

Peer Lessons on HIV/AIDS

BELIEVE that one of the most satisfying experiences for an educator to have is the opportunity to be taught by one of their own students. Like many Peace Corps Volunteers around the world, I continuously tried to incorporate lessons of civics, humanity, and social consciousness into my daily English lessons. As the percentage of people living with HIV and AIDS in Ukraine is among the highest in Eurasia, volunteers in Ukraine focus a great deal of effort working with schools, organizations, and communities to educate others about this epidemic. During the final week of my two-year service, my students at Brody Gymnasium decided to arrange a number of lessons for me. One of the lessons that I will never forget was an HIV/AIDS presentation completely organized and co-facilitated by one of my 11th grade students. In collaboration with a local social worker, they taught a group of 10th and 11th grade students and teachers about how HIV is



Former Peace Corps volunteer Chad Goeden (center), honored when his ESL students created a local HIV awareness campaign based on a civic lesson he taught. Here he is pictured with a student, Natalya Karaulova, and Olha Fedorivna, a psychologist, in Oblast, Ukraine

transmitted and spread. They placed their small community in western Ukraine on the map of villages, towns, and cities all over the world that has been affected by this disease and can no longer ignore this issue. The focus was on global consciousness and local action—in today's

world cross-border collaboration is necessary and it's encouraging to see youth entering the dialogue.

CHAD GOEDEN

Returned Peace Corps Volunteer
(Ukraine in 2004-2006)

International Center Coordinator
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YOU'RE INVITED! We invite you to submit your photos along with a brief (approximately 200 words) description of why these images are important in your understanding of a person, place, idea, or incident from your experiences in international education. The photos could be of a simple moment on your home campus involving international students, a major event in an exotic location, or anything in between. The editors of *IE* will run selections on this page throughout the year. Please contact us for submission details at elainal@nafsa.org.