

Citizen of the World

International presence at IUPUI helps shape desire for Peace Corps among alumni

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Transcript

[Devika] My mom had just shared with me that she knew a lot about the Peace Corps. She had wanted to join when she was younger, and just wanted to kind of discuss that with me as being an option. The Peace Corps application process has been known to be somewhat lengthy. It takes up to a year sometimes. That's really just due to the fact that they really do try to tailor your assignment to your personality, your skill set.

I requested to do something in the community service field or teaching. I would really love to teach English to children. My recruiter called and told me that my assignment is geared in that direction, however, it hasn't been really completely shaped yet. I think it's going to be something in the community service field and hopefully with children.

I called my mom, and I was like, "Mom, I'm joining the Peace Corps. I'm doing it. I'm going overseas."

She just said, "Well, o.k. I figured that you would. I knew you always would."

My family and all my friends, they are truly, truly supportive. I benefited so much from being in a large city and with the international population, and this campus has so many students from countries all across the world.

It was really an eye opening experience for me to get to know them, to have classes with them, to befriend them, and learn more about cultures, you know, that we don't hear about in our daily lives. I think it just really promotes open mindedness on our campus. Having to attend a class where your professor has a heavy accent, or speaks another language, or likes to incorporate aspects of their culture having classes with people from other countries, from other cultures, from other ethnic backgrounds. It just really promotes open mindedness, and I think, a world-view, and the concept of being a citizen of the world and not just your city, or your state or just this country. It's really about we're all people of this world. It just really helped to interconnect everyone.