



LET *
GIRLS
LEARN



The Complete Toolkit | Join Us.



LET * GIRLS LEARN



So, what is the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn program?

As part of the U.S. government's commitment to Let Girls Learn Initiative, First Lady Michelle Obama and the Peace Corps have formed a powerful collaboration to expand access to education for girls around the world. Educating and empowering girls is essential to healthy and thriving communities but, globally, 62 million girls are not in school, and barriers to girls completing school are particularly significant. This program will address that challenge by empowering local leaders to put lasting solutions in place. Peace Corps Volunteers who live and work at the grassroots level will serve as catalysts of community-led change, and every American can get involved and make a difference.

The Peace Corps' Let Girls Learn program will launch these countries in the first year: **Albania, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Georgia, Ghana, Moldova, Mongolia, Mozambique, Thailand, Togo, and Uganda.**

Last year, **over 82,000 girls** and young women around the world participated in youth clubs and camps led by Peace Corps Volunteers.

More than 2,000 Peace Corps Volunteers led girls' education and empowerment activities in **over 60 countries** last year.

In the last two years, **400 Peace Corps Volunteers**, staff, and host country counterparts have been trained to respond to gender-based violence that prevents girls from learning in school and, in some cases, from attending school at all.

The Three Pillars of LGL

Empowering Leaders

The program will help promote girls empowerment and increase gender awareness by delivering targeted trainings for thousands of Volunteers and tens of thousands of community leaders over the next five years to be champions of girls' education.

Peace Corps Volunteer Sam Ginty couldn't help but notice that the girls in his community in Benin dropped out of school at a higher rate than the boys. He saw that girls sometimes faced harassment in the classroom and felt discouraged from learning. But as an Education Volunteer in a secondary school, he also saw their interest in learning and their potential and wanted to make sure the girls felt empowered to stay in school and continue learning. And there were other teachers in his community who wanted to make a difference for girls, too.

As a first step, Sam and his community members designed a teacher training focused on student-centered learning and gender equality. This intensive two-day training would give teachers a chance to learn techniques on lesson planning and classroom management that would help all students feel more engaged. It would also provide specific ways that teachers could help increase gender equality and stop sexual harassment in their classrooms. With these new concepts, teachers could help make sure the girls in their classrooms felt welcome and inspired to stay in school.

When the first day of the training arrived, Sam and the organizers were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the 18 teachers who came. They were engaged throughout the two days, participating in hands-on activities and thoughtful discussions. And the teachers felt energized by the opportunity to focus on their own

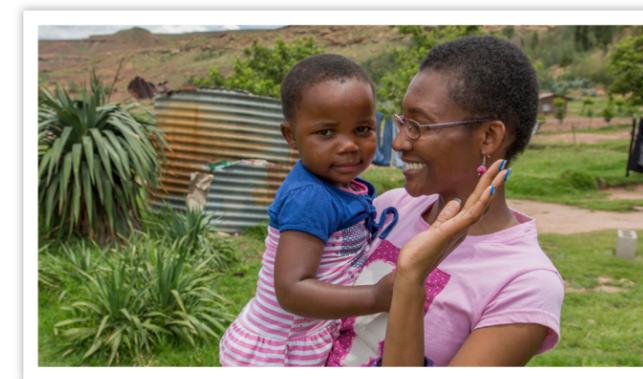


professional development. Since the training, the teachers said they have been able to apply what they learned in their own classrooms and have even been able to share some techniques with fellow teachers in their schools who could not attend.

"An important lesson learned is that teachers are very interested in attending trainings but are not often given the opportunity," Sam said. Projects like this help give teachers the tools they need to make their classrooms safe spaces for girls and ensure they have the same chance as boys to learn and stay in school.

Working Hand in Hand with Communities

Thousands of Peace Corps Volunteers work side by side with local leaders to achieve community-based solutions through the Peace Corps Partnership Program, a crowdsourcing portal that allows Peace Corps Volunteers to post their community approved projects online for funding. From a school library to a technology camp for girls, under Let Girls Learn, Peace Corps Volunteers working on gender-related projects can now apply for support through a newly established girls' education fund.



