

THE USA FREEDOM CORPS' 

Network of Service

July 2003

President Bush Thanks Peace Corps Volunteers for AIDS Relief Work



President Bush with Peace Corps volunteers in Gaborone, Botswana. White House photo by Paul Morse.

On July 10, during his five-country trip in Africa, [President Bush thanked the Peace Corps Volunteers in Botswana](#) for their work. "The President was warm and friendly and spent time talking with each of us," said Volunteer Donna Stanislawski. "The President thanked all the Volunteers for their support and commitment to helping Botswana fight the scourge of HIV/AIDS."

Currently, 2,100 Peace Corps volunteers are working to combat HIV/AIDS around the world. In May, the [Peace Corps committed 1,000 additional volunteers to fight HIV/AIDS](#) as part of President Bush's [Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief](#) a five-year, \$15 billion initiative.

Learn more about the [Peace Corps](#), and [how your organization can support](#) AIDS relief and other global initiatives through [Volunteers for Prosperity](#).

Peace Corps Returns to Jordan

On July 22, Peace Corps Director Gaddi H. Vasquez announced that Peace Corps volunteers would return to Jordan as early as January 2004. Before the program closed in 2002 due to security concerns, 216 Peace Corps volunteers had served in Jordan. [Click here for details](#).

Help America's Youth Develop Lifelong Habits of Service

The new school year is just a few weeks away, and the USA Freedom Corps is encouraging America's students to begin a service activity or project this fall. By serving something greater than themselves, young people will learn about their rich democratic traditions as Americans, help meet vital community needs, and become responsible and engaged citizens.

[The Students in Service to America guidebook](#) was created to help educators engage youth in service and help them develop habits of service that last a lifetime.

The web-based guidebook offers research, best practices, guidance, tools, and other resources to help adults develop service activities and service-learning programs for young people in schools, after-school programs, and through community groups and organizations. In addition to the guidebook, a CD-ROM and poster are also available. These materials have been sent to more than 130,000 public and private elementary and secondary schools, homeschools,

and after-school programs around the country.

The USA Freedom Corps encourages adults to work with teachers to support service-learning through their corporate and community-based programs to enrich the classroom work of students while helping them to develop civic responsibility and addressing community needs.

The materials were developed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Corporation for National and Community Service in cooperation with the Points of Light Foundation.

We encourage you to review these materials and then share them with your colleagues, those who volunteer with your organization, and the young people in your community.



The guidebook can be [downloaded to a computer](#) or you can [order copies on-line](#).

Grant Funds Available from the National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has announced the availability of grant funds for a series of one-week residence-based workshops to be held in the summer of 2004 for K-12 educators that use historic sites to address central themes and issues in American history.

These grants are part of the NEH's ["We the People" initiative](#), one component of a [multi-agency effort to enhance the teaching of American history and civics announced by](#)

[President Bush](#) last fall. Other components include ["Our Documents"](#) which gives students and teachers across the country access to national treasures of American history, and the ["We the People" Forum on American History, Civics, and Service](#) held in May.

Nonprofit organizations and state and local governments are eligible to apply. NEH expects to make five awards of up to \$300,000 each. Applications are due August 15, 2003. [Click here for a grant application](#).