



Dominican Republic

ANNUAL REPORT AND HIGHLIGHTS
2004



“Building Community Capacity and Opportunities for over 40 years”

NOTE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR:

Dear Partners of Peace Corps DR,

The Peace Corps program in the Dominican Republic had an extremely eventful program year in 2004. The year was one that saw the continuation of the post's rich tradition of service and accomplishment reflecting its accomplishments of the past 42 years and clearly planning and preparing for the future. 2004 continued to see the growth and maturation of initiatives and programming that better responds to the country's needs and requests. The IT sector in education is a prime example of one that partners with the Education Ministry in an area that is clearly needed if the DR, its teachers and citizens are given an opportunity to be exposed to and become adept at learning, teaching and making computer technology available. Our services in developing areas such as Youth and Community Involvement, HIV/AIDS Prevention, Community Economic Development assistance complements our tried and true activity in Health, Water/Sanitation, Agriculture and Agroforestry.

Our staff and volunteers continue to be well trained and responsive to the express needs of our host country. We are committed to a continued high energy and high value effort to further refine our activities and programs. PC-DR is most appreciative of your collaboration in our Mission.

Sincerely,
Javier L. Garza, Country Director

Overview:

Since 1962, over 4,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in the Dominican Republic. Currently, PC-DR has 150+ Peace Corps Volunteers working in 29 of the country's provinces in the areas of education, information technology, health and water sanitation, environment, agriculture, community economic development, and youth. Each year, the program receives 70 new trainees who work for two years as Volunteers in marginalized rural and urban communities. Trainees receive 12 weeks of language, cross-cultural, and technical skills training through a contract with ENTRENA, Inc. before beginning their term of service.

Project Impact Snapshot 2004

- Water systems built benefiting over 2,900 people in 88 communities
- 7,000+ persons trained on HIV/AIDS prevention
- 685+ teachers and parents trained in working with special needs children
- 2,050+ persons trained in using IT for education
- 3, 590+ youth/parents in 151 communities strengthening youth/family development
- 120 organizations strengthened in community economic development
- 5800+ persons involved in environmental awareness/conservation activities including planting 140,000 trees
- 442 women and youth trained in sustainable agriculture production techniques

Environment:

Peace Corps-DR has two main projects in the Environmental Sector: Environmental Awareness Education and Agro forestry. With 18 volunteers currently working in the field, the Environmental Education project focuses on strengthening the capacity of schools and community groups to teach youth about environmental protection. The programs also work to promote eco-tourism. Peace Corps' principal counterpart organizations in the environmental sector include: the Ministry of Natural Resources, non-governmental organizations working in the environment, and the Ministry of Education.



Over the past year, Environmental Education Volunteers have:

- Educated and trained 2,998 teachers and students in 70 schools and CBO's on environmental issues
 - Trained 136 teachers in facilitating environmental education courses
 - Engaged 2,240 youth and adults in environmental clean-up and/or protection projects
 - Created ecological summer camps for youth
 - Promoted the dissemination and construction of improved ceramic stoves for energy conservation
- Created numerous community gardens; worm bins; trash clean-ups; and promoted eco-tourism

With 18 volunteers, the Agro forestry project focuses on helping community groups and cooperatives better manage forest areas through reforestation of key watersheds, sustainable harvesting practices and soil conservation.

Over the past year, Agro forestry Volunteers have:

- Trained over 3,083 farmers and community members in soil conservation, tree grafting, organic production, certification, and tree nursery management techniques in 130 communities
- Reforested thousands of acres of land with over 140,000 fruit and wood species trees
- Engaged over 1000 youth in environmental conservation activities
- 8 community tree nurseries have been built with over 80,000 trees produced.
- Promoted and helped build 51 fuel-efficient stoves in small rural communities.

Education:

The Education Sector has three primary projects: a) Special Education and b) Information



Technology and Education. Special Education Volunteers work on training teachers in the assessment of special needs students, development of curriculum, classroom management techniques, and provision of individual support for special needs children. There are 13 Volunteers currently serving in the Special Education project.

