

The Peace Corps Community in Minnesota

Minnesota Peace Corps Volunteers		Volunteers Through the Years	
MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERS SINCE 1961	7,197	2020: 171	2017: 217
		2019: 195	2016: 232
2025 MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERS	63	2018: 215	1966: 404

5 Things to Know about the Peace Corps Community in Minnesota

1

Historically, Minnesota ranks 12th in the nation in sending volunteers abroad to serve in the Peace Corps. The University of Minnesota, Macalester College, and Carleton college regularly rank high in recruiting future Peace Corps volunteers.

2

The Peace Corps has educational partnerships with the University of Minnesota and St. Catherine University. St. Catherine University also has a Peace Corps Prep program, providing areas of study to make students more competitive Peace Corps applicants.

3

National Peace Corps Association affiliates include the Minnesota Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (MNRPCVs). Recent activity includes fundraising and volunteer initiatives to address local poverty, refugee assistance and climate change.

4

Past recipients of National Peace Corps Association's Sargent Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service include Bolivia RPCV Joan Velasquez, co-founder of the St. Paul based Mano a Mano International (2008), and Malaysia RPCV Paul Thompson of Edina, who co-founded Skiers Ending Hunger (1989).

5

Leaders of the Minnesota Returned Peace Corps Volunteers are hard at work to create a National Service Park in Plainview. Plans for this park include the creation of a Peace Corps Plaza.

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