Lewis Hemmer '66 has been accepted into the Peace Corps and departed for the Eastern Caribbean to start his training in early June as an Autism Spectrum Disorder Specialist Consultant. At the age of 72, Hemmer will live and work in a community to increase awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD's) among local teachers and families.

Hemmer attended Millersville University, where he earned a B.A. in sociology and history in 1966. Hemmer went on to receive his MSW from The University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill and later completed his doctoral studies in psycho-educational processes in 1981 from Temple University.

During Hemmer's time volunteering abroad, he hopes to offer a wealth of experience and knowledge to the development of his Caribbean community. Hemmer said his desire to join the Peace Corps first started when it began over 50 years ago. "However, I went on to graduate school, got married, helped raise two children and went on to post-graduate studies, all while thinking and reading about the Peace Corps. Finally, when I retired, I was able to act on the dream I had maintained since 1961." Hemmer previously served twice in the Peace Corps, as Community and Economic Development Volunteer in Macedonia (2011-2013) and again as Youth Development Volunteer in St. Lucia (2104-2015).

For more information on Lewis Hemmer, read the Peace Corp Press Release detailing the background of Hemmer and the expectations of the Peace Corps.