

*Celebrating 31 Years of
Expert Placement and
Personal Service*

Caring & Connecting During COVID-19 How You Can Help

Dear Friends,

We hope that you are safe and well and we know that many of you are searching for ways to help others during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Volunteer Referral Center is here to serve you in the way we do best: by connecting those who want to help with those who urgently need their help. We will continue to provide this vital link during this crisis, gathering information to share with you in support of our communities.

While the government strives to meet PPE and professional healthcare staffing and facility needs, VRC will be focusing on other important areas.

Whether organizing food pantry supplies, delivering meals or making phone calls from home, you can make connections and make a difference in the lives of New Yorkers in need.

Here's a list to get started. It will be expanded as we learn more and we encourage you to let us know of other volunteer services to include in future updates.

Let's do our best to stay connected.

Thank you,

Patricia Girardi
Executive Director
Volunteer Referral Center
volunteer-referral.org



You Can Make a Difference

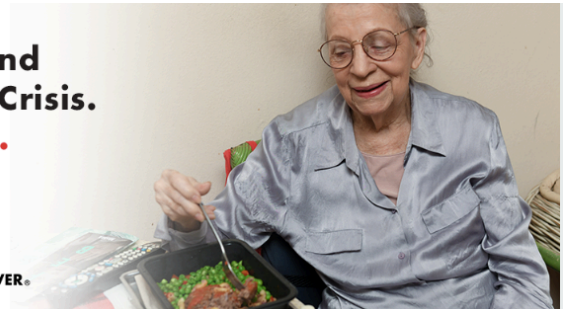
Please Consider Making a Donation

DONATE

God's Love We Deliver

During to the COVID-19 outbreak, God's Love is an Essential Service in New York City and will continue working to cook, package, and deliver delicious, medically tailored meals to our neighbors living with severe and chronic illness.

Being Sick and Hungry is a Crisis.
We can help.



If you are not feeling well or have any concerns about volunteering DO NOT VOLUNTEER NOW.

If you have experienced COVID-19 symptoms or have tested positive, or if a member of your household has experienced COVID-19 symptoms or tested positive, please do not volunteer until you or your household member has been symptom-free and fever-free without taking any medication for at least seven days.

Volunteers are needed to help cook, package, and deliver meals. They have added protocols to ensure safety for our volunteers, clients, and staff. Please note, that they will continue to update their protocols as per CDC guidance.

If you have any additional questions, email them at volunteer@glwd.org. Thank you for your support.

Dorot

Form a phone connection with an older adult and let them know you care.

DOROT volunteers serve as a vital lifeline to thousands of older adults in New York City and Westchester. Caring Calls is a new program that continues DOROT's critical work to build social connections between the generations. During the COVID-19 global health crisis, a time when face-to-face contact is no longer a safe option, DOROT is building community bonds and interacting with seniors by phone. It can make a real difference in all our lives.

Volunteers can sign up to visit an older adult once or twice per week for four weeks. To ensure the success of these calls, new volunteers participate in a short online orientation session and provide two electronic references. Match assignments are made following completion of these requirements.

Ages: 18+

Time Commitment: 30-minutes once or twice per week

Requirements: New volunteers participate in an online orientation and provide two electronic references

To sign up and volunteer click <https://www.dorotusa.org/make-caring-call-and-let-older-adult-know-they-matter>

Keeping Our Community Healthy Coronavirus Prevention at DOROT

DOROT has temporarily cancelled all on-site programs, which includes teen volunteering and intergenerational programs between youth and older adults in our Upper West Side office and in Westchester, in schools and in the homes of DOROT elders.

The cancellation is in effect from
Thursday, March 12 until further notice.



Holy Trinity Neighborhood Center

Saturday Supper

Every Saturday evening, The Holy Trinity Neighborhood Center (HTNC) welcomes between 90 and 120 guests for dinner. Volunteers arrive

in the early afternoon to prepare and serve the guests nutritious and appetizing meals. The guests who attend this dinner are homeless or working poor families and individuals.



In 2011, the Neighborhood Supper served over five thousand meals and is the only feeding program in the immediate neighborhood of East 88th Street.

The Saturday Supper is supported by a strong and dedicated group of volunteers.

HTNC are recruiting volunteers for the Neighborhood Supper. They would be grateful for your help!

The Neighborhood Supper is continuing albeit in a modified form to best protect the health of our guests and volunteers. Instead of a sit-down dinner as we usually provide, our volunteers are preparing dinner-to-go, which is served to our guests in the front garden of the Church of the Holy Trinity.

While volunteers are welcome every Saturday. If you can help with any or all of the Supper on a Saturday, please contact HTNC via

Facebook: (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/542527365780030/>) or email us at list26@aol.com, many thanks!

