

Pat Plonski ([03:21](#)):

Can I have your attention please? We're going to begin our formal program. It's going to be a very short program, but very, very formal and very informative, and there's going to, after the remarks, there's going to be a short q and a, very short. So think of some good questions, friendly questions, but good questions to ask the director as we go along. So I would first like to introduce the dean of the Humphrey School of the University of Minnesota who just flew in from Washington DC and just landed a few hours ago. And this beautiful, beautiful room that we're meeting in is due to the hospitality of Dean Botchwey, Nisha Botchwey, who's a member of the Books for Africa Board of Directors, and of course the Dean of the Humphrey School of the University of Minnesota. So thank you so much, Dean for hosting us here today, and I'm going to turn the podium over for a quick welcome.

Nisha Botchwey ([04:27](#)):

Thank you. Thank you Pat. And thank you everyone for coming. Welcome home. This is my home. And now that you've come once, the next time you're in charge of washing dishes, right? Isn't that the rule? And you come once we take care of you, next time you have to wash your own dishes. You may heard a little bit of an accent. I'm from Jamaica originally. I moved to the US when I was five. I'm the third daughter in our family and went through public schools, was able to matriculate to Harvard University and continued on to a professor at position at the University of Virginia and at Georgia Tech in city and regional planning and public health before coming here to the Humphrey School as dean of one of the top 10 public affairs schools in the nation.

([05:26](#)):

The Hubert h Humphrey School of Public Affairs engages, educates and equips leaders and communities who co-create solutions to advance the common good in our diverse world. And I would emphasize the word our, because the world is not detached from us. Every single decision that we make has a direct impact on the experience of someone across the ocean has an immediate impact on the person across the street or 30 miles away. And so I really want us to embrace the notion that we are responsible for our brothers and sisters, our friends throughout the world. And I was able to pull a quote, I thought Pat would've gone a little longer, but I found the quote.

([06:19](#)):

And so the quote, I'll leave with you before I turn the mic back over to Pat. And this is from Hebert Humphrey. He said that the greatest gift of life is friendship. The greatest gift of life is friendship. And I have received it. And I would just say that our experience as a family and as an institution, the Humphrey School, is that the Books for Africa organization is a friend to the Humphrey School and a friend to the world. And so I'm so glad to be able to bring you all my friends here to the Carlisle for this event. And Pat, thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the Books for Africa board. Thank you all.

Pat Plonski ([07:06](#)):

Thank you, Dean. When I walked into the Humphrey School this morning for our men's summit, and of course Director Spahn is here for the Minnesota International NGO Network Summit. She was our keynote speaker here today. Did a fabulous job. So we appreciate that. But when I walked into the Humphrey School here was I saw our logo and it's like, what's That?

Pat Plonski ([07:29](#)):

Well, the Humphrey School is collecting books to send to Africa. And so they had a book collection bin there and so the dean organized that. So we appreciate all of her support for books for Africa. And she

has also worked in our warehouse in Atlanta. Before coming to Minnesota, she was in Atlanta and sorted books there and goes back and sorts books with her family. So we appreciate, please, please, please,

Nisha Botchwey ([07:57](#)):

So we were introduced to Books for Africa 15 years ago in Atlanta, Georgia. And at that point my kids were really little. Now they're really big, but if you've ever been in the warehouse, you know that if the books are way at the bottom of the bin, you really can't reach them. So we would put our kids in the bins, they would hand us the books. So on a Saturday we're packing books and we have 'em on the cart and we go over and we're stacking, we go back to the bin where I expect to see my, I guess they were 10 and six year olds and they were gone. Where are my children? So we checked all the other bins they had climbed out because they found comic books and they were going to go into another bin where they could have time to read these comic books and not work. So books for thank you for Inspiring My Children to Hide From Me.

Pat Plonski ([09:00](#)):

So for a while we decided we would only, for many years, we would only send highbrow educational books. And then it dawned on us that kids want to read stuff like comic books and novels. Adults want to read to continue to build their skills and just have fun. So now I always say give the people what they want. So if the people aren't comic books, that's what they get. Or like me, historical novels, which is my weakness. So thank you Dean. Just a couple little things about Books for Africa. Of course we are still the world's largest shipper books to Africa in the world. We've shipped to every country in Africa, and so many countries are represented in this room right now and that's fabulous. We just crossed the 59 million bookmarks, so we have some 59 million. Thank you.