When Peace Corps Volunteer Jennifer Jiggetts began teaching at a primary school in Lesotho, her fellow educators noted how the students, many of whom were orphans, had to trek half a mile up the mountain to get water from the springs. Instead of studying, they spent hours to get water. Because getting water is considered women's work in Lesotho, the girls' trek directly impacted their learning. If they had a water pump by the school where they could fill their water bottles, they'd be able to dedicate more time to their studies.

With this incentive and Jennifer's background in craftmaking, she and her students created a jewelry-making business to raise money to purchase a pump. Their contributions helped buy the pump, which was funded with additional support from the Peace Corps Partnership Program, a program where anyone can

support grassroots projects designed and implemented by Peace Corps Volunteers and members of their communities.

Her students made beads from clay, then made bracelets, necklaces, earrings, and bookmarks, as well as jewelry from other locally available resources, including safety pins and seshoeshoe—Lesotho's national fabric. Together, Jennifer, fellow teachers, and her students used social media and the Internet to promote and sell the jewelry, as well as selling it at local markets.

In addition to learning a craft, Jennifer's students learned to start and run a business: how to write a business plan, open a bank account, balance a budget, and market and sell products. They learned to set goals, apply for a grant, and design and manage a project. More than that, they learned to use the skills and tools they already had to develop new skills, building their self-confidence to take their futures in their own hands. After almost two years, the students raised enough to install the water pump. Their next goal? They'd like to raise money to build a better classroom.

With access to funding specifically dedicated to girls' education and empowerment projects through the Peace Corps Partnership Program, Peace Corps Volunteers like Jennifer will be able to make an even bigger, more sustainable difference in the lives of young women around the world.



Increasing the Impact of Peace Corps Volunteers

A major component of the program will support Peace Corps Volunteers working to break down the barriers to girls' education in the communities they serve. Under Let Girls Learn, the Peace Corps will expand the number of Volunteers focused on advancing girls' education and empowerment, and will engage Returned Peace Corps Volunteers in support of this program.

When Peace Corps Volunteer Danielle Carrillo took a group of students to a girls' leadership camp last year in her province in Cambodia, they came home with a challenge: to implement a project in their community. Their idea? To address a local public health problem by building a bathroom for the local primary school, which didn't have one.

The girls, who attended a Girls Leading Our World—GLOW—Camp got to work quickly. Danielle helped the girls write a grant proposal, using the Peace Corps Partnership Program, and the girls committed themselves to asking community members for contributions and to each lead two hand-washing and hygiene lessons for their fellow students.

Construction on the bathroom finished in the fall, and the girls have worked steadily to deliver their message of hand-washing and hygiene, using glitter to demonstrate how germs are spread and how to use soap to wash “germs” off.

For her part, Danielle is organizing this year's Camp GLOW in her province, and plans to lead sessions on gender roles, life skills, and leadership.

“I think that Camp GLOW truly empowers the girls who attend,” Danielle said. “Since camp last year, I have seen real



changes in their attitudes toward themselves and in their perspective of their futures. Their confidence has been boosted and they are so much more excited for the possibilities life has to offer ... My community members and students are very excited to do it again this year.”

At the end of the camp, Danielle, her community members, and the girls will bring their new skills and knowledge back to their villages and empower even more young women. With increased gender training, Peace Corps Volunteers like Danielle will be able to make an even bigger, more sustainable difference in the lives of young women around the world.

For more information, visit letgirlslearn.peacecorps.gov

A Call to Action How to Help

By hosting an event in your community—through your school, club, house of worship, or just with friends—you can raise funds to support girls around the world. Remember that 100% of your donation goes to support Volunteer projects and there is a required local contribution of 25% or more so we've paved the way already!

Here are some ideas for individuals, groups, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and other grassroots fundraisers to get involved and make a difference. Host one or more of these events in your community, and contribute the proceeds to the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Fund.

All donations can be made at donation.peacecorps.gov



- **Hold a silent auction or raffle.**

Encourage members of your community to donate items to be auctioned or raffled off. Participants can bid on specific items, or purchase tickets for a chance to win.

- **Host a book sale or a bake sale.**

Whether your passion is reading or baked goods, you can ask friends to help you bake or donate their gently used books, then sell those items to members of your community.

- **Have a car wash.**

A car wash is a low-cost, community event where all you need is a few Volunteers willing to wash their way to making a difference.