Over the past year, Special Education Volunteers:

- Tested or assisted over 486 children with special needs in 31 schools
- Trained over 574 teachers in developing didactic materials, innovative teaching practices, and classroom management from 91 different schools
- Organized workshops and provided ongoing assistance to 237 parents in how to support their special needs children
- 1 volunteer assisted in fundraising for the establishment of a special IT learning laboratory
- Trained high school students to serve as teacher's aids in inclusive classrooms
- Helped organize and train children with special needs to participate in the National Special Olympics
- Improved evaluation, therapy, and acceptance methodologies in schools and community organizations.

In the area of Information Technology, 16 Volunteers work in school-based Computer Centers, many in the 6 provinces along the Haitian border. The IT Volunteers train teachers and students in computer use, and help schools develop ways in which the community can access these facilities. Last year, IT Volunteers:

- Trained 559 teachers in using software, hardware, and linking IT to teaching through developing IT-related lesson plans
- Trained over 1,283 youth in using IT to enhance learning and marketable skills
- Helped provide access and instruction to 387 community members interested in learning IT



- Helped create 20 youth IT clubs
- Created 11 Community Technology Committees to help sustain IT labs
- Helped bring innovations to strengthen the Secretary of Education's Ed-IT program
- 4 volunteers have assisted in the establishment of 4 new community IT laboratories
- 2 volunteers assisted in establishing 2 Special Education IT Learning Lab

Community Economic Development (CED):

The Community Economic Development project focuses on strengthening the capacity of small businesses and community organizations. In specific, the Volunteers help support agro business, women's credit, and youth business development. In Agro business, Volunteers teach farmers planning, budgeting, and marketing. Volunteers help communities organize and plan farmers' enterprises to revitalize local economies. In women's credit, Volunteers teach women entrepreneurs accounting, marketing, management and other skills. Volunteers also help women's groups explore topics that help their communities and families, such as gardening, health, and environmental education. With youth, Volunteers teach entrepreneurial skills through the Empresarios del Futuro (Junior Achievement) program. There are currently 23 Community Economic Development Volunteers.

Over the past year, the CED Volunteers have:

- Trained 5,176 individuals; 120 organizations; and 125 communities in aspects of economic development, project planning, accounting, budgeting, marketing, organizational development, and feasibility studies
- Developed a new manual on basic PowerPoint for community organizations and NGOs
- Helped develop innovative new businesses for groups of small business entrepreneurs
- Trained Volunteers and project partners in using new technologies such as Access databases and web design to strengthen their operations and businesses.

Health:



The health sector has two main projects: Healthy Families and Healthy Environment. The Healthy Families project focuses on improving the health education of low-income families in marginal areas, especially knowledge relating to maternal child health. Healthy Family Volunteers work with the Ministry of Public Health, NGOs and community-based organizations. Most of the 21 current Volunteers focus on the prevention of HIV/AIDS, and training of women and community leaders in child survival interventions such as breastfeeding, nutrition education, reproductive health, gardening, promotion of ORT and control of respiratory infections.

Over the past year, the Health Volunteers have:

- Educated 4,898 youth and adults in HIV/AIDS prevention
- Trained 1,356 youth and adults as trainers in HIV/AIDS prevention
- Trained 536 mothers to prepare a balanced diet and improve nutrition of children
- Trained 539 families in how to create small-scale food production units
- Taught 516 mothers to identify low-cost reproductive health services.



The Healthy Environments project focuses on helping low-income families in rural areas have access to improved water and sanitation systems. The 12 current Volunteers work exclusively on environmental sanitation through constructing small aqueducts, organizing sanitation committees, and educating communities on sanitation and hygiene issues.

Last year, the Environmental Sanitation Volunteers:

- Built 5 water aqueducts and
- Organized or strengthened 10 water committees
- Provided drinking water to 94 families
- Trained 150 families in sanitation and hygiene issues.

