

YOUTH IN DEVELOPMENT

<https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/what-volunteers-do/#youth-in-development>



|| **Empower the next generation of change makers.** Volunteers work with youth in communities on projects that promote engagement and active citizenship, including gender awareness, employability, health and HIV/AIDS education, environmental awareness, sporting programs, and info technology.

If you choose Youth in Development, take three courses from one of the following areas:

- Family, Youth and Community Services
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Counseling

*And build 50 hours of **related** field experience through an activity such as:*

- Teaching or counseling in at-risk youth programs
 - Pace Center for Girls
 - Balance 180
- Activities that involve planning, organizing, assessing community needs, counseling, and leadership, in areas such as education, youth development, health and HIV/AIDS, the environment, and/or business
- Participate in a student organization like Gator Pals, Children Beyond our Borders/ Children within our Borders, TOPsoccer, or Camp Kesem.
- Join MentorGNV (formerly known as MentorUF) where students get the chance to work with students from elementary school to high school. MentorGNV also aids in networking and social awareness through socials, trainings, and more.
- Get involved in the County Extension office 4-H program or the CDS Family and Behavioral Health Services to provide programming for and mentor youth.

*Special note: Given the lower number of Youth Development specific postings, a good strategy is to gain experience with an at risk youth population in a teaching/tutoring capacity or as a health educator. This will aid in your competitiveness for Youth Development positions, but will open up more potential options for you through the Education and Health postings as well.