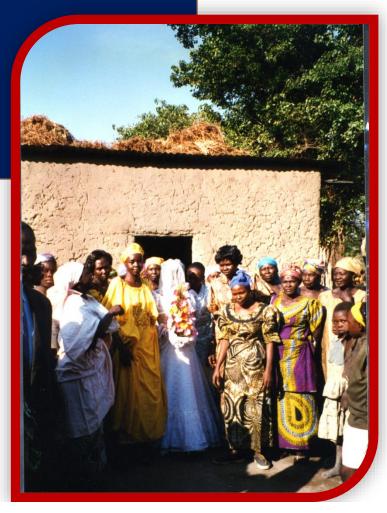
BARPCV Annual Report 2013





Annual Meeting & Potluck

Sunday, January 26, 2014

Non-profit Center

89 South Street

Boston, MA 02111

Program

Reception: Light refreshments and Socializing
Vote for the Slate of Members of the Board of Directors
for 2014

Presentations on Activities by Board Chairs Small Group Discussion: BARPCV Programming in 2014

BARPCV seeks to connect with and support returned and prospective volunteers and to carry out the third goal of the Peace Corps, "to promote a better understanding of other people on the part of American people."



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOSTON AREA RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lisa Frederick, President Olga Shvayetskaya, Vice-President Prashanth Gubbala, Treasurer Laura Salonga, Secretary

PROGRAM CHAIRS

Erica Baker, Sports and Recreation Chair
Brent Goulding, Careers Chair
Kristina Hare, Photo Chair
Erin Hogan, Events Co-Chair
Andrew Johnson, TGIF Chair
Abigail Kelble, Community Service Chair
Jan Le, Membership Chair
Pamela Lepkowski, Events Chair
Joan Marshall-Missiye, Communications Chair
Anna Omura, Webmaster
Doane Perry, Member-at-Large
Brian Ramsey, Speakers Bureau Chair

Dear BARPCV community,

Throughout the 2013 year, we continued our work in our four areas of focus: education, service, social and support.

- Education promote learning of country culture and the tenants of sustainable development.
- **Service** promote volunteerism through action and education within our community.
- **Social** create an atmosphere where RPCVs and their friends and families build a supportive community through social interactions.
- **Support** provide transition, career and social support to RPCVs in the Greater Boston area.

We had four board members that moved out of the Boston area, so while we are still in transition, we were excited to fill their positions with new and energetic BARPCV members.

During the 2013 year, we held our tried and true events like the Welcome back/Send off (WBSO) and the New Members party. Our December WBSO tested our flexibility and ability to act fast, something that all RPCVs are all too familiar with. A special thanks to our featured speaker Helen Drinan who arrived in the rain at the church and we were still outside!

The Boston Marathon tragedy affected so many here in Boston and around the nation. As per our annual tradition, BARPCV volunteers were manning the water station at mile 23. While social media had information flying around, the official word was slow to make it through the organizing channels. Under the circumstances, everyone remained calm and our volunteers supported and shared as much information as possible with the runners. Thank you to everyone that volunteered last year.

BARCPV is working to strengthen our partnership with the National Peace Corps Association. We were excited to be the host organization for the National Peace Corps Association conference at the end of June. BARPCV organized a boat cruise that toured about 125 RPCVs around the inner harbor. We also were fortunate to have Acting Peace Corps Director Carrie Hessler-Radelet visit Boston in November and we were able to host a small gathering where she shared her vision of Peace Corps with the BARPCV community.

We would like to extend a "thank you" to all of our members. Thank you for being a part of our growing community in the Boston Area. Our goal at BARPCV is to be a resource for you. We exist because of your existence and support. Please continue to share your ideas, comments and feedback with us. We especially love hearing from you in person, so if you haven't yet, come join us at one of our events in 2014!

