Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 3, 2024

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart, Chairman Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives The Honorable Barbara Lee, Ranking Member Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Lee:

We respectfully request you provide \$479,000,000 for the Peace Corps in the forthcoming "Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act" for fiscal year 2025, consistent with the President's budget request for fiscal year 2025.

This requested funding level would enable Peace Corps operations globally, while supporting the volunteers who choose to serve. The Peace Corps represent a vital aspect of American diplomacy and engagement. Volunteers teach English, support economic development, and develop programs in coordination with communities around the world. Their work builds lasting relationships and builds the United States' international partnerships. Particularly in times of rising tensions, our Peace Corps is a critical, cost-effective investment which supports the United States, the Volunteers, and the communities they work in.

Peace Corps Volunteers serve our country in remote, challenging environments. In recent years, the Peace Corps has taken steps to improve further the health, safety, and wellbeing of its Volunteers. Funding at \$479 million for fiscal year 2025 would ensure that this progress continues so Volunteers can carry on reinforcing American ideals and providing support for developing nations.

Thank you for your leadership and past efforts to provide the Peace Corps with the resources needed to support the next generation of American leaders who volunteer abroad.

Sincerely,

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