My fellow citizens of the world, ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man. Kennedy.

Peace Corps represents some if not all of the best of this society...Stands for everything America has ever stood for, for everything we believe in and hope to achieve in the world....Shriver

From an early age I had an interest in the wider world beyond the boundaries of United States. A number of my generation were particularly inspired by Kennedy and his call to join the Peace Corps.

How many of you are going to be doctors, and willing to work in the foreign service, spend your lives traveling around the world.

When we arrived, Kennedy was revered, and the United States was considered their closest ally. There was a sense of partnership.

I was so excited, there were 130 people in my group. We landed in Ghana on a bright, sunny spring day. People to welcome us. Something in the air different from where we came from.

It was nice to be part of a first program. We did not have texting, phones, electricity, cell phones, no computers. Did not get a chance to go home for 2 years. Kind of exciting.

Times have changed. The agency's mission to promote world peace and friendship has not. 3 goals of Peace Corps are as relevant today as in 1961.
1. Help people of interested countries meet their needs for trained men and women.
2. To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served.
3. To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

They shared the lives of these people, and their skills. They learned the language - that's why Peace Corps was unique.

Peace Corps is very dynamic organization. One that promotes friendship, yet at the same time, about helping people to help themselves.

Understanding is the peace in Peace Corps. We are here to make this exchange. Taking the time out to understand who this person is, what they want to become, you are building relationships.
Not only teaching people in primary level, but empowering people with skills for sustainability.

Peace Corps sends volunteers to other countries to build bridges of understanding, foster friendship, that will foster peace, and build the kind of relationship we all strive for. We are all just not witnesses of countries’ development, but participants. We have taught English to 1000s of children and teachers. Taught farmers to improve crops. We taught computer technology powered by solar panels in rural villages. And we delivered HIV/AIDS prevention messages to 1000s of young adults. We are on the ground, changing lives and history.

Working in government or any other walk of life, informs your public service. Peace Corps has this impact on you you carry with you the rest of your life.

The thing so exciting about Peace Corps, is transformation that takes place in lives of volunteers and communities. maybe nurses who devoted their lives to serving their community because they were touched by a Peace Corps volunteer who encouraged them to go onto nursing school. Or maybe it was a family who were helped by a volunteer to taught them to make a garden, that enabled their children to grow up healthy, maybe their kids were educated. Those stories are things that JFK would be most proud of.

I hope the spirit will grow, that 100s of young and older Americans will go overseas to show our best side, our desire to live in peace. There can be no greater service to our country, and no source of pride more real, than to be a member of the Peace Corps in the United States.