Volunteer Opportunities for COVID-19 Support

Please see our website [www.scvolunteernow.org](http://www.scvolunteernow.org) for additional volunteer opportunities.

**At Home Service Projects**

One of the most helpful things you can do for the community right now is staying at home. Here are some ideas for service projects you can do remotely.

**At Home Service Projects**

**Dates/Times:** ongoing  
**Location:** at home  
**Description:** Youth and families can make a difference in their community by completing virtual or at home service projects to uplift the high-risk groups who may feel isolated in this current situation. Ideas include creating a virtual greeting card, creating a physical greeting card, making a DIY t-shirt dog toy, and making a t-shirt tote bag.  
**More information and register:** [https://www.scvolunteernow.org/athomevolunteer](https://www.scvolunteernow.org/athomevolunteer)  
**Contact:** Malia Yamashita, ys@scvolunteercenter.org or (831) 722-6708 ext. 313

**Be a Human Race Online Fundraiser!**

**Dates/Times:** March 25-May 9  
**Location:** online  
**Description:** The Human Race is an opportunity for Santa Cruz County nonprofits, individuals and groups to fundraise for local programs through a six week online giving campaign that previously culminated on Race Day with a 5 mile fun run/walk and a community celebration. Although we won't come together this year in person, this will bring many folks together virtually in support of great causes. The Human Race has been helping nonprofits, schools and community groups fundraise together for 40 years. Online giving runs from March 25 through May 9. The 2020 goal? To raise $300,000 for participating local nonprofits, schools and churches. Will you walk for change for our community? Join us as a fundraiser or donor for the organization of your choice!  
**More information:** [https://www.humanracesc.org/](https://www.humanracesc.org/)  
From that page you can view the list of participating nonprofits and choose who you want to support and fundraise for.  
**Contact:** Aisha, humanrace@scvolunteercenter.org, 831-435-5091

**Virtual Tech Support for County Office of Education with Cruz One**

**Dates/Times:** ongoing  
**Location:** at home  
**Description:** Cruz One was born from the need to get teachers and students in Santa Cruz County set up for distance learning through the COVID-19 crisis. A website and support platform was assembled as a one stop shop for technical support. We are looking for people with tech experience to help answer requests for tech support during the day.  
**More information:** [https://www.cruz.one/](https://www.cruz.one/)  
**Contact:** Chris, ctodd@cruz.one

Questions? Contact Heather 831.222.0203, americorps@scvolunteercenter.org  
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**Helpline Volunteer: 211 Call Specialist**

**Dates/Times:** ongoing  
**Location:** online  
**Description:** Actively assist the 211 Call Center with answering calls and accessing the iCarol 211 Database to provide adequate information and referrals to callers! The 211 Call Center is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The 2-1-1 Call Center is a Level 4, the most critical level for a crisis – there is a need for community volunteers to assist with the call volume. Since March 16, 2020, 70% of the 211 Call Specialists are taking calls from their home – the Call Center has become a virtual call operations center. Given the current statewide shelter in place order, the 2-1-1 Call Center will need volunteers on a rotating schedule for a minimum of 28 days. There is an accelerated Orientation and Live Call Training (2 days). Minimum four (4) hour shifts per day with a maximum of 2 shifts per day, or eight (8) hours. Volunteers are not permitted to volunteer more than 5 days per week.  
On the sign up sheet, type “UWSCC” for the Name of Department section.  
**Contact:** Kassandra Flores, kflores@unitedwaysc.org

**Virtual Tech Support for Seniors with YouthSERVE**

**Dates/Times:** ongoing  
**Location:** at home  
**Description:** YouthSERVE is a member of Cyber Seniors and is now offering remote tech support to seniors. You can join as a volunteer and be connected to the tools you need to offer support to a senior. There is a required online training for volunteers. Please note that this project is launching on Tuesday, March 31st.  
**Contact:** Malia, ys@scvolunteercenter.org

**Hotline Advocate for Survivors of Domestic Violence**

**Dates/Times:** ongoing  
**Location:** at home  
**Description:** A hotline advocate provides crisis intervention, domestic violence education, peer support, and community resources to survivors of domestic violence and their allies during a once-weekly shift on our local 24-hour hotline. Our hotline advocates provide a crucial service which benefits local survivors and their allies as well as an essential service to the functioning of Walnut Avenue’s Advocacy & Prevention Department. Previous experience is not required. Training is included and meets the California legal requirements to be certified as an advocate for domestic violence survivors (California Evidence Code Section 1037).  
**More information:** [https://www.wafwc.org/volunteer](https://www.wafwc.org/volunteer)  
**Contact:** Marjorie Coffey (they/them), at mcoffey@wafwc.org

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**Human Race Online Social Media and Tech Support**

**Dates/Times:** March 25-May 9  
**Location:** online  
**Description:** We need online volunteers 5-10 hours weekly to share about the Human Race on social media and help to raise awareness. Help assist the event coordinator in supporting a community of 70+ nonprofits!  
**More information:** [https://www.humanracesc.org/](https://www.humanracesc.org/)  
**Contact:** Aisha, humanrace@scvolunteercenter.org, 831-435-5091

