



Connecting Volunteers and Agencies

*Celebrating 31 Years of  
Expert Placement and  
Personal Service*

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

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Dear Friend,

As New York City reopens there are great needs and more opportunities to care for and help each other.

VRC's free services connect volunteers with nonprofit agencies whose crucial programs will be in demand more than ever. Make a Difference! Volunteer.

VRC is here to provide you with information and connections to help you make choices. As we strive to create a future of greater compassion, care, justice and equality, volunteers will make a critical difference.

Volunteer opportunities at the following organizations are included in this newsletter:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CITYarts</li><li>• Catholic Charities</li><li>• Helping Hands for the Disabled</li><li>• International Rescue Committee</li><li>• The Actors Theatre Workshop</li><li>• Visiting Neighbors</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Go Project</li><li>• East Harlem Tutorial Project</li><li>• Project Hospitality</li><li>• StreetSquash</li><li>• Family Kind</li><li>• Reclaim Our Vote campaign</li></ul> |
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VRC also needs your support. Please consider making a donation to ensure that VRC continues to perform its vital role as a volunteer pipeline, counseling and connecting individuals and groups who want to serve, with our more than 300 partner agencies.

Thank you.

Patricia Girardi  
Executive Director  
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President  
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**You Can Make a Difference**

**DONATE**

# CITYarts

CITYarts engages youth with professional artists in the creation of public art, including murals and mosaics. Through this creative process, CITYarts empowers, educates, and connects youth and children locally and around the world to become active participants in realizing their potential and transforming communities.



Young Minds Build Bridges Program invites you to join our movement IMAGINING the World after the Global Crisis:

Draw, paint, collage, write a poem, song, or story in order to depict OUR WORLD as ONE COUNTRY - where all peoples help & inspire each other to live in Peace while reaching new heights....!!

By creating your very own CITYarts Pieces for Peace in this way, your call for Peace and Unity will be shared on our global platform including our social media channels, Online Exhibition (<https://bit.ly/2J7g9R2>), and email newsletter.

Download our print-out template (<https://bit.ly/2U9ob2u>) or our template for mobile (<https://bit.ly/2U7WeIa>) to get involved. Post your piece to Facebook or Instagram and tag us.

## *Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of NYC*

Catholic Charities helps solve the problems of New Yorkers in need — non-Catholics and Catholics alike. We rebuild lives and touch almost every human need promptly, locally, day in and day out, always with compassion and dignity.

### **Volunteer Videographer**

Come and join our newest teams of photographers and videographers who capture moments of generosity and hope! We need the teams to visit our food pantries, human service agencies, events throughout Manhattan and the Bronx. This is a great way to build your professional portfolio and take amazing unique photos of New Yorkers receiving help. Videographers are especially needed!



### **2020 Volunteer Orientation (Virtual)**

Come join us for virtual orientation session to learn more about the vast number of services we provide to needy New Yorkers, the variety of volunteer opportunities we provide, some guidelines and expectations for how to excel in your new role, and more.

*You must first register below in order to be sent the zoom meeting link. Click this link: [2020 Volunteer Orientation \(Virtual\)](#). You may also volunteer at one of our opportunities before attending orientation.*

For information about the many Catholic Charities volunteer opportunities, please click this link: [www.catholiccharitiesnyvolunteer.org/search?](http://www.catholiccharitiesnyvolunteer.org/search?)

## ***Helping Hands for the Disabled***

Are you able to run errands, read your mail, go shopping, take yourself for a walk at will? For some of our disabled members this is quite difficult. That is why we need your help.

Volunteers are needed to help people shop, run errands and read mail. This has to be done in-person, but there are also some online clerical volunteer opportunities available.

Volunteers are especially needed who are available during the day in order to accompany people to their doctor appointments.



If you would like to volunteer please give us a call at 718-606-9712 or 917-696-8115 or email us at [hhdfornyc@aol.com](mailto:hhdfornyc@aol.com).

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## ***International Rescue Committee***

The International Rescue Committee responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises, helping to restore health, safety, education, economic wellbeing and power to people devastated by conflict and disaster.

Current opportunities include:

- ASL Interpreter Volunteer
- Citizenship Workshop Volunteer

Please click here for more information regarding the above opportunities and the application process <https://www.rescue.org/volunteer-opportunities/new-york-ny>.



# *The Actors Theatre Workshop*

ATW's mission is to teach individuals from all walks of life original creative techniques that provide them with the tools to change and to create new, original theatre that examines the conflicts that have emerged from today's cultural mix and create hope for fulfillment in the human experience.