Youth, Families, and Communities:

The Youth, Family, and Community Development Program focuses on connecting Volunteers to youth-led or youth-related organizations to help develop leadership, vocational, and life skills of youth and their families in marginalized areas. Currently there are 15 YFCD Volunteers working with groups that support children living or working on the street, youth groups in rural areas, and improving family communication and parenting techniques.

Last year, the YFCD Volunteers:

- Trained 2,737 youth in life skills, vocational skills, and citizenship skills
- Helped strengthen youth groups through 55 training events/activities
- Carried out 47 activities to strengthen NGOs working with youth
- Organized 6 summer camps for youth
- Helped develop over sports teams and leagues



Agriculture:

The Community Sustainable Agriculture program focuses on helping rural communities improve their capacity to produce basic foodstuffs, resulting in improved nutrition and income in needy regions. Volunteers promote organic and sustainable agriculture practices as well as small

animal husbandry, for nutritional, health and economic benefits. The Volunteers primarily work with women's and youth groups, supported by NGOs and government agencies. Particular activities include: recycling organic residues (composting), vermiculture (worm culture), soil and water conservation practices, natural pesticides promotion, patio gardening, and small animal husbandry. There are currently 6 Volunteers working in the agriculture project. As of 2005, the Agriculture program will be phased out and its goals will be absorbed into the other existing programs.

Over the past year, the Agricultural Volunteers have:

- Trained over 370 farmers in organic gardening
- Provided direct technical assistance to 383 individuals in 62 organizations in 25 communities
- Trained over 60 farmers in vermiculture and organic agriculture production techniques
- Trained 150 women and youth in small animal production projects
- Developed and promoted the use of medicinal plants and natural pesticides
- Trained women's groups in development and use of community banking models

SPECIAL EVENTS AND INITIATIVES:

- **Anacaona Initiative:** PCDR and PC-Haiti continued their coordination of resources (Volunteers and technical support) along the border region in order to maximize the efforts by groups on both sides of the border. In February, a meeting was organized by Peace Corps for 40 Volunteers, project partners, and organizations working along the border to coordinate action plans.
- **Servir y Jugar:** This initiative aims to stimulate an ethic of service amongst the young people of the Dominican Republic, while simultaneously providing healthy recreational activities. The Volunteers work with young people in the communities, having taught them the importance and effective methods to plan and execute community development projects. Upon completing the service hours determined by the PCV or youth organization, youth receive pieces of sports equipment available through Servir y Jugar. All Servir y Jugar equipment is donated from different organizations and individuals. Donators have included Major League Baseball, Esperanza International, Rotary Club, and family and friends of volunteers and its distribution is managed from the Peace Corps Office. Since September 2004, Dominican youth in 70 communities have done over 15,000 hours of community service. Projects have included community clean-ups, painting murals, gardens, reforestation activities, and HIV/AIDS presentations. Through these activities, youth not only receive the sports materials, but also valuable lessons in self-esteem, teamwork, and leadership skills.
- **Earth Day:** PCDR and a coalition of 20+ groups helped coordinate Earth Day in the Dominican Republic in 2004 with the key focus events in Bonao, Monseñor Nouel. Among the highlights was a series of clean-up activities engaging hundreds of adults and youth, as well as formal presentations and a march in Bonao.