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Lisa President, BARPCV

Nominated Board Members 2014

ERICA BAKER, BURKINA FASO, '06 - '09

Sports and Recreation Chair sports@barpcv.org

Erica, originally from Michigan, served as a Small Business Development volunteer in Burkina Faso. There she worked with cotton, sesame and subsistence farmers teaching them a range of small business, agriculture and life skills. Before Peace Corps, Erica was working as an advertising executive in LA on fast food client Carl's Jr. After returning from Burkina with her



village dog Cooper, Erica took advantage of her non-competitive eligibility status to snag a seasonal position with the NPS as a Park Ranger for Everglades National Park in Florida. It was there she met the love of her life Frank and followed her heart to Massachusetts. Now she's returned to her roots in advertising at Boston agency Hill Holliday working an Account Supervisor on family brand Great Wolf Lodge Resorts and also on non-profit Home Base Program.

LISA FREDERICK, MALI '04- '06

President

president@barpcv.org

Lisa served as a Health Extension Volunteer in a small health center and an NGO in Mali. Her career before and after Peace Corps has been focused in the nonprofit field. After returning from Mali, Lisa worked at the Massachusetts Service Alliance, the State Commission on Service and Volunteerism, which administers the AmeriCorps grants in Massachusetts. In January 2011, she began work in the public sector serving as the Chief of Staff for State Senator James Welch. Lisa joined the board in May 2011.

Brent Goulding, Costa Rica '06-'08

Career Chair

career@barpcv.org

Brent joined Liberty Mutual in July 2010 as a Senior Business Consultant in the Corporate Development Program after completing his MBA from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Phoenix, Arizona. Brent did his MBA internship at Spring Capital, a venture capital firm based in Salt Lake City, Utah. Prior to business school, he worked in financial services and education. Brent also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Costa Rica, leading infrastructure projects to facilitate economic development at a community level. Brent received a BA in Government and Spanish from Georgetown University. He enjoys studying languages, volunteering, and a variety of sports including basketball and skiing.

PRASHANTH GUBBALA, MALAWI '10-'12

Treasurer

treasurer@barpcv.org

Prashanth served as a Rural Business Development Volunteer in Malawi, East Africa. The main focus of his projects was to establish a national business education initiative. As part of this initiative, he authored a business textbook for secondary school students and taught business skills in villages and volunteer trainings throughout Malawi. He founded Kamp Kwacha, a week-long entrepreneurship camp where students learned a full-range of business skills from writing business plans to pricing goods. Prashanth also worked with the U.S. Embassy to establish a funding source designed specifically to finance small enterprises in village communities. During his time in Malawi, he also served as treasurer of VAC. Prashanth currently works at William Blair as an analyst in the technology group and is a founding team member of Fresh Truck – a mobile market focused on improving healthy food access in the Boston area.

Kristina Hare, Ethiopia '07-'09

Photo Contest Chair photos@barpcv.org

Kristina served in Mertolemariam, Ethiopia, as part of the first group of Peace Corps Volunteers to return back to the country in eight years. As a Community Health/HIV Volunteer, Kristina worked with the local high school to plan HIV/AIDS campaigns and prevention activities, and open an AIDS Resource Center. Originally from San Diego, CA, Kristina moved to the Boston area to obtain her Master's degree from the Heller School at Brandeis University. Kristina now lives in Somerville and works as a Program Manager for a Boston-based education start-up, One Hen, Inc. Outside of work, she enjoys biking, hiking, snowboarding, and dressing in theme for 5K runs.

Erin Hogan, Madagascar '07 – '09

Events Co-Chair

Events2@barpcv.org

Erin served as an Education volunteer in rural Madagascar, where she taught English as a Foreign Language to middle school and high school students. During this time Erin also worked on several community projects, including facilitating a women's health and development group and teaching adult English classes in the evenings. During her breaks from teaching, Erin worked with a legal aid center in the capital city, organizing legal workshops and securing funding to help run the center. After returning from Madagascar, Erin has continued to work internationally, including extended stays in Sierra Leone and Switzerland. Originally from Chicago, Erin moved to Boston to attend law school. She now practices immigration law at a non-profit organization.

Andrew Johnson, Moldova '06-'08

TGIF Chair

tgif@barpcv.org

Originally from Kansas, Andrew served as a TEFL volunteer in a regional high school in northern Moldova. In addition to classroom teaching, he coached the men's and women's high school basketball team, the latter of which to a national championship. His Model UN teams placed first and fifth in the country, and his Odyssey of the Mind team placed first nationally, and were invited to the European Championship in Berlin, placing third. Andrew and his wife Sarah did a book collection project at the local library, importing and organizing English language library books for



students. Andrew moved to Boston following his service to pursue a Master's at Northeastern University. He currently works in recruitment of international students for a Northeastern language program. In his free time, he can be found in centerfield during an RPCV softball game, at a local pub trivia watering hole, or at home perfecting his homebrews. He supports the Kansas City Royals, so offer your condolences the next time you see him at a TGIF function.

