



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

We hope you are making the most of summer in New York as we approach the other side of the pandemic. The green spaces and public gardens are particularly beautiful this year and the special energy of New Yorkers is all around us.

While there is still uncertainty at this time, one thing is clear: Volunteers are more important than ever.

Together we provide a lifeline to nonprofits juggling depleted staff and infrastructure with surging demand.

There are many options to serve individuals and communities in our great city. Organizations featured in this edition include:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wayside Baptist Church• American Red Cross• Union Settlement | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Big Apple Greeter• East Harlem Tutorial Program• Free Arts NYC |
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For more ideas go to our website to see previous newsletters and events at <https://volunteer-referral.com/media-press-room/>

Please consider supporting us to help ensure that VRC continues to perform its vital role as a volunteer pipeline, connecting and counseling individuals and groups who want to serve, with our more than 300 partner agencies.

With best wishes and cautious optimism we look forward to seeing you, in person, in September.

Deborah McCandless
President
Volunteer Referral Center
volunteer-referral.org

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



DONATE

Wayside Baptist Church



Website: <https://www.waysideny.org/>

Wayside Baptist Church's is a thriving ministry located at 1746-60 Broadway in Brooklyn and is growing to love, care and unite in these trying times. Their vision is to holistically engage in empowering Seniors, Youth and all in between.

<http://www.waysideny.org>

Volunteer Opportunities:

Media Assistant

Assist with recording (videoing) Sunday morning service

Contact:

Rev. M. Zidde Hamatheite or Sharon Pope

347-231-6986

Email revmzh@gmail.com

Sharon Pope 718-570-1852

waysidetruste@gmail.com

Skills: Able to assist with recording service

Ability to operate a camera and mic system - Internet savvy

Custodial Volunteer

- Sweeping, mopping, vacuuming, gathering and emptying trash. Dusting and polishing tiles
- Good customer service skills
- Principals and great organizational skills (could lead to employment)

Contact:

Sharon Pope/Dee Peters

718-570-1852 917-922-9488

Email: waysidetruste@gmail.com

deepeters330@gmail.com

American Red Cross



Website: <https://www.redcross.org/>

The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.

Volunteer Opportunities

Recovery Caseworker

- Conduct virtual interviews for those affected by local disasters and provide resources, referrals
- Assist with recovery planning and problem-solving
- Utilize Red Cross database to input notes and information
- Be available during training period to conduct basic client intake and complete training via Microsoft platform

For more information and to sign up, click here: https://volunteerconnection.redcross.org/?nd=rco_opportunity_detail&opportunity_id=78449&postal_code=53201&return_nd=rco_opportunity_browse_list

Disaster Action Team Trainee

- Respond to local disasters throughout NYC in-person from Manhattan office or support virtually until end of summer
- Work as part of a team to assess clients' immediate needs and provide assistance for housing, clothing and food as well as working with other Red Cross volunteers for health and mental health support

Contact Andrew Sindell 203-585-7163

Andrew.sindell@redcross.org or sign up here: <https://www.redcross.org/volunteer/disaster-action-team.html>

Union Settlement



Website: <https://unionsettlement.org/>

Union Settlement creates opportunity in East Harlem by offering comprehensive programs that help underserved residents improve their skills and build better lives for themselves and their families.

Volunteer at Union Settlement General Store

In response to COVID-19, Union Settlement created a General Store, to help with food insecurity in East Harlem. Members of the community are able to come to the store three days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) to shop for items such as shelf stable food and toiletries, at no cost.

Volunteer shifts are:

9am - 11am and 11am - 1pm

Tuesdays - Thursdays each week

Volunteers are also welcome to join for both shifts. Volunteers will assist with set-up and breakdown, check-in, and ensuring shoppers social distance from one another. Spanish or Mandarin language skills are helpful, though not required.

This opportunity takes place at our Gaylord White Senior Center at 237 E. 104th Street.

Interested individuals or groups can contact Kayla Duffy at kduffy@unionsettlement.org

Big Apple Greeter



Website: <https://www.bigapplegreeter.org/>

Big Apple Greeter's mission is to enhance the worldwide image of NYC and enrich the New York experience by connecting visitors with knowledgeable, enthusiastic volunteers who show them the sights and sounds of the neighborhoods they know best in the five boroughs.

Become a Greeter

Big Apple Greeter is a small non-profit organization that has been welcoming visitors to NYC since 1992 by offering them free 4 hour visits to a neighborhood of their choice with volunteers who know it well.

For more information and to fill out an application to become a Greeter, click here: <https://www.bigapplegreeter.org/be-a-greeter>

Part-time Volunteer Software Tester & Assistant Project Manager.