- **Global Youth Service Day:** PCDR helped coordinate Global Youth Service Day nationwide with a national coordinating committee including Alianza ONG, Pastoral Juvenil, Secretary of Education, among others. The main activity was 3rd National Youth Service Fair with over 1,500 youth attending from across the country, as well as other projects that engaged a total of 4,000 youth.
- **Sirve Quisqueya:** PCDR continued its work closely with a number of other governmental and NGO agencies on expanding Sirve Quisqueya!, a national initiative to increase the quantity and quality of service done by all Dominican youth. This initiative is part of Peace Corps DR's efforts to scale up volunteer service by Dominican youth. Among the events this year, were trainings of 120 teachers in service-learning; training of 100 NGO leaders in managing youth volunteers; development of a new service-learning guide for schools and a didactic poster/manual to help youth groups plan projects.
- **Feria Navideña Artesanos por la Paz:** On December 11 and 12, 2004, PCDR celebrated its 14th annual Christmas Artisan Fair for Peace, in conjunction with the Secretariat for Culture. This year's event in the Parque Colon drew over 80 artisans and thousands of visitors.
- **Cross-Sectoral Clustering:** PCDR has continued to place Volunteers and provide support for cross-sectoral collaboration in cluster regions. This initiative has allowed for greater sharing of technical resources among Peace Corps nine project areas.
- **Bio-Sand Filter Partnership with Rotary International:** PCDR continued to partner with Rotary International in 2004 to promote the distribution of bio-sand water filters in rural communities, benefiting over 6,000 people.
- **Special Conferences and Workshops in 2004:** Throughout the year, Peace Corps DR and Volunteer-led committees organized a number of conferences and workshops for over 500 community leaders and Volunteers. In 2004, the following events were organized:
 - o **Escojo Conferences: Effective Practices in HIV/AIDS Prevention and Youth**
 - o **Promoting Family Communication and Parenting**
 - o **Managing Water Systems**
 - o **Celebrando Cibao Youth Leadership Conference**
 - o **Futuro Brillante – Youth Service-Leadership Workshops**
 - o **Medical Missions**

MEDIA VISIBILITY:

- **Newspapers:** **41** articles in 10 of the national papers with approximately **3 million media impressions** (calculated by # of articles x circulation)
- **Television:** **9** interviews on 5 TV stations
- **Radio:** **1** interview on 1 Radio stations

Volunteer Snapshots:

Agro Forestry: Jason Chancer originally from North Carolina, got a B.S. degree in Environmental Sciences from the University of North Carolina. Under the supervision of the Dominican Forest Service, Jason was assigned to work in the northern community of La Leonor in one of the forest regions of the country. In this capacity he has been able to facilitate the linkage between his host organization and the community members. Jason has contributed and or facilitated the implementation of the following projects:

- a) Construction of a fruit tree nursery to produce fruit trees both for selling and generating income as well as for the farmers to plant in their lands.
- b) Training small farmers in fruit trees grafting.
- c) Establishment of home organic gardening for vegetable production to improve quality of food intake and nutrition level of members of the community.
- d) Helped the community in the construction of a bridge over a local river to facilitate getting in and out of the community during the rainy season.
- e) Installation of 6 solar panel systems to benefit equal number of families in La Leonor.

According to his project supervisor Ing Vinicio Trinidad, “Jason has done his work with a high degree of professionalism an integration into the community”

Community Economic Development: Patricia Farmer works with UNACAFEN (an NGO working with coffee farmers in the Northern Region of the DR) in the town of Jarabacoa. Her primary project is to help strengthen the community coffee association, “ASCAJA”. Patricia has been working diligently over the past year to both strengthen the organization and help the association to get better prices for their coffee through improving the quality of their coffee. She has been pro-active in seeking out technical and financial assistance from various sources, both national and international.

Patricia worked with representatives from CODOCAFE, an NGO that sends technical help to various coffee communities in the country, to help get ASCAJA qualified to participate in a French funded project known as PROCA2. Patricia and her project partner flew to the US to participate in an international coffee conference where they participated in “cuppings” (coffee tasting to judge coffee quality) and learned how to improve the quality of their coffee and their international appeal. Working with a representative at Chemonics, a USAID subcontractor, she has been able to assist in the facilitation of numerous workshops to benefit ASCAJA and its members.