([09:54](#)):

Yeah, so thank you for all of you for helping with that and Peace Corps. So you're going to hear from the Peace Corps director shortly. We have sent over a million books to be distributed by Peace Corps directors, peace Corps missions all over Africa. And so in fact, just yesterday we got an email from the Friends of Togo wondering if we could collaborate on shipping container to Togo. And we said, well, yeah, we'd be happy to work with that. And we have a Humphrey Fellow here from Togo who's very willing to help with that. And of course lots of friends of Togo. So that's kind of what we do. Whatever your idea is, is how we connect. This reception is generously sponsored by Thomson Reuters and it's my pleasure to introduce to you now Tammy Ette. Tammy is the director of Community Affairs at Thomson Reuters, a great friend of books for Africa. She is our president elect at the Books for Africa Board of Directors. So next year she will be our president. So join me in welcoming Tammy Follette.

Tammie Follett ([11:05](#)):

Okay, Dean, I have to bring this all the way down, but I have been in that container before, let me tell you as being the representative of the five one people. So I would like to say, first of all, welcome everyone, we thank you so much and what a wonderful audience here. Wonderful, wonderful. And why wouldn't you? Our speaker is absolutely phenomenal. I'm going to go over some of her journey and she can tell you more, but let's just have a number of hands here. Who has been in the Peace Corps? There you go. Yes.

([11:42](#)):

Fantastic. Well, we will start by telling you a little bit about the director. Carol Spahn was sworn into office as the 21st director of the Peace Corps on December 21st, 2022. The director brings more than 25 years of public and private sector experience and has worked in countries around the world on issues ranging from small business development and infectious diseases and prevention. And this is what women's empowerment, I have to bring that up, right to most recently served as a Peace Corps chief executive Officer and prior to that was acting director. Previously the director was also the Peace Corps chief of Operations, an African region, and the country's peace director of Peace Corps in Malawi, the director's Peace Corps roots extend back to when she was a volunteer from 1994 to 1996 in Romania, which served as a small business advisor before we returning to the Peace Corps as country director, the director was senior vice president of operations at Women for Women International, an organization serving marginalized and socially excluded women in conflict affected countries.

(12:59):

Prior to that, the director served as executive director of ACCORDIA Global Health Foundation and she was served as vice president and Chief financial Officer and Treasurer of Small Enterprise Assistant Funds. Now I don't know, does that give you enough experience to be the director of the Peace Corps? And it goes on, but we will stop at saying, because this is another connection piece. The director has a bachelor's degree from Catholic University of America and a master's degree in international development from George Washington University, Elliot School of International Affairs. It is my privilege and honor the introduce direct response.

Director Spahn (13:46):

It is so great to be with you all here tonight. What a privilege and an honor to be here in Minnesota. I'm from Kansas City, Kansas, so back to the Midwest, back to some roots. And I wanted to say thanks for coming out tonight. I don't know what Covid did to us in the sense of feeling more comfortable at home. I've had even extroverts say to me, I've become more introverted and people feeling more comfortable joining things by zoom and multitasking and all of that. And we're here tonight and we're present with each other. And that's very important. And I want to thank you Dean for talking about the gift of friendship. And that is what Peace Corps is all about. It's what you all here are all about in showing up, in doing whatever you can, in whatever way you can to make the world a better place.

(14:48):

And we all have a role to play in that peace. Corps's mission is world peace and friendship. I lose some sleep every night wondering we're truly accomplishing that. But I really do believe that every relationship that is formed by a Peace Corps where people connect across difference, that is the root of world peace and friendship. That is why we are all here, because we care and we're all devastated by the news we are seeing every day by the atrocities that are being committed, by the natural disasters, the suffering that we are seeing again and again and again both around the world and here in our country, the polarization and the divisiveness. So I invite you all through your actions, through your words, through your deeds, again, whether it is across the street at your church or just in everyday interactions, pay those kindnesses forward. Be present with people.

(15:56):

That is the thing I learned in Malawi, really learned in a deep way, one of the poorest countries in the world, such joy and kindness in people's hearts. And I would say to them, I would say to my staff, how do you show up every day? And every day I would drive into the complex with my grimace on my face. Like, oh, so many problems I have to solve today and every day. Our gardener, six kids had a good job but didn't make a lot of money every day he would stop what he was doing when I drove in and wave

his hands like this and say, good morning madam with the biggest smile on his face. And it brought me joy every day. And I was like, why do I do that to myself that I'm cringing and oh, I've got all of these problems, right? And I would say, how do you show up given all of the problems you have taking care of so many people, weddings and funerals and in the hospital every weekend?

