

Summary: NPCA’s 2017 RPCVs of WI-Madison grant focused on three primary activities: expanding the virtual engagement and learning of affiliate groups through community-driven webinars; enhanced inter-group communications and networking through virtual town halls; and building the capacity of groups to find “lost” Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) through the Find the 250K campaign. All of the programs were successfully implemented. While we did not fully meet our “stretch” objectives, we did make significant progress. (Note that we do not yet have final data on membership in affiliate groups for FY18.)

Objective	Baseline	Result
Double participation in affiliate group networking	34 voting members at 2017 Affiliate Group Network Annual Meeting (AGNAM)	37 voting members at 2018 AGNAM, plus 30 at Virtual Town Halls
20% increase in use of online resources by groups	82 webinar page views	634 webinar page views (673% increase; 52% new visitors)

Purpose-Driven Webinar Series

The NPCA affiliate group webinar series featured 11 webinars between November 2017 and November 2018, close to our goal of one per month. In a shift from prior years, six of the webinars were initiated and hosted by community members. The other five were coordinated by NPCA based on repeated community requests. All webinars were presented by and targeted for affiliate group leaders and other community members.

In total, 179 participants officially registered and/or attended the webinars. Registration was not required and actual attendance fluctuated. The most popular webinars were those hosted by affiliate groups, which greatly expanded our audience to include potential new community members such as RESULTS members, students and even a representative working on the topic from Pakistan. Please see the appendix for a complete listing and details. Links to all supporting material, resources and recordings of each of the webinars are on the Affiliate Group Network page of our website here:

<http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/cpages/affiliate-network#webinar>

Virtual Town Halls

NPCA modeled a new series of virtual town halls on the success of regular meetings (which are hybrid in-person and virtual) already in place for the Workplace Affiliate Groups (or WAGs). On three successive evenings, we hosted Virtual Town Halls engaging leadership of cause-related groups (nine participants), geographic groups (11 participants) and country of service groups (10 participants), respectively. The open agenda, focus on only their type of group and

manageable numbers of attendees allowed each group to not only share their successes, but also reveal their challenges. Open discussion allowed groups to learn from each other, share advice and brainstorm new ideas. The town halls were facilitated by Mariko Schmitz, the newly-elected Affiliate Group Network Coordinator, who represents the interests of affiliate groups on the NPCA Board of Directors. Anne Baker represented NPCA staff on all three town halls. Other staff and board directors participated in two of the three. All attendees were enthusiastic in their response to the town halls, suggesting that they be offered three times each year, so that with the Affiliate Group Network Annual Meeting, the groups have quarterly opportunities to engage directly with other group leaders to share best practices and tackle challenges.

Find the 250K Campaign

NPCA relaunched the Find the 250K campaign with the assistance initially of a recently-returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Moriah King, our Community Organizer Fellow. Moriah facilitated a webinar featuring affiliate group leaders sharing their “Tips of the Trade: Building your Database - Finding those RPCVs!” That is, taking a list of RPCVs (supplied by NPCA upon request) and using multiple tools to fill in the data gaps to ultimately account for all RPCVs in that country service. By the conclusion of her fellowship in February, Moriah built a [webpage](#) including links to the webinar recording and a downloadable Community Toolkit. Moriah worked directly with eight groups; NPCA staff continue to respond to requests for data and assist with group questions on an on-going basis.

Thank you to the RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison for your support of our capacity-building resources for affiliate groups, helping us in our efforts to enable affiliate groups to thrive!

Financial Report

	Total Expenses	Expenses Budgeted for and Covered by (RPCVs of WI-Madison)
Materials Development and Project Management	\$5,400	\$3,955
Zoom subscriptions	\$300	\$300
Database support	\$3,750	\$2,580
Total	\$9,450	\$7,005

Appendix: Full Webinar Details

Tuesday, November 27, 2018: International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women

From 25 November 2018, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December 2018, Human Rights Day, the United Nations and various international and national organizations are sponsoring [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign](#). **Women of Peace Corps Legacy**, an NPCA affiliate group, is supporting this campaign by offering a webinar on November 27 from 8-9 PM. Four leading advocates will share their experiences and advice on eliminating a tragedy that faces one out of every three women in the world. The webinar will offer participants the opportunity to ask the leaders questions and share their own activities. Please click on the above link to the UN's page on the Campaign to learn more about it before the webinar.