- **Organize a walkathon or fun run.**

Participants can collect pledges for walking or running a specific distance.

- **Lead a trivia competition or quiz night.**

Small teams compete to answer questions, and make a donation as an entry fee.

- **Start one penny at a time.**

Compete against other classrooms at your school or floors in your office building for a penny challenge. Each team gets a large container to fill with bills and coins. The lowest score wins, so fill your own container with pennies and your competitors' containers with dollar bills!

- **Host a concert or battle of the bands.**

Invite local musicians, comedians or other performers to share the stage and collect admission fees to support the cause.

- **Look who's coming to dinner.**

Host a fundraising dinner with each guest makes a donation and brings a dish - maybe each dish represents a different country around the world.

- **Share your special day.**

Ask that instead of gifts for a birthday, wedding or other occasion, friends and family make a contribution to Let Girls Learn.

How to use this toolkit:

This toolkit provides everything you need to host an event in support of the Peace Corps' Let Girls Learn program. Your hard work will make a difference for girls around the world.

Whether you want to raise funds to support girls' education and empowerment or raise awareness about this important issue in your community, you can customize this toolkit to work for you.

The toolkit includes: a postcard you can mail to family and friends, a brochure with more information about Let Girls Learn, a flyer you can use to advertise your event, information cards to share with your guests, templates for name tags and event signs, and thank you cards to show your appreciation to those who support Let Girls Learn.

For more information, please visit letgirlslearn.peacecorps.gov, and to make a financial contribution, please visit donate.peacecorps.gov. Thank you for your support of Let Girls Learn!

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Educating and Empowering Girls

First Lady Michelle Obama and the Peace Corps have come together to launch Let Girls Learn, an initiative that addresses barriers to girls' education and empowering around the world. The goal is to increase girls' education and enrollment in school in targeted countries.

When a girl receives an education, she is more likely to earn a viable living, raise a healthier family, and improve the quality of life for herself, her family, and her community. Yet, 62 million girls globally are not in school; *half of those not in school are adolescent girls.*

For more information, visit letgirlslearn.peacecorps.gov



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Printing & Trimming

The postcard should be printed in color and double-sided. Cut along the dotted line or have your local printer or copy shop print and trim them!

Description & Usage

This postcard is an overview of the Let Girls Learn program. It can be used as a hand-out or a leave-behind at an event, to spread the word to your friends and family. It's also a great reference to look over to be able to answer questions and start discussions about Let Girls Learn!

The Let Girls Learn Postcard

FAQ Brochure

Printing & Trimming

The brochure should be printed in color and double-sided. No trimming needed, just fold along the dotted lines to create your three-fold brochure.

Description & Usage

This brochure answers the Frequently Asked Questions about Let Girls Learn. It can be used as a hand-out or a leave-behind at an event, to give your friends and family more information. It's also a great reference to look over to be able to answer questions and start discussions about Let Girls Learn!

Folded Flyer:



Peace Corps Volunteers, who live and work at the grassroots level, are catalysts for community-led change. They work closely with local leaders and change-makers in their communities to implement long-lasting grassroots projects that meet local needs.



Here's what the Peace Corps is doing to advance girls' education:

1. Training Volunteers and local community leaders to be champions of girls' education
2. Building support among Americans for community-based solutions abroad through the Peace Corps Partnership Program and the Let Girls Learn Fund
3. Expanding the number of Volunteers focused on advancing girls' education and empowerment

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Join Us

We invite you to donate to the Peace Corps' Let Girls Learn Fund in support of this exciting effort. Contact the Peace Corps Office of Gifts and Grants Management to learn more about how your gift will impact girls' education worldwide: [202.692.2170](tel:202.692.2170) or donate@peacecorps.gov.



Q: What is Let Girls Learn?

A: Let Girls Learn is an program that addresses barriers to girls' education around the world by seeking to increase girls' enrollment in and completion of school globally.

Q: Why does this matter?

A: When a girl receives an education, she is more likely to earn a viable living, raise a healthier family, and improve the quality of life for herself, her family, and her community. Yet, 62 million girls globally are not in school, and half of them are adolescent girls. Countries with higher levels of female secondary-school enrollment have lower maternal mortality rates, lower infant mortality rates, lower birth rates, lower rates of HIV/AIDS, and better child nutrition. Every year of schooling increases a girl's individual earning power by 10-20 percent. Each extra year of a mother's secondary schooling reduces the probability of infant mortality by 5-10 percent.