In addition to her primary project, Patricia is also very integrated in her community and has participated in youth conferences with teens in her community. As well, she is getting involved in the schools in her community and will be participating in the World Wise School Program. With the arrival of some recently donated computer equipment, Patricia is hard at work training

ASCAJA's staff in the use of the equipment. And finally, Patricia is a founding member of the Peace Corps Coffee Committee, whose goal is to assist volunteers in any sector working in coffee communities by providing an exchange of ideas and resources.

Environment: **Amy Mracna** is an environmental science major graduated from Northern Arizona University. Her assigned project is on the northern slope of the Cordillera Central, about five and half hours away from Santo Domingo. During the first year and a half of her service, Amy has been able to implement various environmental educational activities including:

- a) Forming a youth environmental group.
- b) Supporting a community nursery to integrate youth as volunteers in the process.
- c) Medicinal plant propagation and making of menthol for income generation.
- d) Improved cooking stoves to reduce fuel wood consumption at the household level.
- e) Community home gardening programs for improving nutritional levels.
- f) Painting of an educational map and an eco mural at the community school
- g) Manufacturing of ecological bricks for a housing improvement program.
- h) Promotion of the "Brigada Verde Youth Conservation Corps Initiative", launched last year in the environment sector.

All projects carried out by Amy have been of significant importance for the community of Los Ramones where she served. However, the gardening project as well as other income generation activities have been very much appreciated by the project beneficiaries. Participating women have commented on the importance of the immediate positive results of these projects and its impact on future projects. As one of her project partners said recently "Amy has taught us how to obtain more food right out of our backyard".

Special Education: **Andrew Dempsey-Karp** is a special education volunteer in Samaná. Andrew team-teaches with elementary school teachers and works to promote the use of didactic materials, and interactive multi-sensory learning techniques. Andrew also works alongside the elementary school counselor with small groups and individually with over 40 students who are significantly behind in their reading levels. To help facilitate this process Andrew recruited 4 university students studying counseling to receive a workshop in teacher training and to then provide individual attention to the special needs elementary students. The university students received college credit for their participation.

Andrew is most appreciative of the opportunity he had to lead a two month long summer reading camps for 15 special needs students. The camps promoted an interactive approach to reading in which student activities included trips to a horse ranch, the beach, a nature center, in addition to live music. The funding for these activities was made possible by generous community donations and by the active participation of the campers' mothers.

Andrew has also helped to create and present two workshops: "Pursue the Positive" for teachers and "How to Make Good Decisions" for youth. Andrew has also had two opportunities to translate for a group of doctors who come to Samaná every year to perform surgeries and provide clinical care.

IT Education. Jason Gipson is an Information Technology volunteer in Manzanillo, MonteCristi, on the Haitian border. Jason is helping the people of Manzanillo take advantage of the benefits of information technology to better their community. Jason's primary work has been in the high school where he has taught basic computer skills to teachers. He has helped them see computers as didactic tool that can reinforce concepts taught in the classroom. Teachers regularly take their students to the lab to research topics on the Internet, or use other educational software. Additionally, in an effort to promote literacy in the community and at the same time encourage student creativity, Jason organized a group of high school students to publish a community newsletter.

Working in the high school, Jason has also taught introductory computer courses to elementary and middle school students. He has also had the opportunity to teach more advanced classes including HTML and Web Page Design.

As a product of Jason's trainings, three of the most advanced students will be teachers in the new community LINCOS (Little Intelligent Communities) technology project.

Jason has had the opportunity to venture beyond the school system and work with local NGOs. He developed a website for the Northwest Center for Research and Development (CIDEN), an organization that promotes environmental education and community development in the northwest region of the Dominican Republic. He is also working to create a bilingual (Spanish and Haitian Creole) website for Centro Puente, a human rights organization working to improve relations between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Youth, Families and Communities. Matthew Cummins: What would you do if you found your things had been robbed at the street kids' center where you lived and worked for the third time? Many people would give up. PCV Matthew Cummins, however, doubled down his determination to break through to these youth who were formerly living on the street. Matthew is a second-year PCV working with the Pastoral Juvenil's project Yo Tambien, which is a home for street-based youth in Santo Domingo. He was assigned to the program to enhance their system for providing formal and informal education to the youth as well as promoting organizational strengthening.

