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Do you have an announcement or item of interest to RPCVs? All area RPCV’s/Peace Corps supporters/interested persons are invited to submit event announcements, news Items or other items which may be of interest to the Western New York RPCV community. You may request for the information to be placed in the newsletter or as a separate email. Items submitted may be subject to editing and/or editorial discretion. Submit to: buffalorpcv@yahoo.com

Check out our webpage!  www.buffalorpcv.org

Please look at it on a regular basis as we are really trying to focus on the web page as a main source of information about current events.

Join Us on Facebook and now Instagram

http://www.facebook.com/groups/45930918164/

Our new Instagram account is peace_corps_buffalo
Here’s to a bright New Year and a fond farewell to the old; here’s to the things that are yet to come, and to the memories that we hold.

May you fill your New Year with new adventures, accomplishments, and learnings!

Upcoming Events and Save the dates

Thursday January 16, 2020: We will support Journey’s End WNY Refugee film festival at 6:00 p.m. for the movie IAM ROHINGYA: A GENOCIDE IN FOUR ACTS

Individual movie tickets can be purchased at https://www.wnyrff.org/home2

The movie will be showing at the Tri- Main Center on the 5th floor at JE. From the Halbert St entrance, take the elevator to the 5th floor, exit and turn left. JE is at the end of the hall.

Movie info: https://www.iamrohingyafilm.com/

I would not wait until the day of and think that you can walk in and expect seats to be available.

National Day of Service: Volunteer opportunity on Martin Luther King Day, Monday January 20, 2020
We will be doing a volunteer project at the Peace House in Hamburg. Details coming soon in a separate email.

Address: 4263 St Francis Dr, Hamburg, NY 14075

https://www.google.com/maps/dir/42.5052119,-78.6729652/buffalo+peace+house/@42.6369851,-78.8631797,11z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m9!4m8!1m1!4e1!1m5!1m1!1s0x89d31a9505b64a51:0x6576e202ea3b6893!2m2!1d78.8631797!2d42.7688426

**Fundraiser**

**Sale Price: $10** 2020 Peace Corps Calendars and note cards ($8) are still available. It is only one of two fundraisers so let’s make it a success. They can be acquired at our events or email: Jeri can be reached at jerititus@yahoo.com.

**Highlights**

Thanks to Anne for arranging the friends and family event on Dec 5th at the Expo Market. Those who were in attendance met prospective volunteers and those about to leave for their service. We enjoyed reminiscing about our own service.

**Something of Interest**

My name is Griffin Marie Francis Smith, I served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Uganda from 2011-2013, currently serve on the board of the Chicago Area Peace Corps Association and am a proud member of the RPCV Health Crusade!

RPCV Health Crusade is a newly formed volunteer group of RPCVs who came together to focus on the health and well-being of PCVs and RPCVs. In the spirit that drew us to service, we came together to see how we can make a difference within our own RPCV community. We believe that there are volunteers currently serving in the Peace Corps that could have better health experiences and also believe there is very little in place to support the health of RPCVs after service.

We created a health survey ([https://surveys.rpcvhealthcrusade.org/682425](https://surveys.rpcvhealthcrusade.org/682425)) with the following goals in mind:

- to give the PCV and RPCV community a voice in identifying our own health needs;
- to provide visibility in health trends and patterns within the community;
- to create a more complete picture of the overall health of the community;
- to give RPCV Health Crusade guidance in focusing our efforts (education, advocacy, support, etc.) and developing programs that generate the greatest benefit;
- to help establish a baseline of the current state of our community to track potential changes over time

Please help us distribute this health survey ([https://surveys.rpcvhealthcrusade.org/682425](https://surveys.rpcvhealthcrusade.org/682425)), our goal is to reach as many PCVs and RPCVs as possible.

The survey responses will be kept anonymous (there is no personally-identifiable information) and will not be sold or shared with any other group or organization including NPCA or PC. The survey should only take about 10-20 minutes to complete and could contribute to a potential world of difference to the overall RPCV community.

Please feel free to reach out directly to me or to the group at contact@rpcvhc.org with any questions or concerns.

All the best,
Griffin Marie Francis Smith, 708.560.6477
Hello Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Buffalo, NY!

My name is Emily, I am the Outreach Coordinator for Student Ambassador Exchange. Student Ambassador Exchange (SAE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to conducting and encouraging international and intercultural exchange through a variety of programs. Our aim is to increase dialogue between cultures, share new experiences and build long lasting ties of friendship through public diplomacy. We are under the umbrella of Children of All Nations, an international adoption agency based out of Austin, TX.

We are currently recruiting families to host our international exchange students for the 2020-2021 school year! Hosting an exchange student is a great way to add cultural exchange and enrichment to your everyday life! It is also an opportunity for an international student to witness American culture and experience what it is like to be a part of an American family.

I thought this program might be of interest to your Returned Peace Corps community! I am happy to send you materials to share with your members in a newsletter or on your Facebook page.

Please email or call me at (512) 323-9595 ext. 3021 with any questions you might have, I am more than happy to provide you with more info! I have attached a link to our website with more information.

http://saeglobal.org/
http://saeglobal.org/host-families/

Thank you for all you have given back to the world! I hope to hear from you soon!

Best,
Emily Richards
Outreach Coordinator

Adoptee Summer Travel Now Available!

Student Ambassador Exchange | Children of All Nations
248 Addie Roy Road, Ste. A102 | Austin, TX 78746
Tel: (512) 323-9595 ext. 3021
Receive $100 Cash Gift for Referring a Host Family

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Check out our webpage! www.buffalorpcv.org

Please look at it on a regular basis as we are really trying to focus on the web page as a main source of information about current events.

It is membership renewal time and if you haven’t officially joined our local group, please consider joining. You may also do on our webpage. https://www.buffalorpcv.org/cpages/join

Mail in registration on the next page…………….
RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF
BUFFALO, NEW YORK
2020 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

RPCV/Buffalo membership is open to all returned Peace Corps Volunteers, active and friends of Peace Corps. Please complete the following and return with your membership dues (15.00 annually) payable to RPCV/Buffalo:

RPCV/Buffalo
c/o Jeri Titus
P.O.Box 650
Buffalo, NY 14205

Please check

Renewing Member ______ New Member ______

Are you a member of the National Peace Corps Association? Yes _____ No _____

I. Personal Information:

Name: (first) ____________________________ (last) _________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________ (apt) _______
City: __________________________________________________________________________
State: __________________________________________    Zip: _________________________
Telephone: ___________________________ Cell: ____________________________
E-Mail: ________________________________

II. Peace Corps Service Information (if applicable):

Country(ies) of Service: __________________________________________________________
Dates of Service: __________________________________________________________________
Primary Service Role: __________________________________________________________________