City Harvest

Our volunteers are critical to our work year-round, but we especially need their support now, while we are ramping up our food rescue operations. We have adjusted our volunteer experience in accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New York City and State Departments of Health, and are requiring all volunteers to abide by our updated Volunteer Policies ([linked on our Volunteer Portal](#)). Additionally, [new requirements from the City of New York](#) stipulate that we only engage volunteers under the age of 50 and those without chronic health conditions, including chronic lung disease, heart disease, diabetes, cancer, or a weakened immune system.



In order to ramp up our operations to meet the increased need for food, we have created several volunteer opportunities at our Food Rescue Facility, and we need your help. Please note, we are adjusting our volunteer experience in accordance with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New York City and State Departments of Health, and are requiring all volunteers to abide by our updated Volunteer Policies ([linked on our Volunteer Portal](#)). Additionally, [new requirements from the City of New York](#) stipulate that we only engage volunteers under the age of 50 and those without chronic health conditions, including chronic lung disease, heart disease, diabetes, cancer, or a weakened immune system.

[Please check our Volunteer Portal for upcoming opportunities.](#) Haven't volunteered with City Harvest before? You'll need to **[create an account](#)** before signing up.

[Learn more about how we're responding to the COVID-19 crisis and more ways you can help.](#)

Samaritans of New York

Have you been looking for a meaningful way to help others? At Samaritans, you will make a significant and lasting impact while helping others on our 24-hour emotional support and suicide prevention hotline.

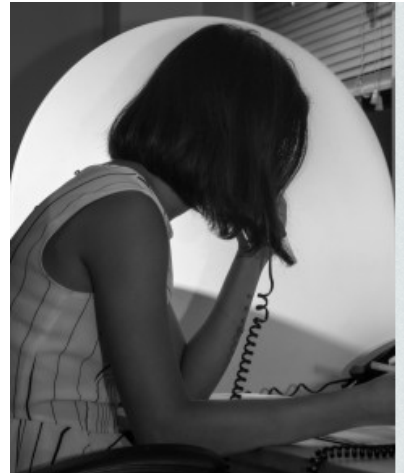
Volunteers love the personal satisfaction that comes with helping individuals that need and appreciate your compassion and support as well as the camaraderie of working alongside like-minded, caring individuals. We know your time is valuable. Rest assured, it will be very well-spent at Samaritans!

Samaritans is currently accepting applicants for the May 2020 Hotline Training Class. If you are interested in becoming a Samaritans volunteer, please contact us to attend the upcoming orientation session for this class on:

Wednesday, April 8

If you are interested in becoming a Samaritans Hotline Volunteer, please go to <https://samaritansnyc.org/volunteer-2/>

All applicants are required to utilize this form to be considered for a hotline position. For other information, go to www.samaritansnyc.org



AARP Community Connections

New AARP Community Connections Website Launches

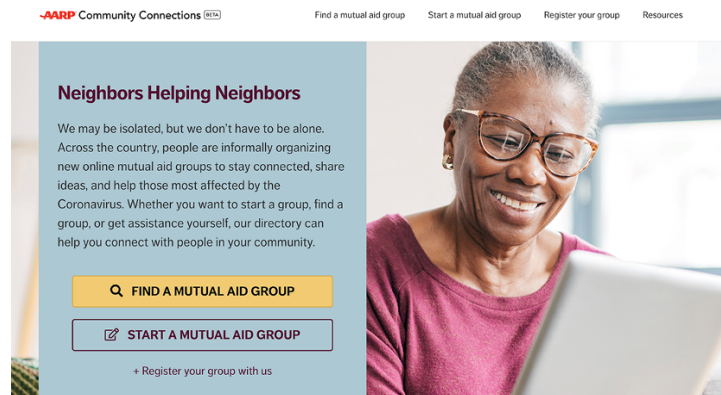
A new online service launched by AARP is designed to help users find and organize local volunteer groups to provide financial, emotional and other support to those most affected by the coronavirus outbreak.

AARP Community Connections features a searchable directory of mutual aid organizations that have sprung up nationwide to help people at higher risk of COVID-19, the respiratory illness caused by the coronavirus, as well as workers who have been laid off due to the pandemic.

These informal groups, usually formed and run online, are providing key daily services, such as picking up and delivering groceries and medications, and helping communities stay connected as people practice social distancing to slow the infection's spread.

To find volunteer groups near you, type your city and state into the directory's search field and press enter. The directory will produce a list of organizations near you with web links and a locator map.

AARP Community Connections is free to use, and AARP membership is not required.



City Meals on Wheels

Citymeals Begins Preparing 300,000 Additional Emergency Meals; Relies on Hundreds of Volunteers

Over 400 volunteers rallied over the last two weeks to support Citymeals and elderly New Yorkers coping with the Covid-19 outbreak. Heartfelt thanks to everyone supporting our emergency response. To volunteer,



email sheila@citymeals.org & vivienne@citymeals.org.