Q: Why the Peace Corps?

A: Peace Corps Volunteers, who live and work at the grassroots level, have served as catalysts of community-led change in the countries where they serve for more than half a century. And when it comes to girls' education and empowerment, they have an established track record as a driving force for progress. >

Further Resources

Browse the links below to find out more about how we're all working together to Let Girls Learn.

Donate Now:
donate.peacecorps.gov

Learn More:
letgirlslearn.peacecorps.gov

From the White House:
whitehouse.gov/LetGirlsLearn

From USAID:
usaid.gov/letgirlslearn

From the State Department:
state.gov/s/gwi

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From 2013-14, more than 2000 Peace Corps Volunteers led girls' education and empowerment activities in over 60 countries, and more than 82,000 girls and young women around the world participated in youth clubs and camps led by Peace Corps Volunteers. From 2012-14, 400 Peace Corps Volunteers, staff, and host country counterparts were trained to respond to gender-based violence that prevents girls from learning in school and, in some cases, from attending school at all. Through Let Girls Learn, the impact and reach of Peace Corps Volunteers is continuing to grow.



Q: If I donate money as an individual or an organization, where will it go?

A: Individuals, groups, and organizations who want to support the Peace Corps' Let Girls Learn efforts can do so at donate.peacecorps.gov. Donors can contribute to the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Fund, and can also browse specific Volunteer projects by country and subject area. Donations to the Peace Corps Let



FAQ's

Check out the answers to some of our most frequently asked questions about the Let Girls Learn program.

Girls Learn Fund support Volunteers working to break down barriers to girls' education in the communities they serve, including support of specific Volunteers working side-by-side with local leaders on gender-related projects through the Peace Corps Partnership Program, and support for training to help Volunteers address the challenges girls face in their communities and other Let Girls Learn priorities.

Q: What is the Peace Corps Partnership Program?

A: The Peace Corps Partnership Program connects Volunteers and their communities with members of the public and private sector in the U.S. and around the world to fund community-initiated, sustainable grassroots projects.

Volunteers submit proposals to the Partnership Program to obtain financial assistance for community projects. To receive funding, the local community must make a 25 percent contribution to the project, which helps ensure community ownership and promotes long-term sustainability. In 2014 alone, the Partnership Program funded 776 projects in 59 countries, touching the lives of 1.4 million people around the globe.

Q: How else can I help?

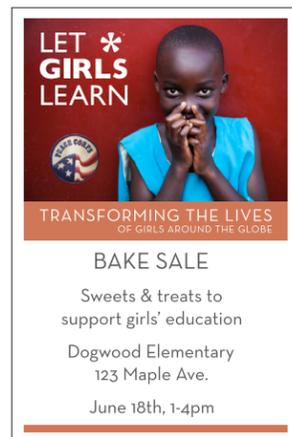
A: Visit letgirlslearn.peacecorps.gov to learn more about girls' education and get involved. Email letgirlslearn@peacecorps.gov for more information.

Event Flyer

Description & Usage

This flyer is intended to be used as a way to promote your event. Hand it out, stick it on corkboards, at community centers, or places where interested people might see it.

Example Flyer:



Printing & Trimming

The event flyer should be printed in color and double-sided. Cut down the middle dotted line, and voila! two flyers per page. Can also be printed blank and filled in by hand!

LET *
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TRANSFORMING THE LIVES
OF GIRLS AROUND THE GLOBE

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Wallet Cards

Description & Usage

These small handouts are simple, direct, and easy to carry in a wallet. They are meant to inform people of where they can go to contribute or to learn more about Let Girls Learn.

Printing & Trimming

The cards should be printed in color and double-sided. They are designed to work with standard business card templates available at office supply stores. If not, just print and trim along the dotted line.