[\(17:10\)](#):

How do you show up every day and laugh with your full body and smile with your eyes? And that is what happens, right? They smile with their eyes and they said to me, Carol, we choose to. That's what we choose to do for each other because we know how hard life is. So we're not going to bring that to our friends and coworkers. We're going to show up with that joy for each other. And I lose that the minute I leave Malawi and I try so hard to hang on to it. So let's hang on to those moments and be present with people and don't just smile with your mouth. Smile with your eyes as you engage.

[\(18:02\)](#):

I'm so grateful to books for Africa for hosting us tonight. Tho Reuters the dean. What a beautiful celebration and opportunity this is to really recommit to the mission of bringing that joy of reading to people around the world. And I want to tell you a story about an annual event that would happen in Malawi. And when I was country there, country director there, we did receive a shipment from Books for Africa, thank you very much in collaboration with the embassy. So I was there with volunteers sorting and stacking and packing and delivering myself. So just a wonderful, wonderful gift. And we had a day, and this happens in several Peace Corps countries. It's called Dear Day, drop Everything and Read. And the whole idea is to get an entire community engaged in the culture of reading so that kids see their parents, their educators, the street vendors, the people in the market just stopping for an hour, whatever they're doing and taking the time to read.

[\(19:16\)](#):

And we had procured some books, and I know William k Kumba came in and spoke to many of you all otherwise known as The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, beautiful, beautiful book set in Malawi. And it's so important that people see themselves in the books that they're reading and see that history. But we had given these books, they weren't involved in this particular day, but the volunteer who was there was explaining to me, and I hadn't really thought about it, like what it means for kids in a classroom to have a required reading and only have a handful of the copies of the book. And so she described and the kids were all gathered around. So there was one book and eight, nine kids around this thing and reading and trying to decide when to flip the page. And she told me about one of her students who never liked to be on that side of the desk. They just felt claustrophobic. So from a very early age, that person stood on the other side. He learned to read upside down,

[\(20:32\)](#):

He learned to read upside down because there were not enough books. Unbelievable. She told me if you handed him a book, he would turn it upside down because that's how he learned to read. And I share that I think with the internet, with all of these things, we've just got so much information at our fingertips and information at our fingertips and cell phones and all that is not the same as sitting with a book and learning the joy of reading, of losing yourself in a comic book bin where you're hiding away and just cuddling up with that book and immersing yourself in it. And that is the gift that you all are giving in addition to the law books and the chemistry books and in all of those other things, it's this joy of reading and the joy of having access to a variety of things that might be of interest to you. So I come here just with tremendous humility and gratitude for you all for this gift and continue again to show up for each other, to do everything you can to engage across difference, to continue to care, and to bring yourselves fully into whatever environment you're in to be present with people. Thank you so much.

Pat Plonski ([22:07](#)):

Thank you Director Spahn. We appreciate those remarks. Yeah, I remember I was in Malawi and talking to the embassy in advance of getting that container shipped those books distributed through the national, I think we work with the National Library Service of Malawi to help distribute those books. So that's fabulous. And Books for Africa is filled with stories like that as we always say. I mean to us, sometimes it's the next container, but sometimes to our recipients it's the container because there are so many stories and so much work and effort and energy that went behind getting the funds raised for that container, getting that container over, getting those books distributed into the hands of the readers. So thank you. We're going to do a brief question and answer. So if you have any questions, now is the time. I'm going to ask our board president, Mr. Mike Sian to come to the podium and moderate this. Mike is of course our president, a very able president at Books for Africa. He hails from Nigeria. He's a patent attorney. So what can we say about that? That's confused. He's an engineer, he's a patent attorney and he's a professor. So Mike is a man. Yeah. And it is done a fabulous job with books for Africa. I know as a student he helped unload books at our dock at books for Africa and one of our board members was from Ethiopia and he said, yeah, I remember we came over from Chicago with these books and there were these Nigerians who helped unload them. And of course there's a little bit of rivalry sometimes between Nigeria and Ethiopia, but here they were all working together on our

Mike Essien ([24:10](#)):

Dock only soccer.