ABIGAIL KELBLE, MOLDOVA '06-'08, PEACE CORPS RESPONSE 2012

Community Service Chair

service@barpcv.org

Abigail Kelble currently serves as the Community Service Chair of BARPCV. She is the Director of Programs at the Millennium Campus Network, a Boston-based non-profit organization devoted to mobilizing campus organizations that focus on eradicating poverty and advancing the Millennium Development Goals. At MCN, she incorporates her experience in education, public-civic-private partnerships, and global health. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Moldova '06 - '08 and as a Peace Corps Response Volunteer in 2012. She has previously worked with City Year, the Flour Fortification Initiative, and Broadreach. Abigail completed her Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology and Biology at the University of Colorado and completed her Master's of Public Health at Emory University.

JAN LE, GUATEMALA '00-'02 & PERU '02-'03

Membership Chair

membership@barpcv.org

Jan is originally from San Diego, California. She served as a Peace Corps Volunteer through the Master's International Program at Loma Linda University School of Public Health. Her countries of service were Guatemala (2000-2002) and Peru (2002-2003). As a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala, she worked with three rural primary schools to help them achieve "Healthy School" status. She taught health, nutrition, and hygiene education to students and teachers; empowered communities to play an active role in their children's education; and participated in community functions and traditions that enriched her life. While in Peru, as one of the first volunteers to be welcomed back in-country after 28 years of PC hiatus, she was assigned to work in a rural community healthcare clinic. As the Healthcare Promoter, she worked on building capacity; supporting clinical staff in health and nutrition projects; and laying the foundation for future volunteers to expand healthcare services throughout the country. Jan recently moved to Boston with her husband who is attending Tufts University Dental School. She works at Centering Healthcare Institute as the Professional Services Manager. They currently reside in Dorchester. During her free time, she enjoys hiking, exploring the New England area, and meeting new RPCVs.

PAMELA LEPKOWSKI, CHAD '95-'97

Events Chair

events@barpcv.org

Pamela served as a Community Health volunteer in a small town in southern Chad. There she worked on several health projects including the building of 6 latrines, working with a woman's group for self-sustaining soap development and working at the local clinic. Pamela currently is an assistant Editor for the Journal of Radiology. She joined the BARPCV board in 2011 after working on the Events committee for the 50 anniversary. Pamela has been a member of BARPCV since 2000.

JOAN MARSHALL-MISSIYE, TOGO '04-'06

Communications Chair

info@barpcv.org

As a Peace Corps community health volunteer in the canton of Atchinedji in Togo, West Africa, Joan facilitated educational sessions in schools and farming communities that resulted in mass awareness of village health issues such as nutrition, vaccination, family planning, water and sanitation, and HIV/AIDS. After the Peace Corps, Joan lived in South Korea as an English teacher, received a Master's degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, traveled to Cote d'Ivoire and Rwanda to do research on women as peacekeepers, and worked as an international development fellow for Catholic Relief Services in DR Congo. Joan currently works for Management Sciences for Health in Cambridge as a senior project officer supporting the Integrated Health Project in the DR Congo. She lives in Somerville with her husband, Koudjo.

Anna Omura, Togo '04-'06

Webmaster

webmaster@barpcv.org

Anna Omura served as a Natural Resource Management (NRM) Extension Agent in Togo, West Africa. Her work included reforestation, energy conservation techniques, training on eco-tourism and agroforestry. Additionally, she worked with Togolese women's groups to start small enterprises and she also built, stocked, and staffed a rural health clinic. Currently, Anna is the Operations Manager at the Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship at MIT, which promotes for-profit enterprise in developing countries through a Fellowship for MIT graduate students who plan to develop and commercialize a business venture in a low-income country. Anna spent six years as a founding partner of Breaking the Mold Candle Company (BTM) in Denver, CO.

