

Hi All,

**1.**

The Senate Foreign Relations Office has just posted the findings from their recent GAO report analyzing the difference between the benefits from the USDOL vs: what employees of the State Department receive.

You will see that it was noted that they did not conduct actuarial analysis, which was what was needed in order to really understand if another plan/service would be better. We welcome your comments on the attached report. The SFRC will be reaching out to actuarial folks for more in-depth analysis.

**2.**

Additionally, I want to let everyone know that the NPCA has been working with us and with their greater community to look at ways in which they can better support those who have become sick or injured. We would like to receive your input about ways in which you think that they can better assist people like us. Some ideas are recruiting local RPCVS across the country to accompany us to medical appointments, help with our paperwork, serve as emotional support and such. Please send us any ideas you have ASAP!

**3.**

NPCA would also like to find ways to better support PCVs in the field. Can you make any suggestions in this area? And how can they help monitor the health services of those in the field? Is there a way that we/they can reach out to those currently serving and connect with them on facebook? Any thoughts are appreciated. We have a group member who's son died in China a couple of years ago due to medical negligence and she wants to actively support Peace Corps while proactively working to ensure that improvements are being made in the field to provide the best medical care possible.

**4.**

Lastly, we want to update you all on general progress. The NPCA has announced that as of January of 2016 that all membership to the NPCA will be free of membership charges. Their goal is for inclusivity. They are also actively working to fully support HJPCV and we are

thrilled!

Additionally, conversations between the NPCA and us indicate that the NPCA is actively working on a small fund to help people with challenging issues upon return. This can include health issues but may also include other issues such as loss of job, being isolated and that kind of thing, I believe. It is a work in process and by December we will know more. We think that this is a great initiative, but it is not meant to replace the support that we feel the PC should be providing those in need.

I have had some serious phone conversations with Carrie and she has set up a meeting with her relatively new Health Task Force at headquarters on November 30. Jonathan and Glenn of the NPCA and I have been invited to learn of their improvements in the area of Post Service health care. I will also be asking what improvements are being made in the realm of health care in the field. If you have some specific questions, please send them to this address and if I am given the opportunity to ask questions, I will do my best to include them.

If anyone is crying out for immediate help, please contact us.

I hope that everyone is holding up and that we can keep pushing for greater reform.

Best,  
Nancy Tongue