The Volunteer Software Tester will work closely with the Executive Director as Assistant Project Manager and primary Software Tester, providing critical contributions to make the system fully functional and empowering New Yorkers to give back through volunteering.

The Software Tester will learn the custom/proprietary system built in MySQL/Laravel and familiarize themselves with Big Apple Greeter's software objectives.

Requirements:

- Several years of software testing experience.
- An interest in working with people of varying computer skills from our software developer and Executive Director to front-line volunteer staff.
- A degree in computer science and project management experience is a plus.

You must be willing to work in our office downtown for the first month of the project. Thereafter, working remotely is optional.

Time Commitment: Minimum 5 hours a week. Flexible hours. Preference given to those who can commit to minimum of 6 months. For those who can commit to contributing more hours weekly, a 3- to 4 month commitment would be considered.

Perks: Opportunity to participate in free walking tours, learn about NYC, and make new friends with others who love the city.

To learn more about Big Apple Greeter watch this 90 second video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcEySO0D-4Q>

Location: 1 Centre Street, Suite 2312, New York, NY 10007

Contact:

Alicia Pierro, 212-460-5055 / email: opportunities@bigapplegreeter.org

East Harlem Tutorial Program



Website: <https://www.ehtp.org/>

East Harlem Tutorial Program offers a variety of volunteer opportunities through our public charter schools, after-school, and summer programs. The program opportunities 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.

EHTP will be resuming in-person volunteering for School Year '21-'22. Please look at the opportunities below

Academic Tutoring - Volunteers help our middle and high school scholars succeed in various subjects (Math, English, Science, History), while in a one-on-one setting. Volunteers should feel confident tutoring and have demonstrated success in a 6th - 12th grade level subject.

Minimum Commitment: Once a week for at least 1-hour

When: Monday through Thursday, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Final schedule will be determined by each pair). Age Requirement: 18+

Click here to apply: <https://app.betterimpact.com/Application?OrganizationGuid=d6c331ff-210e-450b-8c0a-c447f8a5bd6d&ApplicationFormNumber=1>

The College Mentoring Program is a two-year, one-on-one, mentoring program that guides high school scholars through the entire college admissions process and supports them as they navigate their first year of college. Recruitment for this opportunity is scheduled to start in June 2022 - but sign up now. See the full volunteer description by [clicking here](#).

Please note, other opportunities will be available shortly. Please contact Jaime Rodriguez 917-985-0106 jarodriguez@ehtp.org for more information..

Free Arts NYC



Website: <https://freeartsnyc.org>

FREE ARTS NYC empowers underserved youth through art and mentoring programs to develop their creativity, confidence, and skills to succeed.

Become a Teen Arts Program Mentor

We're recruiting mentors for our Creative Lab Program! Creative Lab offers teens an introduction to the creative industry, cultural institutions, artists and professional development. Volunteer mentors support our 9th – 12th graders who are interested in exploring the arts professionally or academically. Once a month, teens and mentors will participate in studios visits and skill building workshops and once a month mentors and teens can choose their own activity.

Currently, the program will operate in a hybrid model from October – December. Workshops will be virtual with the opportunity for in person meet ups. In January, we hope to resume all in person programming pending safety guidelines and protocols.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 3, 2021

Mentor Applicant Requirements:

- Experience and enthusiasm for working with teens (9th-12th graders)
- Interest in supporting career readiness skills
- Ability to support visual literacy skills
- Fine Arts background preferred
- 1-2 years of youth development experience or volunteering preferred
- Access to the internet and a computer
- Technologically proficient
- Available one Sunday per month for a two hour workshop
- Available to meet your teen in person for museum, studio, and gallery trips
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Interested, but have some questions? Reach out to volunteer@freeartsnyc.org.

Click here to apply: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeKQUUNNN1JL8d0z7LBSCq1Jkf-KJlviKA1iILXA3PK9iZjLg/viewform>

Due to pre-cautions regarding Covid-19, we do not currently have any volunteer opportunities for the Free Arts Day Program. Please check back in late spring for more information.

[Need More Ideas?](#)

The Volunteer Referral Center has been helping New Yorkers of all ages find great volunteer opportunities for 32 years. With over 300 partner agencies, VRC will guide you to a perfect match.

To schedule a free appointment sign up at <http://volunteer-referral.com/volunteer-opportunities-2/>

Click here <https://volunteer-referral.com/media-press-room/> to check out our Caring & Connecting During COVID-19 newsletters for more volunteer opportunities.



Connecting Volunteers and Agencies



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