

From: Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida Rpcvssf@wildapricot.org  
Subject: RPCVSF's March Newsletter  
Date: March 1, 2019 at 5:02 PM  
To: Marvin Hancock tmhr@me.com



Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida is *your* group—please join us for fun get-togethers, community service activities, job/life networking, great events, stimulating conversation, and much more. Read on and get involved!



# Newsletter

## March 2019

### Quick Event Links

March 16: [International Potluck \(Broward County\)](#)

March 30: [20th Annual Everglades Outing](#)

April 27: [Annual Cinco de Mayo Party](#)

April 28: [Bon Voyage Picnic at A.D. Barnes Park](#)



## Call for Volunteers



Our Everglades Outing has been **rescheduled** for Saturday, March 30th. We are still in need of **more helping hands** for the day.

Join us for our flagship community service event, which gives **more than 100 kids** the opportunity to see, learn about, and experience the amazingly unique ecosystems, plants, and animals that make up the Everglades.

If you are available and would like to help, please [register on our website](#). For more

information or if you have any questions, please [email Genevieve](#). If you can't make it but would like to contribute, consider [donating](#). Thank you for your help and support. We hope to see you there!

RSVP

Email Genevieve

## Peace Corps Advocacy Work



Every year, Ana Ciereszko leads on Peace Corps Advocacy with our elected state officials, and this year was no exception. Ana met with newly elected **Congresswoman Donna Shalala** in mid-February.

Representative Shalala is well-informed on Peace Corps issues. Ana said, "She will definitely be a super advocate and expects the House to **propose budget increases for the Peace Corps**." We at RPCVSF hope so!

The following day, with a similar agenda, Ana, Caryn Lavernia, and Doris Vincent of RPCVSF met with with two members of **Senator Rubio's** staff: the new Miami Regional Director, Lea Padron and Annette Rodríguez, Special Assistant. This meeting also went well.

Thank you to Ana, Caryn, and Doris for your advocacy work. We appreciate you ensuring our voices are heard.

Pictured above from left to right: **Ana Ciereszko** (St. Vincent and the Grenadines' 69-'71) and **Representative Donna Shalala** (Florida's 27th congressional district)





Pictured above from left to right: **Caryn Lavernia** (Vanuatu '05-'08); **Doris Vincent** (Venezuela '64-'66); **Lea Padron**, Regional Director; **Annette Rodriguez**, Special Assistant; and **Ana Ciereszko** (St. Vincent and the Grenadines '69-'71)

## RPCV Career Fair

**Thursday, March 21st**

If you're going to DC or feel like a road trip, Peace Corps is sponsoring its annual **Career Fair**. Join **one of the largest job fairs** of the year! Tentative employers are viewable in the registration page.

The event will take place at the U.S. Department of Labor, [200 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20210](#) on March 21, 2019 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. ET.



Even if you can't make it, there are many career resources available on the [Peace Corps website](#).

\*This event is not sponsored by RPCVSF.\*

**More Information**

## Volunteer Opportunity

Mark Seitz, bishop of the Diocese of El Paso, is Patricia Edmisten's (Silke) cousin. His mission is to **help the Central American migrants and refugees** crossing the border in El Paso, Texas. He's in need of volunteers to help with the shelter of migrant families until they are cleared to live with their U.S. family members and their requests for asylum have been settled. In the link below, Bishop Mark [shares his valuable insights](#) on **the reality of the border area** where he lives and works. Fluent in Spanish, and having spent considerable time in Honduras, Mark has long been an **advocate for people from Central America**. They are looking for flexible volunteers who are willing to work for at least a week. Bishop Mark works through [Annunciation House](#) and would be grateful for your assistance. The **call for volunteers** is open to both RPCVs and non-RPCVs alike. Thank you!

More Information

## Grant Opportunities

### 2019 Study Tour to Brussels

**Deadline:** March 8, 2019

**Award:** An all-expenses paid study tour in Brussels from June 23–29, 2019

Calling all social studies teachers, curriculum developers, and publishers! [Global Ties U.S.](#) is sponsoring a program to [teach the European Union](#). It's a **hands-on immersion experience**, as the program takes place in **Brussels**.



During the week, the economic, cultural, social, and political **ties between the US and EU will be explored** through meeting colleagues from a variety of institutions, peer learning, curriculum workshops, and developing an action plan for integrating EU-related curricula into your work. Good luck with your application!

More Information

### ILA Nila Banton Smith Teacher as Researcher Grant

**Deadline:** March 15, 2019

**Award:** \$5,000

The [International Literacy Association](#) is offering the [Nila Banton Smith Teacher as Researcher Grant](#) to teachers who conduct **research inquiries** in their classrooms and show **outstanding leadership** in translating theory and current research into practice in developing content area literacy. If this sounds like you or a teacher you know, why not apply? Best of luck!



More Information

### The J.M.K. Innovation Prize

**Deadline:** April 30, 2019

**Award:** \$175,000 over three years

The [J.M. Kanlan Fund](#) is dedicated to social, environmental



The [J.M.K. Kaplan Fund](#) is dedicated to social, environmental, and cultural causes through its grant-making. [The J.M.K. Innovation Prize](#) seeks out innovators who are heading up transformative early-stage projects in the fields of the **environment, heritage conservation, and social justice**. This prize is open to non-profit and mission-driven for-profit organizations alike. There are up to ten prizes available for 2019. Each includes a cash award of \$150,000 over three years, plus \$25,000 for project expenses, for a **total award of \$175,000**. Awardees also receive guidance through the Fund and its network, as well as access to tools and training. [Apply now](#); the first-round applications are due by April 30, 2019.



[More Information](#)

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Thank you for selecting us as your charity on Amazon Smile. We've received **\$567.53** as of October 2018 because of you!



***Thank you for your membership. We hope to see you soon.***

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