

right now the world is experiencing an economic crisis. hard working people have no jobs, genius and talent have no industry, wealth accumulates in the hands of the few while others starve for the basics and a chance for survival. what can we do? how can we invest our labor, talent and genius for the benefit of the greater good of this world? we all have an ideal world in mind. because of your interest in this volunteer experience i would guess your ideal world is centered on what the greater good might be. perhaps it is a world without war, poverty, or power abuse. Or perhaps it is a world of highly educated and motivated individuals that put the greater good of all before themselves..... not to be cliché, but to quote Gandhi, "Be the change you wish to make in the world." volunteering is being that change. with many hands and a lot of heart the world will become a better place for the many people that share it.

i'm sure you have all kinds of ideas
let us take notes and begin a discourse of how we define the greater good.

take out a piece of paper
ask yourself, what is the greater good? and write your answer
you may answer this question anyway you feel
it could be how you would describe your values
or a specific social ailment that should be addressed like illiteracy or homelessness
write down your idea on the piece of paper
legibly sign and date it and put a mailing address on it of where we can send this in one year. for those of you who don't know where you will be in a year, send it to a permanent residence you will visit. if you don't want to disclose your address that's okay too.

this is a time capsule
we will keep it for now and use it to put you into brainstorming groups
we will try to match you with people that have similar ideas
in your group come up with a project idea you would like to engage
then tell the rest of us about it
groups are flexible
you may find another group that suits you better
the important thing is that we hear from you learn about your ideas about the world
what change you would like to contribute
we will give this back to you in a year
and some day after you have been working in your professional career,
maybe have a family, pull this out of a drawer and read it
what may think about what you wrote reading this paper 5 yrs from now 10 yrs from now
how will the world have changed? how will you have changed?
how will you answer the question
what is the greater good?