**English-Spanish Interpreters**

**Dates/Times:** March 25-May 9  
**Location:** online  
**Description:** The Conflict Resolution Center help youth and families have productive and meaningful discussions in Parent-Teen Mediations and with folks who have been harmed in Restorative Justice Dialogues. Our work is done mostly by volunteers, including amazing bilingual folks who volunteer their time as interpreters for mediations and dialogues. It’s easy! It's fun! It's non-committal! And you fill a very valuable and needed role in the community! We need interpreters for small intakes (.5 - 1 hour), Restorative Justice Dialogues (1-1.5 hours) and mediations (up to 3.0 hours). This can be an on-call basis, no commitment required - simply a willingness and a fluency in Spanish and English.  
**More information:** [http://www.crcsantacruz.org/about-crc/volunteers](http://www.crcsantacruz.org/about-crc/volunteers)  
**Contact:** Alaya, alaya@crcsantacruz.org

**In-Person Service Projects**

Out of an abundance of caution we are following these guidelines recommended by the CA Department of Health. **DO NOT GOTO A VOLUNTEER SITE IF:**

1. You have traveled outside of the United States in the last 14 days.  
2. You have had contact with anyone with confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days.  
3. If you currently have a heart condition, lung disease, diabetes, or any other serious health condition, or are over the age of 65.  
4. You have had any of these symptoms in the last 14 days:  
   - Fever greater than 100  
   - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath  
   - Cough  
   - Sore throat

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While Volunteering in the Community:

Out of an abundance of caution we are following the recommendations from CA Department of Health and encourage all volunteers to take the following precautions. Keep in mind that every setting is unique and we can all work together to make accommodations to maintain social distancing while still working together.

1. Follow all safety guidelines from the project leader (wearing gloves, masks, etc.)
2. Leave your volunteer site if you begin to feel ill during the project.
3. Wash your hands upon entering the volunteer site.
4. If you need to cough or sneeze do it into a tissue or your elbow and wash your hands (or change your gloves).
5. Maintain social distancing of 6-feet between people. This may mean that you need to slow down. Work with your project leader to problem solve and innovate solutions.
6. Bring your own personal supplies with you if you can. Think about what you may need while you are out and plan ahead. Ideas include: water bottle, sunglasses, hair tie or hat, protective gloves or hand sanitizer (if you have it). Any resource that you can provide for yourself will help the organization to conserve their resources.

Brown Bag Packing with Grey Bears

Days: Thursday and Friday (additional days may be added)
Time: 7:30am to 9am
Location: Grey Bears, 2710 Chanticleer Avenue, Santa Cruz
Description: Healthy volunteers under the age of 65 are needed to help on the Brown Bag program: assembling bags of fresh produce for seniors on Thursday and Friday mornings between 7:30am and 9am. Volunteers are also needed to deliver bags after they are assembled.
Contact: Grace Mora, grace@greybears.org, (831) 479-1055x 241

Donor Ambassador - Helping with Blood Drives in Santa Cruz

Dates/Times: varying
Location: various locations in Santa Cruz
Description: Provide great customer service at community blood drives! Greet and register donors, staff the canteen area, make donors feel appreciated! During this time we are maintaining 6 feet social distancing and using forehead thermometers to take temperatures.
Minimum 1 shift (4 hours) per month. Attend one 2-hour training followed by a shadow shift.
Contact: Ana, ana.romero@redcross.org

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Donate a Brown Bag Lunch!
**Dates/Times:** 9am-2pm, Monday through Friday  
**Location:** 205 Mora St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
**Description:** St. Francis Soup Kitchen is distributing brown bag lunches to go. Stop by to drop off fun and tasty packaged items to go in the bags!  
**Contact:** Richard at rcrowe@stfrancissoupkitchen.org

Pajaro Valley Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry
**Dates/Times:** Monday through Friday, 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm  
**Location:** 150 2nd St., Watsonville, CA 95076  
**Description:** As a community-supported kitchen and pantry, our mission is to assist the people of the Pajaro Valley with nutritious food, education, and referrals in cooperation with other agencies. In this time of increased need, we are looking for food pantry assistance restocking items and lifting 50 lb. crates of potatoes, carrots, and onions. We need two people per shift, Monday through Friday, 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm.  
**Contact:** Cecilia, volunteer@pvloavesandfishes.org

Pantry Assistance and Food Pick-Up in San Lorenzo Valley
**Dates/Times:**  
**General Projects:** Monday through Friday, flexible times  
**Food Pantry:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am-12pm  
**Drivers:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 7-10am  
**Location:** 9400 Hwy 9, Ben Lomond, CA 95005  
**Description:** Valley Churches United is a volunteer-powered, donor-supported nonprofit agency providing assistance to low-income residents in need. We serve San Lorenzo Valley, Scotts Valley, and Bonny Doon. We are looking for assistance with our food pantry, particularly folks who can lift crates and boxes up to 40 lbs, as well as drivers to pick up food from local grocery stores. We also have need for support on a variety of small projects, and can work with your schedule!  
**Contact:** Lynn Robinson, 831-336-8258 ex. 229, lrobinson@vcum.org

Assist with Homeless Storage Program
**Dates/Times:** Wednesdays 5-7pm  
**Location:** 150 Felker St. Suite H, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
**Description:** Warming Center Program is committed to people who sleep outside and are in desperate need of storage for their bedding and personal belongings. We believe the experience of people lugging piles of belongings around, hiding them in various areas and often having them confiscated or stolen is an issue that affects every city resident. We need one person to assist our clerk with checking storage in and out on Wednesday evenings. This includes greeting clients, pulling storage bins, and using a basic computer spreadsheet. Masks, gloves, and isopropyl handspray are provided, and safety guidelines are in effect.  
**More information:** [https://www.warmingcenterprogram.com/day-night-storage](https://www.warmingcenterprogram.com/day-night-storage)  
**Contact:** Brent Adams, 831-588-9892, WarmingCenterProgram@gmail.com

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