ATW is looking for idealists, leaders, and storytellers who can put their thoughts and insights into action; positive, enthusiastic individuals who want to make a difference in the world. Interns will be working on videos about our key programs: Builders of the New World shows the effectiveness of this theatre and education program and the tremendous success of the homeless children who participate; Inside the Scott Acting Conservatory illuminates the mystery of creative process and theatre technique.

For more information about responsibilities and qualifications please click [here](#)

## **Application instructions:**

Go to <https://www.actors theatreworkshop.com/get-involved/internship-program/> to find out more and fill out an online application for this position!



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## *Visiting Neighbors*

Visiting Neighbors enables anyone over the age of 60 to remain a vital part of the New York community. Through programs of "neighbors helping neighbors," volunteers, supported by Visiting Neighbors' professional staff, help older adults alleviate loneliness and isolation, provide mental stimulation and security, and encourage physical independence and quality of life at home. Visiting Neighbors serves New Yorkers in Gramercy Park, Chelsea, the East and West Village and Forest Hills in Queens.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

#### **Shopper**

Visiting Neighbors needs volunteers to shop for seniors (the most vulnerable population). Proper protocols are in place and the volunteer will not come in contact with the senior. Volunteers can make their own flexible schedule any day or days of the week.

#### **Shopper and Escort**

Volunteers help seniors with shopping or errands, accompany them to the doctor or other appointments, provide a steady arm to lean on, as well as moral support. Internships are available for high school and college students on a year round basis. Many schools participate in VN's Intergenerational Program, where students learn valuable job skills and life lessons, improving their self-esteem and sense of responsibility.

**For more information, please contact (212) 260-6200.**

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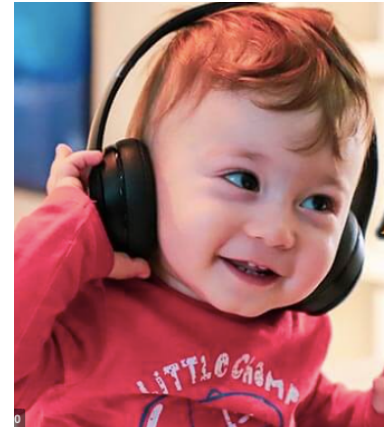
# Go Project

The GO Project is non-profit organization that serves academically-struggling and under-resourced elementary and middle public school students from the Lower East Side, Chinatown, and Brooklyn.

## #readwithGO

They are similar to audio books, but with your voice and friendly face, recorded on your phone or computer. GO's new virtual books will help students (and parents) continue the joy of reading at home. Pick an age-appropriate book; record yourself reading it aloud as you would to your own child, grandchild, niece, or nephew; upload the video yourself or send to GO and we will push out to our students; and watch the love of reading grow!

- Choose a book meant for children ages 5 – 10 (grades K - 4), and refrain from material that may be considered offensive or books with holiday themes.
- Keep the length of your read-aloud an average of 10 minutes. No novels, please.
- Before you launch into reading, introduce yourself and briefly describe why you chose the book. Is it your favorite from childhood? How do the book's themes, characters, or illustrations resonate with you or a young reader that you know?
- Upload the video to your own YouTube channel with the hashtag #readwithGO, or send your video to [info@goprojectnyc.org](mailto:info@goprojectnyc.org) and we will upload to GO's YouTube channel.



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## East Harlem Tutorial Program

EHTP's mission is to prepare students with the academic skills, strength of character, and emotional well-being to excel in high school and college, lead in their communities, and realize their best possible selves.

East Harlem Tutorial Program offers a variety of volunteer opportunities through our public charter schools, after-school, and summer programs. The programs range from subject-matter tutoring, providing students with homework help, mentoring, and preparing high school students for college success. Volunteers support our scholars, prepare them for academic success, encourage their social enrichment, and help them gain the confidence they will need to succeed in college and in life. With the help and support of our community of over 350 volunteers, EHTP is able to reach more scholars in East Harlem. Volunteer with EHTP and make a lasting impact on our scholars!



Click here to be a volunteer: <https://ehtp.org/volunteer>

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# ***Project Hospitality (Staten Island)***

Project Hospitality is an interfaith effort, committed to serving the needs of hungry and homeless people. We serve people with special needs — people living with HIV and AIDS, people using substances, people living with mental illness — with an array of on-site professional services. They offer a comprehensive continuum of compassionate care that begins with street outreach, shelter, and soup kitchen and food pantry, and extends to treatment, other clinical and support services, and transitional and permanent supportive housing.