Pat Plonski ([24:13](#)):

So I hand the podium over to Mike to engage in a brief q and a.

Mike Essien ([24:25](#)):

Thank you, pat. I think Pat had mentioned it earlier, the questions have to be good probing questions, but very kind questions to director span. And I really thank you for the opportunity to come and visit with us and bring that Peace Corps world to us. So we thank you. Books for Africa is richer because of what you do. And what we do is rather simple. We just collect books and get it to the continent of Africa. We've done this for 35 years and as Pat said earlier, 59 plus million books. It is a mission that we carry on. I am a son of a teacher or teachers, so I understand the story from a very visceral point. Books speak. I as a student in high school in Nigeria, I had the only copy of the complete works of William Shakespeare

([25:25](#)):

And you could not touch me because Red Bound, I just was carrying that all over school. So it is speaks volumes. And the work of Books for Africa speaks to that. And I tell everybody I'm a beneficiary because when I go back to Nigeria, I invariably will go see somebody who is reading a book that was sent by books for Africa. So the world is so small, as Nisha said earlier, we do what we do for us here and for the continent abroad. So thank you for bringing this friendship together. So forget about me for a second. Let's ask questions that we can pass over to Dean, the director's spa place. Questions? Yes. One,

Speaker 6 ([26:22](#)):

I'm Mary Adams at this Minnesota Return Peace Corps volunteer. How can we as Return Peace Corps volunteers, help Peace Corps people in the field? What can we be doing? Okay, so many things.

Director Spahn ([26:40](#)):

Sorry, I podium. Look, we are just rebuilding. Following the Covid 19 pandemic. So in March of 2020, we evacuated globally for the first time in our agency's history. And there was a lot of questioning what would happen, what would happen to the Peace Corps During this time. I'm very, very proud to say that we are back in 57 countries. We have 2,400 volunteers out serving. Two ways that you can help that are very concrete. One is tell the story of your Peace Corps service. Tell the story of what it meant to you and how it led to a career pathway to as many people as will listen. I think that this is such a critical moment in history. After all of the isolation caused by Covid with all of the divisiveness that is happening right now, it is so critically important that we are getting people out there and teaching the skills of how to connect across difference in an intercultural environment.

([27:46](#)):

So we want everyone here to beat that drum. Go tell everyone you know that we are recruiting, we're back, and we need them and we need them. And I think about this because I served, and forgive me for those who were there today, because you're going to hear me repeat something, but I served in 1994 in post-communist, Romania, four years after the fall of communism. I look back at that time, right? And I think about this time in history and the shifts that are happening right now are profound and we need people who want to step up and help shape the future. So please, please get out everywhere you can. Schools, churches, synagogues, mosques, tell the story, inspire people to serve. The second thing in March, we will be having our first groups of volunteers who went back after Covid. We'll start to return to the United States.

([28:51](#)):

So excited, welcome them back with open arms and let's engage the whole Peace Corps network. All of these supporters who care about international development and bring them back into the family, help support them on their journey of service and leadership and connectedness. Peace Corps service, any kind of service, it never stops. It doesn't stop. With two years of Peace Corps a year with AmeriCorps, whatever kind of service journey, it impacts you for life and you really stay connected. So I'm very glad to see you here. Where did you serve, if I may ask Laia? Sorry.

Speaker 6 ([29:30](#)):

Latvia.

Director Spahn ([29:30](#)):

Latvia.

Speaker 6 ([29:31](#)):

Quite seventh.

Director Spahn ([29:32](#)):

Great. So we were serving at the same time.

Speaker 6 ([29:35](#)):

Both have the same stories to tell

Director Spahn ([29:36](#)):

Before the internet makes me. Yeah, well when I say that it was before the internet to currently serving volunteers, they're just like, what is that? What did you do? So yeah, thank you for your service and really just continue to get out there and inspire people to serve.

Mike Essien ([30:02](#)):

Yes, go ahead Mr. pr. Yeah, go ahead.

Speaker 7 ([30:07](#)):

Do you work with other countries helping them set up their own Peace corps like agency?

Director Spahn ([30:16](#)):

I am so glad you asked that. Yes. And it's very much part of our mission and where a lot of our energy is going right now. So to back up a little bit, I will say that there are two countries that have Peace Corps like programs that were modeled in part after Peace Corps. One is kuka, the Korean International Development Organization and one is jica, which is the Japanese one. And they all have their different differences in how they're structured, but very similar components. So those are already in existence. We're working with several of the countries where Peace Corps volunteers serve to help them stand up their own internal national service organizations. We're also just signed an MOU with an organization called Core Africa, which was set up to across Africa, provide Peace Corps like opportunities to host country nationals, both to serve in their own country and then once they've served in their own country to serve in another country.