Doane Perry, Uganda '66-'69

Member-at-Large

doaneperry@yahoo.com

Involved with BARPCV as secretary and vice president of the board, Doane served as president for thirteen years; 1994-2007. From 1994-1999, he represented New England on the National Peace Corps Association board of directors, where he was secretary and vice-chairman and chaired the advocacy committee. He co-founded Friends of Uganda in 1986 at the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Peace Corps. He administers the Friends of Uganda Facebook Group. He was on the boards of RPCVs for Environment and Development and of Peace Corps Film. He tracks and reviews Peace Corps film on Peace Corps Worldwide and promotes film and video about Peace Corps on the BARPCV website. He is a photographer with frequent exhibitions. After careers in education and in the computer and telecommunication industries, he now owns two bed and breakfast inns in Massachusetts, A B&B in Cambridge and A B&B in the Berkshires.

BRIAN RAMSEY, MALAWI '10-'12

Speakers Bureau Chair speakers@barpcv.org

Brian Ramsey served as a Community Health Advisor in Malawi, East Africa. Brian worked on sanitation projects with local primary schools, co-directed an HIV/AIDS support group, and co-planned Peace Corps Malawi's version of a Peace Corps hallmark event, Camp GLOW (Girls Leading Our World) where he served as Finance Coordinator. Brian also spent 6 months instructing 11th grade English literature and language. After Peace Corps, Brian began graduate studies at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA.



Laura Salonga, Thailand '06-'08

Secretary

Secretary@barpcv.org

Laura served in Thailand as a Teacher Collaborator and Community Outreach Volunteer. During her service she initiated and managed various projects in a remote village in northern Thailand on the Thai/Burma border. One of her primary projects was working in conjunction with Thai teachers of English to assess the curriculum from grades 2-10 and then co-create more effective, student-centered units and lesson plans. Additionally, she planned and led trainings for students and teachers in subjects including teaching English, youth leadership, HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention and community project development. After the Peace Corps Laura remained in South East Asia for more than 4 years, during that time she worked at the International Rescue Committee- Resettlement Support Center, assisting refugees from all of the world access resettlement to the United States. She returned to the US in 2012 with her husband, Ferdinand, and currently works for a small family business.

OLGA SHVAYETSKAYA, MOROCCO '07-'09

Vice President

vp@barpcv.org

Olga served as a Small Business Development Volunteer in Peace Corps, Morocco, where she worked with a local NGO to design and implement a product development capacity building project, funded by USAID through the Small Project Assistance grant. The initiative aimed to increase income generation potential of NGO members comprised of women and unschooled youth by expanding their existing product development skill-sets and shifting marketing goals towards the local economy. As part of the project Olga led a variety of craft classes, which culminated with the production of screen-printed jellabas (traditional Moroccan dresses). After returning from Peace Corps, Olga began working with CMPartners, a conflict management firm, where she remains today.

2013 Annual Report

Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Inc. (BARPCV) is a non-profit membership-based organization, founded in 1978, that serves as a support for newly returned and prospective volunteers, and for those who have served. BARPCV also serves as an educational resource by connecting local communities with the unique experiences of members who gained important insight from living and working abroad. As BARPCV members, we share our skills and knowledge gained through Peace Corps, life and professional experiences with our friends, families and the greater community, in hopes of promoting a better understanding of each other and the world.

Highlights from 2013

CAREERS

In 2013, BARPCV organized a series of career events to support RPCVs in the Boston area with networking and career development. In March, we hosted a speed networking event for members. This event allowed members the chance to share and learn from like-minded people within the organization, and potentially make new contacts within the community.

In the fall, we partnered with Boston University School of Public Health to put on a career panel about opportunities in the international public health sector. We also worked with the Boston Network for International Development to organize an international development career panel so our members could get exposure to opportunities across different sectors of international development.