The initial lack of structure and inexistence of rules made it a very challenging placement. Many of the 25+ youth living in the center have been victims of intra-familial and street violence and are cautious about opening up to outsiders. However, Matthew's outgoing personality and his focus on empowering youth to have a voice in their own development has made him a beloved part of the boy's home.

Over the past two years, Matthew has carried out numerous activities both within the home and in the community to raise awareness about the needs of at-risk youth. He has helped organize sports activities like baseball and basketball, carried out service projects, painted numerous map murals including the rights of the child, promoted leadership workshops and constructed a resource center. Matthew helped organize two national youth leadership conferences called Futuro Brillante (Bright Futures) that taught service and leadership to over 80 young leaders. He also helped organize a 10-day technical training event on substance abuse prevention relating to

at-risk youth incorporating some 45 governmental and non-governmental organizations across the country with the help of a consultant from Casa Alianza in Honduras. Matthew's role as Coordinator of the Youth Development Committee at Peace Corps also allowed him to co-design and facilitate a number of activities around promoting youth service and leadership.

Healthy Families: Deanna Campbell is a Healthy Families volunteer in a small rural community called El Cabreto comprised of approximately 300 people. While it can be said that the community has most of the normal issues found in a rural site with members of little or no formal education, the evidence of unprotected sexual activity was the most salient. As an innovative way to meet the Peace Corps goals of preventing HIV/AIDS and improving the reproductive health of women Ms. Campbell began a young girls group called "Las Estrellitas" designed to delay the onset of sexual activity in the pre-adolescents of her community.

Positive role models for young people are an essential part in healthy development. This is especially true during the adolescent years. The absence of single, professional women is evident and as a result a pre-adolescent girl is at a disadvantage in comparison with her urban counterparts. It can even be argued that this group is most at risk for a low quality of life because of the tradition of premature sexual activity, adolescent pregnancy which most often leads to school dropout. Due to the fact that it has been proven that increasing self esteem and strengthening goal setting in youth decreases risky behaviors such as sexual activity or drug use, a group targeted toward the above demographic is extremely needed in a rural community setting.

"Las Estrellitas" (The Little Stars) of the Cabreto community began with 11 girls between the ages of 9 to 13. The group of girls was recruited to join a "special secret club" that would meet every week to discuss "girl stuff." Some of the subjects included the following:

1. Puberty
2. Machismo
3. Myths about menstruation
4. Good behavior at home.
5. What I am good at?
6. What is sex?
7. Boys
8. Eating Right
9. Meet a professional
10. How will I become...(career choice)?

These topics were covered on a bi-weekly basis while other more unstructured activities were done on the off weeks. It is very important when working with this age group to have "fun" activities interwoven in the agenda. Some examples of unstructured activities are: dance parties, slumber parties, trips to neighborhood pools, "secret" meetings in hidden areas of the community, English classes, fruit picking, etc. These events were organized with just as much importance as structured classes. It is a way to keep the group members engaged.

A group like “Las Estrellitas” can be a success in any community regardless of location, social economic class or educational level. It is recommended that Peace Corps volunteers with interest seriously consider this as a secondary project.

Healthy Environment: Herbert Sampson IV, is a graduate from Marquette University. He arrived in his site, Alto de la Jagua, Altamira in December of 2003. Upon his arrival he began working to organize a water committee for the 30 houses. From the start he was aware of a number of factors that would make the construction of his aqueduct and later the maintenance difficult: the community is small, so there are few people to actually do the work. Few members of the community are able to read. There is no road to the community. Herbert kept these things in mind as he began. Instead of creating the traditional positions for the leadership of the water committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Representatives), he made sure everybody had a clearly defined function, changing “representatives” to the head of brigades, the person in charge of materials, and the person in charge of food for the brigades. His approach made it clear who would be in charge of what, and it made everyone on the leadership team important.