([31:29](#)):

So that program was started up, fire returned Peace Corps volunteer, Liz Fanning. And we are very excited for our volunteers to work side by side. Our teams in the countries where those programs are being set up are helping establish the country offices and some of the protocols. So that was part of what we did in Malawi. Malawi was one of their early countries. We gave them volunteers to help where they only had one or two volunteers double the size of their staff and help. And we do a lot of joint training and stuff with them as well. It's really important. It's important that young people from all different countries have that pathway because service really isn't a career pathway. If it's structured as a formal service and training opportunity, there's one way in the back too.

Mike Essien ([32:29](#)):

Okay. Okay. So do you work in China?

Director Spahn ([32:34](#)):

So we had a program in China and that program was active, I believe for 20 or 25 years. But we are no longer in China at the moment.

Speaker 8 ([32:43](#)):

Not allowed if you pick

Director Spahn ([32:45](#)):

Up No, no, no. That program was closed before my time and we're just in a different place right now. Thank you. Alright,

Speaker 9 ([32:58](#)):

Go ahead. Thank you for being here this evening. So we live in a society which admires celebrity and which reveres numbers. So some people are familiar with the story of a volunteer that came back from Swaziland. And because of his issues with the media, he formed a company that some people may have heard of called Netflix. And I heard on the news just about a week ago when there was a reference to the Peace Corps, the byline was a quarter of a million Americans have now served in the Peace Corps. Are you able to stand on these shoulders and stand on these numbers when you're dealing with Congress to make sure that the Peace Corps continues to have the funding that it needs in order to succeed in what you're trying to accomplish?

Director Spahn ([33:44](#)):

That's also a great question. And yes, there are 250,000 almost returned volunteers in America. And as some of you may know, we've got three goals. One is to help interested countries, so where we are invited with their needs for trained men and women. And then the other two goals are cross-cultural. And so they're about bringing the US to the world and bringing the world back home. And we really do talk a lot about this domestic dividend and we haven't come up with a better term to call it. So if you're creative and have a better term about what the contribution is of those returned volunteers and their ongoing service to the United States, we are all in the middle of a very tenuous time with respect to appropriations and budgets and all of those things. So I don't want to get it too into, I don't want to get into it too much here, but I really do appreciate Dan Baker, who's here representing the National Peace Corps Association. They do a lot of tremendous advocacy work and would really invite you all to engage in that and exercise your voice as citizens to advocate for the important role of Peace Corps. Thank you.

Speaker 9 ([35:13](#)):

Carol, can I ask you to lobby for them? But I can't. You can. So

Speaker 8 ([35:19](#)):

She's behind there. Question. Okay. Just a curiosity really. So when I think of the Peace Corps, I think of youth and healthy and all that jazz

Director Spahn ([35:31](#)):

And

Speaker 8 ([35:31](#)):

What I don't see as seniors, but healthy seniors. Is there a space for people who might not be young anymore, but might have some time on their hands to do stuff and want to do stuff and be adventurous?

Director Spahn ([35:51](#)):

So I feel like I planted all of these questions, but I actually didn't. There is no upper age

([36:02](#)):

With you. I'm with you. There is no upper age limit on Peace Corps. And what we are seeing is a greater percentage of our volunteers entering Peace Corps, different stages of their lives. When I was country director of Malawi, I had someone who was 82 serving in a rural community. I know you're not 82, but



there is no upper age limit. So it really is just your ability to medically clear for the country of service so that we can ensure your health and safety while you're there. Volunteers who are serving at different ages and different periods of their life bring such a richness to the overall volunteer cohort. And for me, serving, getting post-communist, Romania as a business development volunteer, a lot of the people I was serving with were retired or had been entrepreneurs and were, they just brought a different level of wisdom to their assignments and perspective and know that we very much welcome all kinds of diversity, whether it's age, diversity, ethnicity, religious, sexual orientation, we are really out there trying to let people know that Peace Corps is for you, right? It is for everyone and we want to make everyone feel welcomed and included in a sense of belonging.

