela Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (RPCV) Gary Wasson, a winner of the Circle of Corydon Award, and Philippines RPCV Karl Bandemer, deputy mayor of Fort Wayne.

5

Crown Point resident and Butler University graduate Adrell Mable, was the subject of a Northwest Indiana feature story about her current Peace Corps service in Albania.

*Based on data from Peace Corps, National Peace Corps Association, and other news sources.