As the designated emergency responder for the city's seniors, Citymeals on Wheels is working on the frontlines of the Covid-19 outbreak to ensure older New Yorkers have nourishing meals during this public health crisis.

To address this unprecedented challenge, Citymeals has doubled its warehouse staff and is relying on hundreds of volunteers to pack boxes and bags for delivery across the city.

We continue to take every precaution with staff and volunteers to ensure best hygiene practices, as established by Centers for Disease Control, are followed including social distancing. Our Friendly Visiting program, which connects volunteers with their isolated older neighbors, moved to telephone contact many weeks ago to reduce the chance of possible transmission of the virus.

To sign up to volunteer: <https://www.citymeals.org/get-involved/volunteer-with-us>

Safe Horizons

SURVIVORS NEED US IN THE FACE OF #COVID19: In the midst of this global pandemic, Safe Horizon needs your support. For so many survivors, being told to stay indoors means living in close quarters with an abuser — 24/7. Although we've closed many of our physical offices, our dedicated team continues to provide essential services remotely. Our hotlines, our Domestic Violence Shelters, Streetwork Project, and Child Advocacy Centers REMAIN OPEN. But continuing to operate

safely means our resources are at capacity. From keeping our staff and clients safe through increased sanitation and hygiene supplies to ensuring our front-line employees are paid what they deserve — it all adds up!



The well-being and safety of our clients and staff is always our top priority. That is why we are closely monitoring the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation. We've taken a number of measures to make sure our offices are.

Please note that although some physical sites may not be available to provide in-person support, we are making every effort to provide virtual and telephonic services.

To apply for a volunteer opportunity, please use the "Employment Type" drop down menu below and select the appropriate category."

<https://safehorizon.csod.com/ats/careersite/search.aspx?>

St. John's Bread & Life

Become a valued volunteer

Help change the lives of our neighbors in need. They are always looking for volunteers in their [Soup Kitchen](#), [Food Pantry](#), [Resource Center](#) and [Mobile Soup Kitchen](#). Come volunteer in Brooklyn!

[Sign me up! Begin the volunteering process.](#)

Volunteering as a group?

We love a crowd! Maybe your team at work wants to give back or maybe you are just part of a larger group of caring people ready to make a difference. Whatever the case, we're happy to have you.

[Sign us up! Begin the group volunteering process.](#)

For further questions, please contact Jennifer Stephen at [718-574-0058](tel:718-574-0058) x164 or by email at jstephen@breadandlife.org.

To sign up to volunteer click here <https://www.breadandlife.org/get-involved/volunteer>



Invisible Hands

Our Mission

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. We are focused most prominently on the elderly, disabled, and immunocompromised, but are available to help anyone in need.



Want to help?

Since this is a constantly-developing situation, everything is subject to change. We know that it's a dangerous time to be outside, and all of you signing up to be volunteers are heroes. This is extremely flexible and on an as-needed basis, so please sign up even if you're not sure what your life will look like in a week or two. We're all in the same boat.

Please only sign up if you are feeling healthy, are displaying no symptoms, have not traveled out of the country or come in contact with a sick person in the past 14 days, AND HAVE BEEN PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING.

Once you sign up, you will receive a link to join a Slack workspace where we will contact you when requests in your neighborhood(s) come in. Upon your confirmation we will put you in touch with the delivery recipient with instructions.

Questions? Contact:

InvisibleHandsDeliver@gmail.com

(732) 639-1579

Self Help Community Center

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are only having volunteers do phone/video visits to help protect our senior clients.

Selfhelp Queens North Friendly Visiting is a program that matches homebound seniors with volunteers in their community who make weekly in-person, phone, and/or video visits. Friendly visiting is an enriching opportunity for the volunteer to develop a meaningful friendship. Together, the older adult and volunteer can discuss shared interests, learn/teach new skills, read books, learn technology, and celebrate special holidays. Your time and companionship as a friendly visitor is invaluable!



We ask for a minimum commitment of six months for weekly hour-long visits. Matches are based on volunteer availability and geographic location. Our office is located in Flushing and we service the areas of College Point, Bayside, Whitestone, and Flushing. If you would like to volunteer at a location closer to you, please let me know and I will connect to the right Friendly Visiting Program.

We currently in need of ENGLISH, CHINESE, KOREAN, SPANISH, and RUSSIAN SPEAKERS.

REQUIREMENTS:

Volunteers must be 18 or older. An interview, training, references, and background check are required.

COMMITMENT:

Weekly hour-long visits for a minimum of 6 months.

LOCATION (may vary):

45-25 Kissena Boulevard
Flushing, NY 11355

Resources for contacting Selfhelp:

www.selfhelp.net

212-947-8701

info@selfhelp.net

<https://www.selfhelp.net/get-involved.php>



Volunteer Referral Center | 161 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016 | 212-889-4805 | www.volunteer-referral.org | info@volunteer-referral.com

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