## **Volunteer Opportunity - Packing & Distributing Food Bags**

Help us feed the hungry now: NYC emergency food aid during coronavirus

Volunteers will assist in packing and distributing food bags outside of Project Hospitality. Volunteers will also provide support with receiving and unloading deliveries of 6-10 pallets of food and with the food pantry inventory process. This project may be physically demanding and will follow all necessary hygiene and social distancing protocols. Local Staten Island volunteers are preferred for this project.

To fill out a volunteer application, please click here: <https://www.projecthospitality.org/how-you-can-help/#vol>

For more information contact us at (718) 448-1544 ext. 173 or e-mail at [enguessan@projecthospitality.org](mailto:enguessan@projecthospitality.org).

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# ***StreetSquash***

StreetSquash's mission is to provide consistent, long-term, and reliable support to the children, families, and schools in Harlem and Newark.

## **StreetSquash Needs You This Summer!**

Are you motivated, high energy, patient, and committed to making a difference in the lives of young people? Then StreetSquash is the place for you! And no worries, you do not have to be a squash player to volunteer with us.



For the time being, StreetSquash programming has gone virtual – including for our 2020 Summer Discovery Program, which starts on July 6th! That means that our volunteering is operating virtually, too. Right now, we are looking for virtual volunteers interested in:

- **1-1 & Group Tutoring:** Work with 1-2 students on homework help and other academic support. Volunteers are needed for all subject areas, from 6th grade Social Studies to 12th grade AP Chemistry.
- **High School Mentoring:** Help our older students review resumes, job search, and practice interview. Also share takeaways and tips from your own career and field.
- **Middle School Mentoring:** Build a bond with our younger students by chatting about life skills and offering guidance about personal interests and challenges.
- **Summer Sessions:** Lead a summer discovery session for our students, and help them learn a new skill or idea.

For more information and to complete a Volunteer Interest Form, click here: <https://streetsquash.org/volunteer/>

# FamilyKind

FamilyKind is a 501(c)(3) organization which was founded in 2012 to work with families in transition due to divorce or separation on a sliding fee scale. FamilyKind empowers children, parents and couples before, during and after separation or divorce — no matter their family configuration, or financial situation.

Are you knowledgeable in ASL and interested in volunteering to interpret during FamilyKind's webinars, and classes? Our programs include: parent education classes, mediation, parenting coordination, family relationship coaching, meetings for Adult Children of Divorce, GoodTalk4 Parents (Communication skills) and GoodTalk4Children (Classes for Children of divorce and separation). We work remotely and have locations in New York City, Long Island, Westchester.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please email us at [info@familykind.org](mailto:info@familykind.org).



## RECLAIM OUR VOTE Campaign

### What is RECLAIM OUR VOTE?

The Reclaim Our Vote Campaign was officially launched in 2018 by the **Center for Common Ground** of Virginia, a 501(c)3 organization whose national partners include the NAACP, Black Voters Matter, Mi Familia Vota, VoteRiders and DemLabs.

### History of the RECLAIM OUR VOTE campaign

Since late 2017, the nonpartisan Reclaim Our Vote campaign has reached out to nearly a million voters of color in states like Georgia, Alabama, Virginia, Texas and Mississippi—states with a long history of voter suppression. In December 2017, our phone bank calls helped increase turnout among rural voters of color by 35% in the Alabama special Senate election. In 2018, teaming up with Black Voters Matter, we made 185,000 calls to Georgia voters for the midterms; about 65% of those calls resulted in votes. In 2019, 20-25% of our postcards into nine counties in North Carolina's 3rd Congressional District resulted in a voter registration.

### How will we RECLAIM OUR VOTE in 2020?

This year, Reclaim Our Vote plans to expand its volunteer base and work towards a 20 percent increase in turnout among voters of color in at least four states, and a significant percentage increase in others. We started working towards this goal in 2019, in North Carolina and Virginia; in 2020 our target states are North Carolina, Texas, Arizona, Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia; our tools include postcards, phone banks, textbanks, geofencing, GOTV billboards in key areas, canvassing, rides to the polls and election monitoring.

**Please sign up to volunteer for Reclaim Our Vote today.** Because we all need a voice—and every vote matters, now more than ever.

<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/reclaim-our-vote-signup>

Questions: email [rov@peopledemandingaction.org](mailto:rov@peopledemandingaction.org) (please reference this web site when contacting us at this address).





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Volunteer Referral Center | 161 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016 | 212-889-4805 |  
[www.volunteer-referral.org](http://www.volunteer-referral.org) | [info@volunteer-referral.com](mailto:info@volunteer-referral.com)

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