

VIRTUAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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VIRTUAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Virtual opportunities search engines:

- Find an online opportunity with Volunteer Match. This page features virtual and on-site volunteer opportunities to aid communities in need. Search by category for what population and type of volunteering you would like to do:
<https://www.volunteermatch.org/virtual-volunteering>
- Search by multiple categories and organizations in “A Guide to Help and Getting Help”:
<https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2020/health/coronavirus-how-to-help/>
- Find virtual volunteer options with Points of Light:
<https://engage.pointsoflight.org/>
- Find virtual volunteer options with Teens Give:
<https://teensgive.org/virtual/>
- Find virtual volunteer options with Idealist:
<https://www.idealist.org/en/careers/how-to-virtual-volunteering>
- Volunteer with the Red Cross. The Red Cross has many opportunities online, as well as the ability to donate. Scroll down to the bottom of the page to check out their “Volunteer from Home (Virtual Positions)” here:
<https://www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer/urgent-need-for-volunteers.html>
- Take action on COVID-19 with DoSomething. Join millions of DoSomething members using their resources to stay healthy, fight anxiety, register to vote, and make a difference on the causes we care about, from mental health to climate change and beyond. Participate in any of the DoSomething campaigns below and you'll also enter for the chance at winning a \$500 scholarship. Check them out here:
<https://www.dosomething.org/us/collections/corona-virus-campaigns>
- Volunteer with the United Nations. Note: Most opportunities require you to be 18+. The UN has many opportunities for online volunteering around the world, and especially needs your help now. You can search by service category here:
<https://www.onlinevolunteering.org/en>

VIRTUAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The Elderly & Children:

■ **YSOP Connex:** Connect with the elderly during this program that facilitates virtual meetings between young people and residents of senior living communities. Both groups have been hit hard by the isolation that came with the pandemic, and we believe that these programs will show young people that they can still personally improve things in their community. Students and elderly residents chat in small groups via online video for an hour. Program requires a brief orientation for students prior to communication. Email Mr. Ed Doty at edoty@ysop.org for more information.

■ **Write letters to older adults with Goddard Riverside:** Send a handwritten card or a note to help older adults isolating at home feel connected to the community. Mail your cards to the following address:

Goddard Riverside
Attn: Older Adult Project
593 Columbus Avenue
New York, NY 10024

■ **Write letters to the elderly with Sant Egidio:** Letter writing campaign to elderly people living in nursing homes. Email Sant Egidio at santegidiouisa@gmail.com and Ms. Sarah Moses at smoses@olemiss.edu to get started.

■ **Write letters and send videos to those in assisted living in Camden, NJ, and North Philly.** Both sites host volunteers from the Romero Center. Reach out to supervisors here:

- **Abigail House:** Tess Marquez, **856-365-8500;** tmarquez@abigail.com
- **Mail letters to:**

Abigail House of Nursing and Rehabilitation
Attention:
Tess Marquez
1105 Linden Street
Camden, NJ 08102

The Elderly & Children

- Inglis House: Patti Veltri, 215-878-5600; patricia.veltri@inglis.or
- Mail letters to:

Inglis

Attention: Volunteer Coordinator, Patricia Veltri

2600 Belmont Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19131

Invisible Hands: Started by college students, Invisible Hands is a group of engaged volunteers from communities at the least risk for severe COVID-19 reactions working to bring groceries and supplies to those in high-risk demographics. They are focused most prominently on the elderly, disabled, and immunocompromised, but are available to help anyone in need. Donate or volunteer here:

<https://www.invisiblehandsdeliver.com/>

City Meals: <https://www.citymeals.org/get-involved/volunteer-with-us>

Create a "Thinking of You" video message for St. Margaret's parish nursing homes. St. Margaret's parish community serves 14 nursing homes. The video will be piped into the closed circuit TV system at the long term care facilities.

