



Connecting Volunteers and Agencies

*Celebrating 31 Years of
Expert Placement and
Personal Service*

**Caring & Connecting During COVID-19
How You Can Help**



**Celebrating Volunteers
National Volunteer Week
April 19-25, 2020**

Dear Friends,

Every day, volunteers make a critical difference as they tackle tough challenges to build stronger, more resilient individuals, families and communities throughout New York City. Once a year we take a moment to celebrate them and honor their impact during National Volunteer Week. Please join us as we collectively show our appreciation during this time of crisis, in support of our dedicated volunteers.

We are grateful that the spirit of service is thriving in NYC, as our partner agencies and volunteers step up to serve our communities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Volunteer Referral Center is honored to partner with community-based nonprofit organizations taking action. New Yorkers will always organize and help their neighbors in need, and in challenging times like these, service unifies our city.

To continue our efforts to connect those who want to help with those who urgently need their help please see the list of volunteer needs, below. We will continue to provide this vital link during this crisis, gathering information to share with you in support of our communities. You can also help us sustain our services by making a donation to the Volunteer Referral Center, now celebrating 31 years of connecting volunteers with 300 NYC nonprofit organizations.

Thank you.

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



You Can Make a Difference

Please Consider Making a Donation

DONATE

Jewish Community Council of Coney Island

Virtual Volunteer: Seniors Need Smiles: Friendly Visiting Opportunity

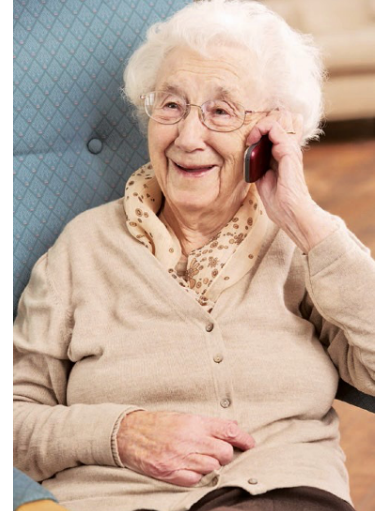
Virtual Volunteer: Seniors Need Smiles: Friendly Visiting Opportunity

Friendly Visiting, a project of JCCGCI, offers a unique opportunity for a group of volunteers who reach out to homebound individuals.

Find out what you can do to help the seniors of your community by calling them at 718-449-5000 ext. 2212.

During this Covid19 crisis, the JCCGCI is looking for volunteers to call seniors to check on them and provide company over the phone.

Call 718-449-5000 ext. 2212 or online at <http://www.friendlyvisitingny.org/> and see how you can make a difference with just one hour a week!



Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center

The Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center is a non-profit, multi-service organization focusing primarily on the needs of children and low-income families, out-of-school and out-of-work youth, and aging New Yorkers including the isolated and homebound elderly. Throughout their 50-year history, they have sought to develop programs of quality and distinction in response to the evolving needs of the community we serve.

Thank you for your care and concerns. We wish our city quick and full recovery from this health crisis.

Interested in volunteering? They need volunteers in their kitchen and to help with meal delivery.

For more information email them at: communitysupport@isaacscenter.org

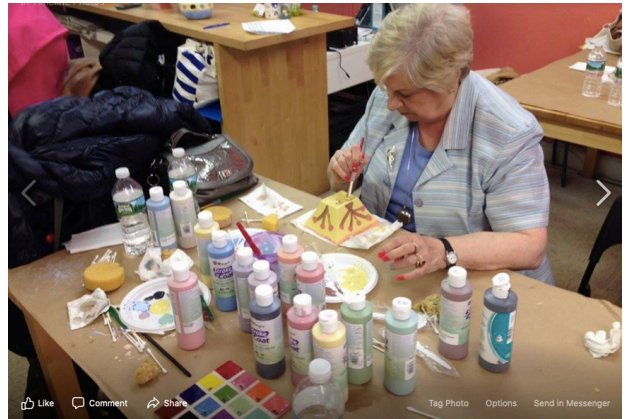


Met Council

Creating Connections @ Met Council

Everyday clients come to Met Council because they have no one else to turn to for food, housing and someone to help care for them. While COVID-19 cautions call for people to isolate themselves, for those living alone with advanced needs, this can be particularly anxiety-provoking. You can help Met Council to remind them they are not alone.

You Can Help From Home! Anything can be mailed or slipped under a senior's door in order to make our seniors feel CONNECTED!



Please email your poetry, letters, short stories, plays, cards, illustrations, drawings, artwork, essays on interesting topics to: CreatingConnections@metcouncil.org. or mail to: Leah Schecter, Met Council Fulfillment Center, 171 Lexington Avenue, NY, NY 10016 (***Please wash your hands and do not lick envelopes***).

In addition, join Met Council's team in distributing food for those families in need of food assistance. To get involved, please contact Met Council at volunteer@metcouncil.org or [212-453-9675](tel:212-453-9675).

iMentor

iMentor builds mentoring relationships that empower students from low-income communities to graduate high school, succeed in college, and achieve their ambitions. At the heart of their work is the belief that education is the pathway to success.

