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PCNAF Board Members Nominated for Sargent Shriver Award

Albert Hannans and Steve Clapp, two of the founders of the Peace Corps Nigeria Alumni Foundation (PCNAF), have been nominated to receive the National Peace Corps Association's Sargent Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service. It is presented to a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer who continues to make a sustained and distinguished contribution to humanitarian causes at home or abroad or is an innovative social entrepreneur whose actions will bring about significant long-term change.

The award was named to recognize the tremendous contributions of the first Peace Corps Director, Sargent Shriver, in the founding and development of the Peace Corps. The winner will receive the award on September 24, 2011 at the Promise of the Peace Corps Gala in Washington, DC, an event commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps.

Hannans and Clapp were nominated for their roles in founding PCNAF, www.pcnaf.org. The organization helps to reduce poverty and foster economic growth in Nigeria through programs that promote equity and access to quality education. Based upon the belief that educating girls is a key to economic development, addressing the disparities in girls' education is a top priority. In addition to sponsoring scholarship programs for female Nigerian students, PCNAF assists teachers here in the U.S. with developing curriculum to inform their students about the critical need to improve equity and access to quality education for children in Nigeria.

Steve Clapp was also nominated for his role as a teacher, along with two of his Peace Corps colleagues, at Adamawa Provincial Secondary School in Yola, Nigeria. One of the students at the school was Atiku Abubakar, who rose to become the nation's vice president and also founded the new American University of Nigeria in Yola. Abubakar will receive the Harris Wofford Global Citizen Award at the Promise of the Peace Corps Gala for his contributions to higher education in Nigeria, inspired by his Peace Corps teachers.

For more details on the Peace Corps 50th Anniversary celebration, go to:
<http://www.peacecorps.gov/index.cfm?shell=about.fiftieth>