Residents at nursing homes are unable to have visitors and all group recreation is cancelled. If you would like to participate, you can make a short video saying a message like, "thinking of you. Hope you are well." 15-20 seconds is fine. You can record your message on your cell phones (hold the phones horizontally) and then send them to this email address: saintmargaretsccd@gmail.com

The Elderly & Children:

Host a workout zoom session with students from Nicaragua with Hand in Hand Ministries: Connect with students in Nicaragua through exercise and fun activities! Host your own exercise zoom session with students in 1st grade-high school who are isolated at home. We can also introduce arts and crafts and other activities as well. All sessions will need to take place between 6-8pm. Please email Ms. Barbara Dunsworth at barbara@myhandinhand.org

Volunteer with women who were/are incarcerated and their children with Hour Children: Hour Children's mission is to help incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children successfully rejoin the community, reunify with their families, and build healthy, independent, and secure lives. Hour Children's name acknowledges the key hours that impact the life of a child with an incarcerated mother – the hour of her arrest, the hour of their visit, and the hour of their reunification. They are currently looking for volunteers to help with resume creation/editing and interview coaching for Hour Working Women Program (HWWP), tutoring and homework help for our teen and children programs, and translators for Hour Community Food Pantry materials. Email Ms. Kellie Phelan at KPhelan@hourchildren.org to get started.

Tutor students with Goddard Riverside at Star Learning Center: Sign up to virtually tutor students at Star Learning Center in all subject areas who need extra help in school. Begin by filling out their online registration form here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSei7aXq_LusEe3qo7hcEjqLaJ3kstDnhD_Q4KylpUmfPTiuDQ/viewform

Tutor students with Association to Benefit Children (ABC): Reach out to Mr. Jackson Potter at JPotter@a-b-c.org to apply and for more information on how to get involved.

The Elderly & Children:

■ Tutor students with the Jewish Community Center (JCC) Literacy + Math programs: Tutor students in grades 1-12 online through the JCC. Sessions are 40 minutes long, once a week or more. Fill out this form to get started: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeZ8RAyx1Lfkdx3.9wmuCY1j0FzBJHkn9yt4MTupOmRamzllw/viewform> and reach out to Ms. Tiaisha Tirado at ttirado@mmjccm.org for more information.

■ Join Gigi's Playhouse therapeutic and educational Zoom sessions for children, teens, and young adults with Down Syndrome. View their virtual options here: <https://gigisplayhouse.org/gigisathome/#> and if you are interested in helping out please email Ms. Rosella Lofaro at rlofaro@gigisplayhouse.org and Ms. Hannah Providenti at hprovidenti@gigisplayhouse.org

■ Connect with teens and young adults with Down Syndrome with Gigi's Playhouse: Just because we have to practice social distancing, doesn't mean we have to socially isolate! GiGi's Playhouse NYC has introduced a new program, LitLab, a social outreach initiative connecting teen and adult participants with volunteers to engage in remote arts-inspired learning. GiGi's NYC participants will be matched with a "buddy", meeting weekly for half an hour to create a presentation on a topic they choose. We will focus on reading, public speaking, PowerPoint, and social skills as we dive into fun, engaging research projects based on a mutual appreciation of music, art, dance, reading, and/or cooking. Email Ms. Rosella Lofaro at rlofaro@gigisplayhouse.org and Ms. Hannah Providenti at hprovidenti@gigisplayhouse.org

VIRTUAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Letter Writing Campaigns:

Write letters to essential workers: Write a short note of gratitude to your own mail carrier, grocery store clerk, security guard, sanitation worker, doorman, food delivery person, janitor, etc. Hand them the letter the next time you see them to express your appreciation for their continued work during the pandemic. Small acts of kindness can go a long way!

Write letters to and/or bake for hospital workers: Express your gratitude for all of their hard work and sacrifices. Email your finished letters (pictures of a physical letter or emailed PDF) to [Ms. Morano at nmorano@loyolanyc.org](mailto:Ms.Morano@loyolanyc.org)

Express your thanks to the troops: You can learn about how to write letters, make care packages and bracelets, shop using Amazon Smile, and more here:

- <https://www.operationgratitude.com/express-your-thanks-virtual/>
- <https://soldiersangels.org/programs/deployed-support/letter-writing-team/>
- <https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/5-websites-where-you-can-find-and-write-to-soldiers/>

