

## The Peace Corps Community in Nebraska

### Nebraska Peace Corps Volunteers Through the Years

NEBRASKA  
VOLUNTEERS  
SINCE 1961

1,487

2020: 32

2017: 46

2019: 38

2016: 52

CURRENT  
NEBRASKA  
VOLUNTEERS

4

2018: 50

1966: 111

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

1

Peace Corps has an educational partnership with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The school's Peace Corps Prep program outlines areas of study intended to make students more competitive applicants for Peace Corps service.

2

In August 2023, Governor Jim Pillen announced recipients of the Step Forward Awards, honoring Nebraskans for their volunteer service. Among the recipients was Ecuador RPCV Marah Shai of Gering, who at age 94 received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

3

In May 2023, eight University of Nebraska students became the first to receive certificates to mark their successful completion of the school's Peace Corps Prep program. Three of those students are from Lincoln, while one is from Omaha and one is from Alma.

4

In the summer of 2022, reports on News Channel Nebraska and KMTV in Omaha featured two Nebraskans who were among the first Americans to return to service with the Peace Corps. Leslie Rojas of Norfolk was selected to serve in Rwanda, while Jennifer Ecklund was selected to serve in Namibia.

5

Wendy Ross, National Park Service Deputy Regional Director in Omaha, served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Sri Lanka from 1992-1994.

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