Host: Women of Peace Corps Legacy (NPCA affiliate group)

Number of attendees: 30, including local students and a representative in Pakistan working on the issue

Thursday, November 15, 2018: Engaging your Group with Refugees: Case Studies

RPCVs have unique skills and experiences to support the refugee community here in the U.S., but how do they best do so? On this webinar, led by **Peace Corps Community for Refugees**, hear from affiliate groups and individuals on how they are engaging with the refugees and resettlement agencies in their communities.

By the end of the webinar, participants will:

1. Understand the current situation about refugees and appreciate the gravity of their needs
2. Learn about effective RPCV affiliate groups' efforts regarding both advocacy for and direct support of refugees
3. Connect with and become part of a network other RPCVs doing this work
4. Leave the webinar with specific actions they can take (next steps, how can my group help?)

Presenters: **Valerie Kurka**, Peace Corps Community for Refugees; **Ron Ison**, Cincinnati Area Returned Volunteers; **Sarah Porter**, New York City Peace Corps Association; **Marian Abernathy and Peggy Schaeffer**, RPCVs, Durham, North Carolina

Host: Peace Corps Community for Refugees (NPCA affiliate group)

Number of attendees: 18

Wednesday, August 29, 2018: Collaboration discussion with Kul Gautam and RESULTS

We've made incredible progress on child survival and extreme poverty over the past several decades. Kul Gautam, former Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and former Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF has been a leader in these efforts. Kul has worked with many organizations throughout the years, but two of his favorites are Peace Corps and RESULTS. He is inspired by their missions and their work. His first exposure to the Peace Corps was as a student in Nepal, and he learned of RESULTS during the early days of child survival revolution, which he helped spearhead.

Kul is the recipient of the National Peace Corps Association's 2018 Harris Wofford Global Citizen Award, NPCA's highest honor. He is also the Board Chair of RESULTS. On August 29th Kul is bringing together the **National Peace Corps Association and RESULTS** to celebrate the roles these organizations have played in his life and in creating change in the world. He also wants to highlight the mutual benefits and power of a partnership between the NPCA and RESULTS. There is still a lot of work to do on poverty—working together we'll get there faster.

- Please join us in person on August 29 at 11:30 am ET at 1101 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005 in the lower-level conference room.
- Or join us remotely via webinar at: <https://results.zoom.us/j/763514126>, or phone at 669-900-6833, ID: 763514126#.
- If possible, [please RSVP](#) so we know how many people to expect in-person or online.

Read Kul's new autobiography, [Global Citizen from Gulmi](#). Proceeds will go to UNICEF-assisted girl's education projects in Nepal.

Host: RESULTS (potential NPCA affiliate group)

Number of attendees: 45, including both NPCA and RESULTS participants, both online and in person

Wednesday, August 15, 2018: Preserve the Peace Corps Legacy

This webinar will highlight the ways in which NPCA affiliate groups can participate in the **Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Oral History Archive Project**. The project aims to preserve the unique Peace Corps legacy as experienced and articulated by individual Peace Corps Volunteers and staff. Through the project, RPCVs conduct in-person oral history interviews covering individuals' motivation to join the Peace Corps, the training and in-country experience, and reflections on the impact of Peace Corps service on the individual, the country in which the volunteer or staff served and the United States. Interviews average 60 to 90 minutes. Interviews are archived at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum as part of the National Archives and Records Administration. To date, more than 600 interviews have been archived and made accessible to researchers and the general public.

Join the webinar to learn more about this opportunity to engage your members in carrying the Peace Corps message forward and how you can be interviewed and become an interviewer yourself! (Note: Interviewers will be on site at Peace Corps Connect from August 23-25, 2018 to conduct interviews of interested RPCVs and staff.)

Presenter: Evelyn Ganzglass (Somalia 1966-68), RPCV Oral History Archive Project

Host: RPCV Oral History Archive Project (NPCA affiliate group)

Number of attendees: 7

Wednesday, July 11, 2018: [Insurance 101: Do we need it? What do we need? Why?](#)

NPCA affiliate groups carry out a range of events for their community, from local service projects to high-end fundraising galas, with lots of those happy hours and potlucks in between. Groups are generally managed by some sort of a board of directors, primarily on a volunteer basis.

But how many of these groups have purchased liability, directors & officers, or other insurance? Join in this facilitated discussion with NPCA's insurance broker, Andy Cooley, to cover such topics as:

- Why insurance?
- Do we need it?
- What should we get? And from where?