Create Handmade Greeting Cards with City Meals: Since the outbreak, many of our frail aged neighbors have quarantined themselves at home for their own safety. This isolation has lasted months, and our meal recipients are desperately lonely. That loneliness is why Citymeals works with student, community and corporate groups all over the city to craft handmade cards that brighten the days of isolated older New Yorkers. Please join us in reminding our frail aged neighbors they haven't been forgotten. <https://www.citymeals.org/get-involved/greeting-cards>

Write Letters through "Senior Script" with City Meals: Every day we receive letters from our meal recipients. Some just want to thank us for the enjoyable meals and friendly delivery staff while others share personal stories from their past. Volunteers in our Senior Script program respond to every letter like this – and through that exchange of words, relationships frequently develop and carry on as regular correspondence. It's this kind of interaction that reminds our homebound elderly neighbors they haven't been forgotten. <https://www.citymeals.org/get-involved/senior-script>

VIRTUAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Special Needs & Other Opportunities

■ Luv Michael: Luv Michael advocates for autism acceptance and supports meaningful and fulfilling lives for adults on the spectrum. Luv Michael trains, educates, and employs people with autism. Join Luv Michael's Advocacy Team where you learn about issues facing autistic adults. Then you will work to engage 30 people in a digital conversation, educate them, and give them the opportunity to donate to Luv Michael's cause. You will also be invited to join virtual Zoom hangouts with the adults working at Luv Michael. If interested, please click on the following link to sig up:

<https://mailchi.mp/luvmichael.com/loyola>.

Check out their website here: <https://luvmichael.com/>

■ Assist blind and low-vision people. Be My Eyes is a free app that connects blind and low-vision people with sighted volunteers and company representatives for visual assistance through a live video call: <https://www.bemyeyes.com/>

■ Be an Amnesty International Decoder. Join a global network of digital volunteers helping Amnesty International research and expose human rights violations. Amnesty Decoders is an innovative platform for volunteers around the world to use their computers or phones to help researchers sift through pictures, information and documents. Join a project here:

<https://decoders.amnesty.org/>

VIRTUAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Incarcerated & Care for Creation

Learn more and get involved with The Marshall Project. The Marshall Project is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news organization that seeks to create and sustain a sense of national urgency about the U.S. criminal justice system:

<https://www.themarshallproject.org/>

Join the ACLU's National Prison Project.

<https://www.aclu.org/other/aclu-national-prison-project>

The Coronavirus Has Reached Jails and Prisons — But You Can Still Help: <https://www.innocenceproject.org/coronavirus-covid-19-jail-prison-help/>. From lending your voice to donating, there are many ways to help while still social distancing. Below are suggestions from The Innocence Project, and just follow the blue underlined links to help under each section:

Ignatian Solidarity Network - Ignatian Carbon Challenge

- Contact: Brenna Davis, bdavis@ignatiansolidarity.net
- For several years, ISN has organized mini-challenges to focus our thoughts and actions on one issue related to climate change. While the 2020-21 challenge dates are not finalized, they will most likely be the Season of Creation (Sept. 1 to Oct. 4), Advent, Lent, Earth Day and Laudato Si' Week.

Get involved in climate justice. Learn more about the climate strike movement here <https://globalclimatestrike.net/>. Learn how you can get involved in climate justice in the time of coronavirus here:

- https://350.org/coronavirus-organizing/?_ga=2.115197188.26809061.1585599075-643748252.1585599075
- https://globalclimatestrike.net/coronavirus-and-climate-strikes/?_ga=2.77046038.26809061.1585599075-643748252.1585599075

VIRTUAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Civic Engagement & Education

- Ignatian Solidarity Network - Voting is an Act of Love
 - Contact: submit Wufoo form online
 - ISN is offering practical tools for schools and parish communities to get involved in voter mobilization, including a voter registration portal, voting pledge and training to conduct voter registration.

- Magis Americas - La Silla Roja Campaign
 - Contact: Mariana Palacios Valderrama, Magis Americas, m.palacios@magisamericas.org
 - This back to school right to education campaign, coordinated in the U.S. by Magis Americas, is adapting resources for virtual engagement. Through Educate Magis, 8 lesson plans with classroom activities related to the campaign are available online, designed for high school students.