Attending Mentor Orientation is the next crucial step in becoming a mentor!

Please join us for an opportunity to learn more about our students, mentoring best practices, and iMentor's program model.



Click here to register for a Virtual Orientation on April 22 and April 28
<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/imentor-12640488340>

Search and Care

Search and Care's emphasis has been to act as a surrogate family to vulnerable seniors (when they have none), to those residing primarily in Manhattan's Yorkville, Carnegie Hill, and East Harlem communities (now spanning 50+ NYC blocks).

"Silver Circles" Virtual Group

- * Help older adults, age 60+, connect to Search and Care groups via video chat in-home (FaceTime, Skype, Zoom)
- * Bring agency iPads to and from clients' homes (if clients do not have their devices) before and after each group
- * Assist clients with any video chat setup required on their own devices, if needed
- * Bring each client group-specific refreshments to enjoy while participating



To apply, please email Tegan Rein (rein@searchandcare.org) and Michelle Carr (carr@searchandcare.org), Connectivity Coordinators. In your email, please write a paragraph (e.g. 4-5 sentences) expressing why you are interested in this position.

Requirements

- * Must be at least 18 years old with a valid SSN (background check required)
- * Minimum of 2-3 hours weekly or biweekly
- * Willingness to travel to the Upper East Side/East Harlem in Manhattan (East 60s and above, from the East River - Fifth Avenue)
- * Patience, reliability, and a positive attitude!

Hunger Free America

As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hunger Free America needs your help creating the most current list of food resources and assistance in this rapidly changing environment.

Pantries and kitchens have had to change their distribution methods, emergency food delivery for home bound seniors has increased, restaurants are providing meals to hungry kids, stores have special hours for at risk populations.



HFA is reaching out to fellow New Yorkers to help connect these resources to other neighbors. The crowd-sourced information will be freely available to all who might need assistance during this time and will help the national USDA Hunger Hotline provide the most current information to all those who need assistance.

Volunteers are able to conduct this research remotely and will identify and verify resources through a variety of methods, including using social media channels, web searches and phone. Volunteers should be moderately comfortable researching and using web based technology. Please feel free to reach out with any immediate questions to: volunteer@hungerfreeamerica.org or Stephanie Winter at swinter@hungerfreeamerica.org

Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter

Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter provides New Yorkers who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with a home, a community, and access to the services that they need to thrive.

Volunteer Opportunity - Drivers with Cars Needed
York Presbyterian Downtown Hospital has offered to donate meals to our residents everyday!! But the meals are downtown and the Residence is on the Upper East Side.



We're looking for volunteers willing to step up one or two days a week (or even just as your schedule permits) to drive down, have your car loaded with meals, and then drop them off at our Residence on East 81st Street. We have implemented protocols to ensure social distancing to keep everyone safe and healthy.

If you are interested in helping your less fortunate neighbors get food during this uncertain time, please **fill out this short form** and the NCS will be in touch.

JASA

(Jewish Association Serving the Aging)

JASA's mission is to sustain and enrich the lives of the aging in the New York metropolitan area so that they can remain in the community with dignity. JASA is particularly affected by the public health crisis related to COVID-19. The 40,000 older New Yorkers who rely on JASA's life-giving services are more at risk both from the virus itself as well as being isolated in their homes.



JASA Emergency Volunteers

JASA is now accepting volunteers through the JASACHat program where you can check in and connect with a senior once or twice a week over the phone or video chat. Volunteers will be matched with a senior based on mutual preferences.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER

Jewish Board of Family and Children Services of Greater New York

During this time of crisis, there are many ways to help children in the foster care system, children and adults with mental illness, and people of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Volunteer Remotely:

Create masks for programs

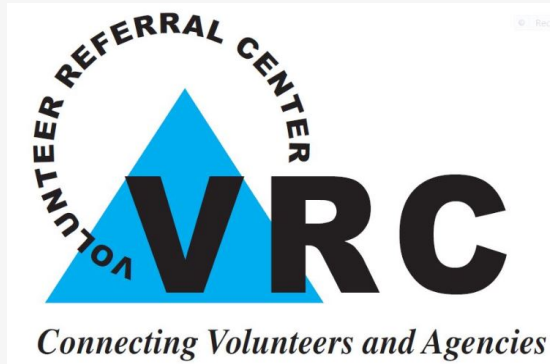
There is an urgent ongoing need for DIY non-medical masks for Jewish Board clients and staff. Don't know how to make a mask? [The CDC has instructions on how to create masks with and without sewing.](#) For more information click: [volunteer-covid-19](#)



Join us as a Virtual Volunteer or Activities Leader.

Virtual activities can be fun, wildly creative, and serve as a crucial substitute for in-person connections. We are open to your creative ideas, click here for suggestions: [volunteer-covid-19](#)

For volunteer activities, email connect@jbfcs.org to get matched with a program or to talk about other ways you can help. The Jewish Board is grateful for all creative ideas and help.



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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