Help us make this webinar one that meets your needs as effectively as possible. Please submit your specific questions and let us know your "exposures" (e.g., activities) in advance to groups@peacecorpsconnect.org.

Presenters: **Andy Cooley**, Cooley & Darling Insurance Agency, Inc.; **Anne Baker**, NPCA Vice President (facilitator)

Host: NPCA

Number of attendees: 8

Thursday, May 17, 2018: [Get Strategic, Part II: How to Develop a Strategic Plan that Empowers your Group](#)

Now that you know the basics of strategic planning, how do you put what you've learned into action? Join us for the second installment of this two part series, where experienced planning professionals will discuss the nitty gritty details of planning and share their tips for success.

Participants will use case studies to explore a range of approaches, so you're guaranteed to find the right one for you – whether your group is brand new to strategic planning, needs to refresh an existing plan, or is ready to tackle a more intensive process.

This webinar follows on the Part I webinar held on April 5. (If you missed that webinar, you can [download the presentation and view the recording.](#))

Presenters: Don Drach, Friends of Liberia; Katie Muller, Philadelphia Area Peace Corps Association; Pat Wand, Museum of the Peace Corps Experience

Host: NPCA

Number of attendees: 15

Thursday, April 5, 2018: [Get Strategic: How to Develop a Strategic Plan that Empowers your Group](#)

Does your group have a strategic plan? Research shows that conducting strategic planning is a success factor for affiliate groups. That is, those groups who do strategic planning are more likely to have larger numbers and more engaged members.

What does a strategic plan look like? Where do you begin?

This webinar is hosted and led by affiliate group leaders who have successfully developed and are implementing their own strategic plans. Join us to start your own plan and empower your group.

Presenters: Don Drach, Friends of Liberia; Katie Muller, Philadelphia Area Peace Corps Association; Pat Wand, Museum of the Peace Corps Experience

Host: NPCA

Number of attendees: 16

Thursday, March 15, 2018: [Get Social: Tips and Tricks for Engaging your Members using Social Media](#)

Effective strategies for advancing your group on social media.

Presenters: Mary Owen, NPCA Board Director; Meisha Robinson, NPCA Director of Communications

Host: NPCA

Number of attendees: 23

Wednesday, February 7, 2018: [International Women's Day 2018: Another Opportunity to Serve](#)

National Peace Corps Association is partnering with the Women of Peace Corps Legacy to bring greater awareness to International Women's Day on March 8, highlighting the contributions women around the world have made to strengthen their communities and countries. Join us to share ideas of how you can mobilize your affiliate group to serve on this important date.

If your group has been active on previous International Women's Days, please let us know at womenofpeacecorpslegacy@gmail.com.

Please join us for this conversation.

Presenters: **Lee Lacy**, Women of Peace Corps Legacy; **Stacey Ferguson**, Peace Corps Office of Third Goal; **Randy Adams**, NPCA Board of Directors

Host: Women of Peace Corps Legacy (NPCA affiliate group)

Number of attendees: 4

Wednesday, January 10, 2018: [Partnering with Hostelling International USA](#)

NPCA partners with Hostelling International USA (HI-USA) to provide programming, facilities and opportunities to fulfill the missions of both NPCA affiliate groups and HI-USA.

In this webinar, HI-USA will give an overview of their non-profit mission, their hostels, and their signature programs. They will outline how Peace Corps community members can volunteer in their programs, including their [Explore the World](#) Travel Scholarship Outreach and Selection Committee, and how affiliate groups can partner with hostels in their local communities.

Presenters: **Amanda Silva**, Development and Partnerships Coordinator, NPCA; **John Schilder**, NW Regional Engagement Manager, HI-USA

Host: Hostelling International (NPCA collaborating partner)

Number of attendees: 2

Wednesday, November 15, 2017: [Tips of the Trade: Building your database - finding those RPCVs](#)

NPCA is committed to helping affiliate groups build out their membership base. Starting with a list (names [First, MI, Last] and dates of service [SOS and COS]) of all who served in Peace Corps in your country of service, what's next? How do you find contact information and reach out to invite them to connect with your community?

In this webinar aimed primarily at country of service affiliate groups, you will hear tips of the trade from those who have been successful in building their membership using just that data.

Presenters: **Moriah King**, NPCA Community Organizer Fellow; **Tim Resch**, President, Friends of Morocco; **Steve Phelan**, Representative for Friends of Honduras; and **Genna Wangsness**, Organizational Historian for the Peace Corps Iran Association.

Host: NPCA

Number of attendees: 11