

**From:** Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida Rpcvsf@wildapricot.org  
**Subject:** Marvin, the RPCVSF newsletter is here!  
**Date:** September 8, 2020 at 10:33 PM  
**To:** Marvin Hancock tmhr@me.com

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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!



# *Tropical Currents*

**The RPCVSF Newsletter**

**September – October 2020**



Because of your kind, generous, and quick contributions, in just one week RPCVSF was able to raise **\$2,770** to fund school supplies for the youth in these three South Florida organizations: **Branches**, **Genesis Hopeful Haven**, and **Refugee Assistance Alliance**.

Young people from both Branches and Genesis Hopeful Haven have joined RPCVSF at our Annual Everglades Outing. Refugee Assistance Alliance was founded in Miami by an RPCV and some of our members have volunteered with them. Here are some photos from Genesis (top row) and RAA (bottom row). More photos coming soon on our social media channels. **Thank you for helping us make this back-to-school drive a success!!!**







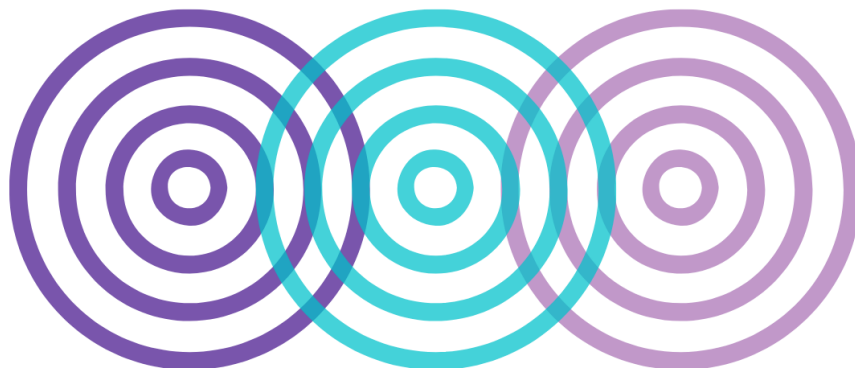
Our donation drive for the [Redlands Christian Migrant Association](#) (RCMA) will fund **face masks** so that they can continue to offer daycare, child care, and other services to the migrant families they serve. Our fundraising efforts will help **cover the cost of materials** and **paying some of those sewing in our community**. A regular adult mask runs about \$5 each and masks with a window specifically for teachers run about \$12 each. They still need about **500 regular masks** and about **450 window masks**.

This drive runs until **Wednesday, September 30th** at midnight. RPCVSF will **match your donations** up to **\$300**. Help us maximize our match with your generosity. You can find more information [here](#). If you have any questions, please email the Board at [rpcvsfboard@rpcvsf.org](mailto:rpcvsfboard@rpcvsf.org). Thank you for your support! Stay safe and healthy!

[Donate Now](#)

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## NATIONAL RPCV RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE



RPCVSF is proud to work with the [National RPCV Racial Justice Initiative](#), an autonomous group of RPCVs working to address the systemic racial injustices within our RPCV community, in Peace Corps, and beyond. Check out the "update doc [on their website](#) to learn more about the three working groups and how to join the efforts directly. Also, please check out the two current campaigns (links embedded) below. If you have questions about getting involved, email Jennifer at [president@rpcvsf.org](mailto:president@rpcvsf.org). Thank you for your support!

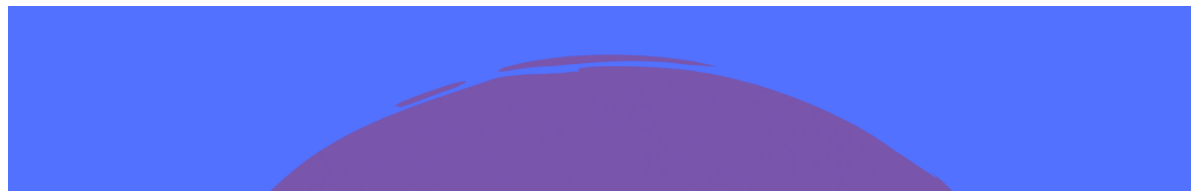


NATIONAL RPCV RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

## RPCVS GET OUT THE VOTE

Are you an RPCV who is passionate about voting? Sign up to join our network to ensure that every RPCV votes in this election! Our team is looking for RPCVs to host virtual events, participate in messaging campaigns, and serve as a source of knowledge for your fellow RPCVs.

Join us on Thursday, September 10 at 8PM ET for our RPCVs Get Out the Vote Kickoff Training! Link in bio.



THE NATIONAL RPCV RACIAL JUSTICE  
INITIATIVE'S CALL TO ACTION:

## RPCVS GET COUNTED

Join us by completing your census form  
today at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov).

Then, send the census link to at least five  
people you know to spread awareness.

Deadline is September 30!