LEARN
MORE

at letgirlslearn.peacecorps.gov

GIVE

at donate.peacecorps.gov





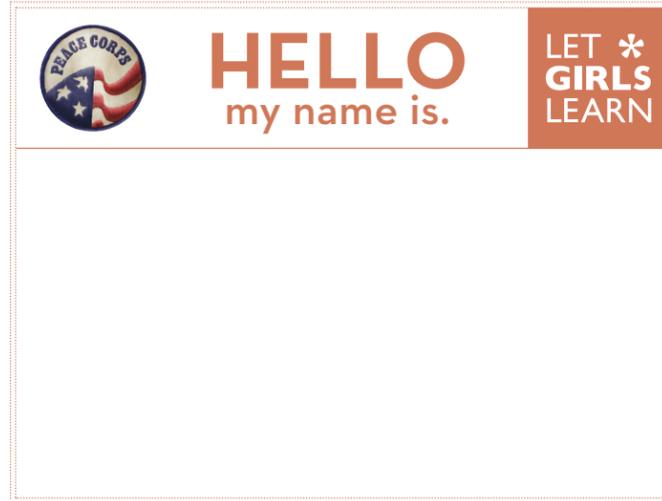
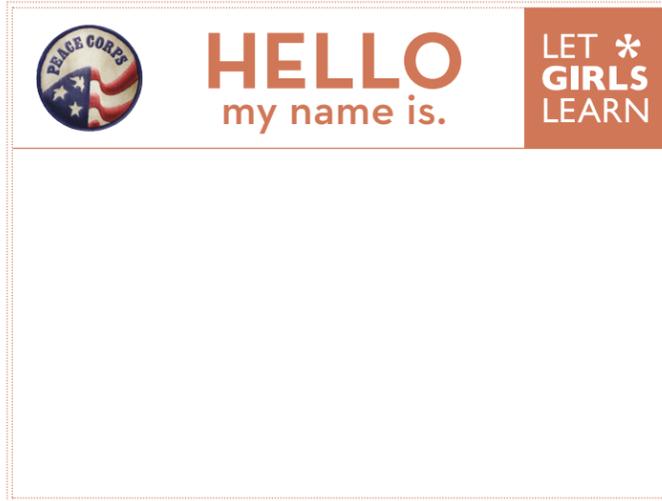
Name Tags

Description & Usage

Name tags are friendly and helpful tools that make it easy for people to introduce themselves and recognize the people helping with the event. Be sure to encourage everyone involved to wear one!

Printing & Trimming

The name tags should be printed in color and single-sided. They are designed to work with standard name tag templates available at office supply stores, or just print and trim along the dotted line. (They fit into standard name tag holders, but could also be printed on stickers, or just pinned directly to a shirt.)



Event Signage

Description & Usage

The signage is intended to help direct event-goers to your correct location. The sign has an empty field for you to fill in. For example, you could write in “Registration” to use a sign near a table where people register. Some more examples are “Snacks”, “Beverages”, “Raffle”, or whatever may be appropriate to your personal event.

Example Signs:

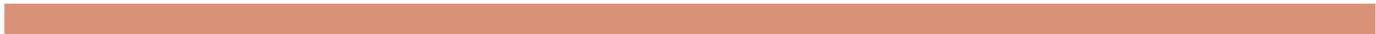


Printing & Trimming

There are two signage options: a horizontal and a vertical. Feel free to fill in as needed, and print in color and single-sided.



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Thank You Cards

Description & Usage

These thank you cards are meant to be given to contributors on any level. The front message thanks them for helping the LGL mission, and the blank back allows you to write a personal note specifying how they helped!

Printing & Trimming

The cards should be printed in color and single-sided. Print and trim along the dotted lines. (Back will be blank for a personal touch!)





Thank You for Your Support!

The Let Girls Learn program needs the support of Americans from all walks of life who share the belief that every girl's education matters. The Let Girls Learn Fund will support Peace Corps Volunteers working alongside local leaders to break down barriers to education in their communities. If you join us by making a donation to the Let Girls Learn Fund, your contribution will reach those in need and make a difference. Most importantly, 100 percent of your donation to the Let Girls Learn Fund directly supports Volunteer projects and community training around the globe.

For more information, visit letgirlslearn.peacecorps.gov

Further Resources

Browse the links below to find out more about how we're all working together to Let Girls Learn.

Donate Now:

donate.peacecorps.gov

Learn More:

letgirlslearn.peacecorps.gov

From the White House:

whitehouse.gov/LetGirlsLearn

From USAID:

usaid.gov/letgirlslearn

From the State Department:

state.gov/s/gwi