We look forward to more exciting career events and resources in 2014. We always welcome suggestions or feedback from our members.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

In 2013, over sixty BARPCV volunteers manned the Mile 23 Water Station at the Boston Marathon. After the tragic events at the marathon, BARPCV is committed to continuing our support in the Boston community. If you are interested in attending a service event or you have an idea, please contact service@barpcv.org

EVENTS

Welcome Back - Send Off

We continue to celebrate a legacy of service with Welcome Back Send Off (WBSO) events held biannually in May and December. Working in collaboration with the Peace Corps Regional Office, we welcome back recently returned volunteers and send off new nominees and those leaving for service. This is always a great opportunity to connect the Peace Corps community and to reflect on experiences abroad and inquire about what is to come. At our WBSO in May we welcomed RPCV (Zimbabwe) & guest speaker, Ben Burman, author of *Strange Borderlands*. Our December WBSO featured RPCV (Philippines) & guest speaker Helen Drinan; President of Simmons.

Restaurant Month

BARPCV brings together old and new volunteers to enjoy a different ethnic restaurant monthly to celebrate the diversity the city of Boston has to offer, to support local restaurant owners, promote awareness of BARPCV and to recognize regions where Peace Corps Volunteers served. In 2013, we had participants join us in various months throughout the year to taste foods from the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and Asia. If you are interested in hosting an evening this year or would like to suggest a restaurant, please contact events@barpcv.org.

New Member Party

Once again, thanks to the generosity of David Sears and his beautiful home in Cambridge, we held our Annual New Member Party in September. It was a perfect fall evening with a great showing of about 100 members, new and old!

MEMBERSHIP

We are continually working to make the membership process as easy and accurate a possible. We had approximately 380 members during 2013. Members may contact Jan with any questions at membership@barpcv.org



PHOTO CONTEST

The BARPCV Photo Contest is always a great opportunity to showcase RPCV's countries of service and to connect with local cafes in the Boston community. In 2013, we had submissions from over a dozen volunteers, with 10 of the top submissions part of the annual voting process. The BARPCV community was able to narrow down the selection to the top 5, which were proudly displayed at Simon's Café in Porter Square, Cambridge. During the opening day of the display the top three photos were announced. Our first place winner was "Senuofo Dance" by Joanne Wong; our second place winner was "Small Boy and His Bush Knife" submitted by Kevin Gunter; and our third place winner was "Mexican Pole Dancing" submitted by Shane Runquist. We again created greeting cards from the submitted photographs to help raise money for our Community Grants Program. For more information about the Photo Contest and our Greeting Card project, please contact Kristina at photos@barpcv.org.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

BARPCV Speakers Bureau facilitated three RPCV speaking engagements with schools or colleges in Massachusetts as well as assisted the regional Peace Corps office with 12 volunteer recruitment events during 2013.

SPORTS

Softball

The BARPCV softball team is in its 20+ years of existence. The 2013 season saw a host of new players and despite a losing streak, the scrappy ragtag team of BARPCV players pulled it together in the playoffs to beat one of the final teams and place second overall. The softball team presents an opportunity for BARPCVs to get together on a regular basis and get to know other BARPCVs and make lasting friendships. The team regularly goes out for celebratory pizza and drinks after each game.

Hub on Wheels

Five BARPCVs participated in the Boston Hub on Wheels event held on September 22nd. Hub On Wheels (HOW) was founded in 2005 with three goals: create an important civic event, showcase Boston's neighborhoods and parks, and raise money for important causes. Each of the BARPCV members was able to choose from a 10, 30 or 50-mile route traversing various parts of the city.

Fall Hike

Two BARPCVs spent half a day hiking with their Peace Corps dogs (from Burkina Faso and Panama) around the Middlesex Fells Reservation in November. It was a perfect fall day for a hike, and despite being from different continents the two dogs bonded immediately enjoying the thrill of being off-leash.

TGIF

The monthly TGIF event has continued to be a successful way for RPCVs in the Boston region to get together and network or just enjoy a nice drink with each other. The normal 6pm timeslot at the Asgard has had good turnouts, occasionally as high as forty, and the post-WBSO gatherings have had extremely good carry-over from the WBSO program as well. We are looking forward to continued success in the new year!

TREASURER'S REPORT

BARPCV ended the 2013 fiscal year with a cash balance of \$21,108.55. For FY13, BARPCV's expenses were \$14,517.13 and the organization's income was \$11,441.95.

