

 Office
 Hotline

 202.692.2900
 202.692.2915 | 800.233.5874

 Website
 Hotline

 OIG Reports
 OIG@peacecorpsoig.gov

To: Allison Greene, Peace Corps, Chief Executive Officer Cheryl Faye, Peace Corps, Deputy Chief Executive Officer Paul Shea, Peace Corps, Acting Chief Financial Officer Emily Haimowitz, Peace Corps, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer

From: Joaquin Ferrao, Inspector General

Joaquin Jenas

**Date:** March 31, 2025

**Subject:** Review of the Peace Corps' Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (IG-25-02-SR)

The Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-117) (PIIA) requires the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to conduct an annual review of its agency's compliance with improper payments and payment reporting made in the annual Performance and Accountability Report or Agency Financial Report (AFR). The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular M-21-19, Transmittal of Appendix C to OMB Circular A-123, Requirements for Payment Integrity Improvement, provides further guidance on PIIA compliance.<sup>1</sup>

## Results

OIG's review determined that the Peace Corps complied with the PIIA for fiscal year (FY) 2024.

OIG analyzed the Peace Corps' estimate of improper and unknown payments and its risk assessment for FY 2024 and found that the agency managed its financial information in accordance with PIIA requirements. As required, the agency also submitted its payment integrity information to the OMB FY 2024 annual data call; published its improper payment information in the AFR for FY 2024; and posted the FY 2024 AFR on the Peace Corps' public-facing website.

Based on the results of the review, OIG concluded that it is unlikely that the Peace Corps reached the threshold for significant improper payments or unknown payments.<sup>2</sup> OIG noted that the dollar values of the individual payments the agency made are considerably lower than the significant improper payment threshold amounts.

There were no identified significant improper payments that met or exceeded the PIIA-established threshold in OIG's FY 2024 audits, the audit of the agency's FY 2024 financial statements, or other audits or reviews conducted during FY 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To achieve compliance, the agency must publish any applicable payment integrity information in its annual financial statement in accordance with payment integrity guidance provided in OMB Circular A-136. In addition, the agency must publish any applicable payment integrity information required in the accompanying materials to the annual financial statements in accordance with applicable guidance. The agency's payment integrity information that is published on paymentaccuracy.gov is the most common of accompanying materials to the annual financial statement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Significant improper payments are defined as annual improper payments and unknown payments (the sum of monetary loss improper payments, non-monetary loss improper payments, and unknown payments) in the program exceeding (1) both 1.5 percent of program outlays and \$10,000,000 of all program or activity payments made during the fiscal year reported or (2) \$100,000,000 (regardless of the improper payment percentage of total program outlays).

#### Table 1: The Peace Corps' FY 2024 Compliance with PIIA Requirements

PIIA Requirements	Did the Agency Comply?
Published payment integrity information with the annual financial statement	~
Posted the annual financial statement and accompanying materials on the agency website	~
Conducted improper payment (IP) risk assessments for each program with annual outlays greater than \$10,000,000 at least once in the last 3 years	$\checkmark$
Adequately concluded whether the program is likely to make IPs and unknown payments (UP) above or below the statutory threshold	~
Published IP and UP estimates for programs susceptible to significant IPs in accompanying materials to the annual financial statement	N/A*
Published corrective action plans for each program for which an estimate above the statutory threshold was published in accompanying materials to the annual financial statement	N/A
Published IP and UP reduction target for each program for which an estimate above the statutory threshold was published in the accompanying materials to the annual financial statement	N/A
Demonstrated improvements to payment integrity or reached a tolerable IP and UP rate	N/A
Developed a plan to meet the IP and UP reduction target	N/A
Reported an IP and UP estimate of less than 10% for each program for which an estimate was published in the accompanying materials to the annual financial statement	N/A

Source: Peace Corps OIG prepared, based on Peace Corps data \*N/A: Not Applicable

## Conclusion

OIG concluded that the Peace Corps complied with the PIIA for FY 2024.

The agency adhered to the applicable PIIA requirements by providing payment integrity information through the OMB annual data call, publishing its AFR, and conducting an improper payments risk assessment. Based on the results of the work performed, OIG determined that it is unlikely that the Peace Corps' total improper or unknown payments reached the threshold for significant improper payments or unknown payments.

cc: Julie Burns, Acting Chief of Staff David Van Hoogstraten, Acting General Counsel Clark Presnell, Acting Associate Director, Office of Management John Garcia, Chief, Administrative Services Joseph O'Farrell, Chief, Travel and Transportation Division Paul Richter, Financial Policy & Compliance Analyst, Office of the Chief Financial Officer Julie Nelson, Compliance Officer Audit Liaison

# **Appendix A: Agency Response**



### MEMORANDUM

TO: Joaquin Ferrao, Inspector General Digitally signed by Cheryl Cheryl Gregory Faye Gregory Faye 16:36:49 -04'00' FROM: Cheryl Faye, Deputy Chief Executive Officer CC: Allison Greene, Chief Executive Officer Julie Burns, Acting Chief of Staff Paul Shea, Acting Chief Financial Officer David Van Hoogstraten, Acting General Counsel Clark Presnell, Acting Associate Director, Office of Management Joseph O'Farrell, Chief, Transportation Division Paul Richter, Financial Policy & Compliance Analyst, Office of the Chief Financial Officer Emily Haimowitz, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer Julie Nelson, Compliance Officer

DATE: March 27, 2025

RE: Preliminary Report: Review of the Peace Corps' Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act for FY 2024 (IG-25-02-SR)

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this preliminary report from the Office of Inspector General. We appreciate the Office of Inspector General's insight and collaboration to maintain and improve agency operations, and we look forward to continued refinement of payment integrity reporting processes in the future.