

## The Peace Corps Community in Indiana

### Indiana Peace Corps Volunteers Through the Years

INDIANA  
VOLUNTEERS  
SINCE 1961

3,555

2020: 110

2017: 104

2019: 122

2016: 113

2023  
INDIANA  
VOLUNTEERS

33

2018: 110

1966: 238

### 5 Things to Know about the Peace Corps Community in Indiana

1

Among large colleges and universities, Indiana University/Bloomington ranked 20th in 2019/2020, in sending Peace Corps Volunteers overseas.

2

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

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

Wabash College graduate Paul Stephens, who served with the Peace Corps in the nation of Georgia, is the founder of the Transcaucasian Trail Association, which is working to develop a 3,000 kilometer-long hiking trail that follows the Greater and Lesser Caucasus Mountains.

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