WEBSITE

The BARPCV website serves as a source of information to our membership and prospective and serving Peace Corps volunteers and their families. The website is a hub for local BARPCV events, a source of career and volunteer information, and a spotlight for notable local RPCVs. 3,523 people visited the barpcv.org website last year; of these about half were new visitors. Visitors remain on our website for an average of over three minutes and visit about three pages while there. Last year we added an e-bulletin board which highlights non-BARPCV events, job opportunities and other information from our members. Special thanks to Chris Thullen for continuing to keep the site in good working condition!

BARPCV History

BARPCV was founded by Carol Ball, Marjorie Harrison and Nancy Tiedeman in 1978.

BARPCV PRESIDENTS

Thomas Ehmann	1980
Pat Walsh	1981-1982
Brad MacDonald	1983
Pixie Martin-Sharifzadeh	1984-1985
Janet Ghattas	1986-1988
Paul Doherty	1989-1990
Sue Kuder	1991-1993
Doane Perry	1994-2006
Kendra Gray	2007-2009
Christine Claypoole	2010-2012
Lisa Frederick	2012-Present



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The BARPCV Advisory Committee includes past leaders of the organization who continue to provide advice and historical perspective to the current board of directors.

JANET GHATTAS, SENEGAL '63 - 65

Janet served as president of BARPCV from 1986 - 1989 and edited the BARPCV newsletter for five years. She is a retired French and Spanish teacher who founded and directs Intercultural Dimensions, Inc., which organizes exchanges to developing countries and cross cultural workshops. Janet is a member of WorldBoston and often hosts international visitors for WorldBoston. She is a volunteer leader for the Appalachian Mountain Club.

BILL GIEZENTANNER, CHILE '68 – 70

Bill served on the board twice, 1991-1994 and 1999-2001. He served as editor of the PeaceMail newsletter from 1991 to 1994, during which time the National Peace Corps Association recognized the newsletter twice for its design and editorial quality. During his second term, he shared his experience and expertise to help the organization provide member services and realize its mission, especially in continuing to assist with organizational development and planning. He also helped in the development of career interest groups such as the architects, designers and planners career group. He is a consultant in environmental planning and development who specializes in non-profits and natural resources conservation and runs eco-tourism trips to the Caribbean, Canada, Europe and Central America.

Susan Kuder, Togo '74 – 76

Sue served as vice president of BARPCV from 1989-1991 and president from 1991-1994. She has hosted the BARPCV Annual Meeting at her church in Watertown. She chaired the committee that organized the 25th anniversary of BARPCV in 2003. She is the director of administration at a law firm, Cunningham, Machanic, Cetlin, Johnson & Harney in Natick.

Brad MacDonald, Tunisia '72 – 74

Brad and his family hosted the annual winter potluck party and the welcome back send off party in its early days. Brad was president of the BARPCV from 1983-1986. He helped incorporate BARPCV and wrote the bylaws. Brad is an attorney in private practice with Cummings, King and MacDonald. He is president of the Brookline Soccer Club.

WALTER MAU, GHANA '73 – 76

He and his wife Nancy Tiedeman have hosted the annual BARPCV Board/Advisory Committee meeting.

DOANE PERRY, UGANDA '66-69

Doane continues to serve on the BARPCV board. His biography is above.

David Sears, Morocco '79 - 82

David joined the board of BARPCV in 1999 and stepped down in 2008. David served as Treasurer from 2005 – 2008, but also worked on membership, the website, our directory and has hosted multiple New Member Parties at his home in Cambridge.

NANCY TIEDEMAN, SOUTH KOREA '71 – 74

Nancy co-founded BARPCV in 1978. She and her husband Walter Mau have hosted the annual BARPCV Board/Advisory Committee meeting.



Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers™

Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Inc. (BAPCV) is a non-profit organization founded in 1978 with approximately 400 members concentrated in Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. BARPCV seeks to connect with and support Returned Peace Corps Volunteers as well as those thinking of serving and to carry out the third goal of the Peace Corps, as stated in the 1961 Peace Corps Act: "to promote a better understanding of other people on the part of American people."

BARPCV is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with employer identification number 04-9036514. All charitable contributions are fully tax-deductible to the extent of the law. Proceeds support our small grants program and programming for members. Contact us at info@barpcv.org.

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