After setting up the water committee, they began work on the topographical survey, the design, and the search for funding. In April, Herbert and three other volunteers submitted proposals to the Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives. In July, after making revisions to the project design to meet with CFLI standards, Alto de la Jagua received funding. The water committee opened a bank account and purchased materials. They had already begun work, cleaning the pipeline route and carrying sand up the mountain. They have now finished the intake works and most of the pipeline leading into the community.

In addition to working with the water committee on construction, Herbert works with a youth group. He took five of the youth to the hygiene promoter training held by water volunteers in his area.

Agriculture: Hannah Cox lives in the rural community of La Meseta where she works with women’s association, a farmer’s association and the Advisory for Southwest Farmer’s Development (Consejo de Desarrollo Campesino del Suroeste or CODECAS) Hannah has given a series of workshops on agriculture related topics such as goat maintenance, nutrition, seed germination, companion planting, natural insecticide, soil preparation and transplanting to name a few.

Recently, she has played a key role in the development of her project partner agency by implementing organizational strengthening workshops on grant writing and agency networking. She developed a pamphlet and website which has been used to solicit donations and has allowed CODECAS networking capabilities with international aid organizations including the French, Spanish and Canadian embassies, as well as the International Development Bank.

Hannah assisted the organization in identifying the Foundation for Dominican-Haitian Sociocultural Training (Fundacion de Capacitacion Socio Cultural Dominico Haitiano) and established a 5-year work plan to set up cooperatives and small businesses to increase income and capacity of rural men and women on both sides of the border. Both organizations will receive support from the Nuestra Frontier initiative sponsored by the Pan American Development Foundation.

Hannah has done excellent work promoting youth service and involvement through activities such as map mural painting, English classes, volleyball and tutoring of about 25 kids: “Often times class turns into a youth group as they move inside my house, listen to music, color, play with puzzles or something more formal like reading poetry in Spanish.”

ABOUT PEACE CORPS

Peace Corps is a U.S. government agency, started by President John F. Kennedy in 1961 to promote peace and friendship between the U.S. and other countries. Americans serve as Peace Corps Volunteers providing technical assistance for 2 years with low-income communities to strengthen their capacity to meet development priorities. To date over 165,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps members around the world.

Peace Corps’ Goals:

- To help the people of interested countries in meeting their needs through technical assistance;
- To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served;
- To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

PEACE CORPS WORKS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MANY ORGANIZATIONS AT THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL INCLUDING:

Governmental Organizations

- IDECOOP
- Instituto Agrario Dominicano
- Instituto Nacional de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado
- Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
- Secretaría de Estado de Cultura
- Secretaría de Estado de Educación
- Secretaría de Estado de Medioambiente y Recursos Naturales
- Secretaría de Estado de Salud Publica y Asistencia Social

Internacional Agencies

- Amigos de las Américas
- Canadian Embassy
- Catholic Relief Services
- Heifer Project International
- IICA
- PADF
- Plan Internacional
- PPS
- Programa Mundial de Alimentos
- Proyecto Araucaria
- UNDP
- UNV
- UNICEF
- USAID
- World Vision

Non Governmental Organizations

- ACALEN
- ACOPRO
- Alianza ONG
- ASPIRE
- Béisbol y Libros
- Casa Caribeña
- CAUCA
- CE-MUJER
- CECALI
- CIMPA
- COOPAFI
- Don Bosco
- ECLOF
- Fundación ADEMI
- Fundación Río Jaya
- FUDECO
- FUNDEPROCUNIPA
- FUNDEPRODA
- IDAC
- IDEAC
- ILAC
- LEMBA
- MUDE
- Niños del Camino
- Pastoral Juvenil
- Patronato para la Protección Ambiental de Monseñor Nouel
- Proyecto DREAM
- SEGH

- SODIN
- SOEPA
- Fundación Sur Futuro
- SURJOVEN

Local Community Partners