Mike Essien ([37:39](#)):

More hands. Okay. Wow. How many Quick question. Okay. Alright, go

Speaker 8 ([37:43](#)):

On. That same question. How long then is the term, is there a specified two years, one year, maybe shorter? Yeah.

Director Spahn ([37:51](#)):

Yeah. So there are different programs. One, the sort of traditional Peace corps that you might think of. You learn the language, you go through a two and a half month intensive training period, and then you're placed maybe in a rural village that's a two year program. It's actually 27 months if you include the training period. There's also a program for, it's called Peace Corps Response, and it's more targeted placements for people with different professional backgrounds. So that might be working in a city with a ministry or with an NGO overseas. So something that's going to utilize very targeted skills in a different way. Those assignments usually six to 12 months.

Mike Essien ([38:34](#)):

We're going to do quick questions. Okay. I first, well,

Speaker 8 ([38:37](#)):

That was my question.

Mike Essien ([38:37](#)):

Oh, that was your question. Alright. Okay. So Fatima, please

Speaker 8 ([38:43](#)):

Back here question, but I'm just going to ask you what more you have any,

Director Spahn ([38:49](#)):

Oh my goodness, that's such a hard question to answer because what motivates me are the people I meet every day and having had the privilege of, I lived in Malawi for five years with Peace Corps and I saw probably 500 volunteers come through during that time and watching their growth and development, going out to their communities and understanding what's happening there, being challenged every day to think differently, explore differently, understand someone else's reality with more depth is such a gift. And I honestly can't imagine a better organization or mission or way to go

about doing what we're trying to do. I really believe it in my bones and if experienced it in so many ways. So I get up every day really just feeling very, very privileged to be able to hold this seat and understanding the magnitude of what it is we're trying to do. So just sometimes I want to bottle what I am able to witness and experience and people's stories and enthusiasm and just, you talked about Congress, just sort of unleash it on the hill so people can feel it, right? Because that's really what inspires people is that feeling. It's not the numbers, it's not the people talk about quantifiable impact and monitoring and evaluation. Those things are important, but it's that feeling of we're doing something that really matters. Thank you. I think there was

Mike Essien ([40:40](#)):

One more reset. So I think there's one more question. I think we've answered all comfort is set.

Speaker 8 ([40:49](#)):

Okay. Alright. I feel like I'm pouring some water onto this question after question that my sister asked. But what is the policy with Peace Corps in terms of serving in regions with this conflict? And I'm selfishly asking in regarding to my home country or Zimbabwe when they sanctions and you know that the people on the ground, they really could use volunteer big brothers and sisters to be on the ground, maybe to be the third eye looking what's going to the country I used serving in Zimbabwe. And then what is the policy in terms of, and I asked that question because I just met here and we have a mutual friend who helped me in my journey to coming to college and she's American. She was not in that space

Director Spahn ([41:41](#)):

Where there was college. I'm just curious about that. Yeah, well so there is tremendous demand for Peace Corps right now. Both trying to recover from development setbacks caused by Covid. This is the largest generation of youth in history. So many countries are really thinking about and struggling with how to provide opportunity for young people in a variety of ways. So just now we are working first to get back to the countries that we departed during Covid. We're back to almost all of them. There are a handful that we haven't gotten back to yet for a variety of reasons. And we have a list of 14 countries that have asked for Peace Corps to either renew programs or start programs. So that's like fills my heart that there's that demand out there, but we're not in a place to even begin to fill that demand for countries that have already requested Peace Corps.

([42:57](#)):

So the way we work is we go into countries of the request of the host government. So any country that wants us back provides an invitation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. And then we go and do an assessment to determine if we can provide for the health, safety and security of our volunteers. If there's a programmatic niche that aligns with where we are and how we might work within the ecosystem of actors that are there. I know probably 12 people off the top of my head that would jump at the opportunity to be the country director that brings Zimbabwe back into the Peace Corps. So we will await the formal invitation and be very happy to assess. Yeah. Thank you.

Speaker 10 ([43:51](#)):

Alright, so

Mike Essien ([43:53](#)):

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It might continue because some of us might have more questions, but we'll just say that we want to thank that director span for the time and for the patients to answer our questions, to expand our knowledge and bring us this wisdom. So thank you again. So I'd like to invite up the founder of this book's for Africa Miracle. Tom was

Speaker 10 ([44:30](#)):

Congratulated because I was the shortest speaker, so this is going to be a short one.