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## FAIR TRADE MARKET NEWS

Linda Whitmyre

### September 2020's Fair Trade Spotlight

... shines on

### Our Vendors

Since turning our focus to Fair Trade in 2007, we have purchased \$39,909 in inventory from our Fair Trade vendors, a little over \$3,000 per year. In 2020, we have purchased nothing. HOWEVER, even though our Fair Trade Market is in a longer-than-usual hibernation, you can still **support our vendors**. Listed below are the vendors who have **online retail stores**, accompanied by their website link and a small picture to remind you of the type of items each



sells. BEWARE ... the retail stores have a much larger selection than we are able to carry in our Market, so allow plenty of time for shopping!!!

### ***Equal Exchange***

coffee, tea, and other food items



[Shop Now](#)

### ***Global Girlfriend***

a large variety from many countries



[Shop Now](#)

### ***Women of the Cloud Forest***

(dba Flatboat Fair Traders)

jewelry and ceramic items from Costa Rica and Nicaragua



[Shop Now](#)

### ***Aid Through Trade***

### ***Baskets of Africa***

beaded jewelry from  
Nepal



[Shop Now](#)

(that says it all!)



[Shop Now](#)

### ***Global Mamas***

colorful batiked items  
from Ghana



[Shop Now](#)

*Stay safe! Stay healthy! Enjoy shopping!*

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## **TRAVEL CORNER**

By Greg Zell





Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida, Inc., will be traveling again as soon as international travel is officially AND scientifically allowed. Countries must welcome us. We have always been guided by Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations for Peace Corps volunteers. Of course, there are no PCVs in any part of the world at the moment. Not much will happen till after the election which should filter out the political aspects of decision making.

Our former president, Tuey Murdock (Colombia) reports that Namibia, one of the countries we are considering, is in complete lockdown. Residents of Windhoek, the capital, are not allowed to travel outside the city limits. All school classes are virtual. There is only one international flight in and out of the country each month to Frankfurt (This was German South West Afrika) at a ridiculous price. The news reports lots of virus around Johannesburg, South Africa, starting point for most southern safaris.

In the meantime, direct your questions, inquiries, and chats to [travel@rpcvsf.org](mailto:travel@rpcvsf.org) and practice your phraseology with these **Animal Funnerisms**.

Here are some wonderful English language collective nouns for groups of animals you may see. For example, gaggle of geese (which you will not see).

- **Tower of giraffes:** which you will see.
- **Zeal of zebras:** which you will see. Zebra rhymes with Debra in all the world other than the USA. Also called a dazzle of zebras. Plains zebras have stripes down to their hooves; mountain zebra stripes end half way down their legs.
- **Parliament of owls:** You could well see an owl but I don't think we will catch a narliament.



- **Crash of rhinos:** They tend to be solitary or paired so I don't think we will see a crash.
- **Memory of elephants:** We should see several groups. Savanna and maybe desert adapted.
- **Muster of storks:** Definite probably.
- **Implausibility of wildebeest:** Quite plausible; also called gnu (gah-noo).
- **Ambush of tigers:** Not this trip: an Asian animal.
- **Harem of seals:** There is one in Namibia and then some.
- **Cackle of hyenas:** We hope to see them on the hunt. Fascinating to watch.
- **Shrewdness of apes:** Nope. Maybe a baboon or three.
- **Barrel of monkeys:** See shrewdness of apes.
- **Pride of lions:** You already knew this one. We should see several prides.

Email Travel

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## The 2021 Peace Corps Calendar is available...

***ONLINE (surprise, surprise!)***

Well, we don't know about you, but we're already looking forward to 2021. Here's one more reason to! [RPCV-Madison](#), the group creating this fact-laden and colorful calendar year after year, has offered a **\$1 discount** on your total "shopping cart" purchase. Simply go to <http://www.rpcvcalendar.org/calendar-2021/>. To receive the discount enter the code **PC4RPCVSF** in the coupon code box when you reach the shopping cart page. That's it!!!

The cover of the 2021 calendar features four friends from Nepal. The twelve months spotlighted are: Namibia, Guatemala, India, Ghana, Myanmar, Colombia, Peru, Rwanda, South Africa, Russia, Chad, and Costa Rica. The Madison group really does their homework...**each day provides a reason to celebrate!!!** For example, on August 1, [Lammas](#) is celebrated in the U.K. and Benin celebrates its [Independence Day](#). For each spotlighted country, there are recommendations for both adult and children's books, films, music and recipes. The calendar is a mini-encyclopedia!

The calendar is priced at **\$15 each**. If you buy 3–6, the price is \$14 per calendar. If you really need a lot of calendars, order 7–30, and they're only \$10 each. There is a \$2 per calendar shipping charge, decreasing for bulk purchases. Remember the \$1 discount on your total purchase is applied

purchase. Remember, the 4% discount on your total purchase is applied when you use the code **PC4RPCVSF** and RPCVSF receives a referral fee for your purchase.

Shop now at <http://www.rpcvcalendar.org/calendar-2021/> Enjoy!

Shop Calendar

