

Volunteer Opportunities for COVID-19 Support



Please see our website www.scvolunteernow.org for additional volunteer opportunities.

At Home Service Projects

(Community Projects Are Listed After At Home Projects)

Do Good At Home

Dates/Times: ongoing

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: <https://www.scvolunteernow.org/athomevolunteer>

Contact: Malia Yamashita, ys@scvolunteercenter.org

Sew a Mask or Gown

Description: Given potential shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE), fabric masks and gowns may be an option for some. Your time and talent is greatly appreciated in the community to help ensure safety. Fabric masks offer the benefit of being able to be washed and reused. These can be used for people who have symptoms of being ill or congregate living facilities to prevent the spread of illness. **We still need 1,200 masks!**

More info: <https://scvolunteercenter.org/programs/mask-making-project/>

Contact and instructions: masks@scvolunteercenter.org

Disaster Preparedness Coach

Description: Get Ready | Esten Listos Santa Cruz County is a new project to reach out to our community and help them prepare for a disaster. Volunteers are needed to assist with individual outreach to seniors throughout Santa Cruz County. Our goal is to help 11,000 people in Santa Cruz County develop a personalized emergency plan. We are specifically reaching out to community members that do not already have a plan in place and are at high risk of being impacted by a fire or flood. We are especially in need of bi-lingual, English / Spanish volunteers. Volunteers are expected to commit to 5 - 10 hours a week. We will provide training and ongoing support for all volunteers. Volunteers can assist in a variety of ways including: Phone outreach to people who have asked us to call them (no cold calling), talking to people in small groups about disaster preparedness using zoom, supporting outreach through phone, and email and online training.

More information: <https://scvolunteercenter.org/events-2/get-ready-summit/>

Contact: Aisha Charves, events@scvolunteercenter.org, 831-722-6708 ext. 311

Virtual Tech Support for Seniors with YouthSERVE

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.

Contact: Malia, ys@scvolunteercenter.org

Questions? Contact Heather 831.222.0203, americorps@scvolunteercenter.org

Updated Tuesday, June 9 2020

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Census Phone Outreach

Description: Volunteers are needed for phone-banking to share information about the census: why it is important, what the economic impact of undercounts mean, signups for volunteers, etc. A short training will be provided to help educate volunteers on the census and how to engage with the larger population on this issue in a non-political way. The county's unofficial slogan for the census is "I count! You count! We count!" Volunteer shifts are generally 2-3 hours and the schedule is flexible. Volunteers are needed for outreach over the phone. We need many volunteers to ensure that everyone in our county is counted on the census. We especially need bilingual English/Spanish volunteers. Please join us!

Please complete the volunteer form here: <https://forms.gle/zv3hNQP9PQrhEaKw8>

Contact: Joseph Watkins, josephw@cabinc.org

Virtual Tech Support for County Office of Education with Cruz One

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.

Fill out the form to get involved: <https://www.cruz.one/offer-help/>

Suicide Crisis Line Volunteer

Dates/Times: Begins on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020

Description: Help to self-empower individuals in crisis so such persons can remain safe from suicide. Suicide Prevention Service is seeking volunteers for the upcoming summer 2020 training, which will be done remotely. Volunteers will complete an extensive 40+ hour training in suicide prevention and intervention, participate in training shifts, take calls from the suicide crisis line and employ a full risk assessment with each caller, and document call reports. There is a 24 hour shift schedule available. Volunteers who finish training complete a one-year volunteer commitment, consisting of one 4-hour shift per week for a total of 52 shifts. Volunteers may continue to work with the program beyond their one-year commitment as well. No experience needed! Only an open and willing heart. Volunteers must be 18+ years of age.

More information: <http://fsa-cc.org/suicide-prevention-service/>

Contact: sps24hr@fsa-cc.org

Davenport Resource Service Center Administrative Support

Dates/Times: 5 hours a week, flexible times

Description: Help a local nonprofit continue to offer its services remotely! The Davenport Resource Service Center (DRSC), provides services to support the culturally diverse and low-income population in the rural north coast. Emergency and prevention services we provide include, food distribution; educational services for children and teenagers; support and services for seniors; transportation; information and referral; cultural events; translation; form-filing, and other services. We need help creating systems to continue to reach out to youth, seniors, and families over the phone and Zoom to sustain our programming. This could include using Microsoft or Google forms, creating surveys, and connecting with program participants.

Sign up online:

Contact: Isai, (831) 425-8115, IsaiA@cabinc.org, or Brenda, BrendaS@cabinc.org

Questions? Contact Heather 831.222.0203, americorps@scvolunteercenter.org

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Create Videos for Davenport Resource Service Center

Description: Make videos from home to support a local nonprofit! We are looking for support in creating videos about the Davenport Resource Service Center to showcase our organization and the programming that we provide. Ideally, this would be one or two videos a month. You will need your own equipment, but we can provide photographs, voiceover content, etc.

Sign up online:

Contact: Isai, (831) 425-8115, IsaiA@cabinc.org, or Brenda, BrendaS@cabinc.org

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! We can use sliced cheese, lunch meat, chips, trail mix, single size savory or sweet snacks, and single-size juice boxes.

Contact: Richard at rcrowe@stfrancissoupkitchen.org

Data Entry: Help Us Share Our Success at Farm Discovery!

Dates/Times: ongoing/flexible

Location: primarily online, able to occasionally visit 172 Litchfield Lane, Watsonville 95076

Description: Farm Discovery at Live Earth is a nonprofit organization working in the Pajaro Valley community to empower youth and families to build and sustain healthy food, farming, social and natural systems. Help our young non-profit report our successes and seek needed funding by entering contact and demographic information of the people we are serving. You can work from anywhere, although we hope to meet you once in a while on the farm to exchange hard copies back and forth. We do not want to ship our hard copies with sensitive information, so someone close enough to visit once in a while is the ideal candidate. We are looking for someone with experience with Salesforce, data entry, and community outreach.

More information: <https://farmdiscovery.org/>

Contact: Jessica Ridgeway, director@farmdiscovery.org

**If you have concerns about safety at a site,
please call us at (831) 457-9834.**

Stay Safe While Volunteering: In-Person Service Projects

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

1. You have had contact with anyone with confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
2. You are at increased risk including: heart condition, lung disease, liver disease, kidney disease, asthma, diabetes, immunocompromised (including cancer treatments) or any other serious health condition that puts you at risk.
3. You are a caregiver for anyone with increased risk.
4. You are 65 or older.
5. You have had any of these symptoms in the last 14 days: fever greater than 100°F, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, loss of smell or taste.

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. Wear a face covering.
2. Follow all safety guidelines from the project leader (protective gear, etc.)
3. Leave your volunteer site if you begin to feel ill during the project.
4. Wash your hands upon entering the volunteer site.
5. If you need to cough or sneeze do it into a tissue or your elbow and wash your hands.
6. Maintain physical 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.
7. 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: a face covering, 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.

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Disaster Preparedness Coach at Food Distribution Sites

Dates/Times: flexible

Location: Santa Cruz County

Description: Get Ready | Esten Listos Santa Cruz County is a new project to reach out to our community and help them prepare for a disaster. Volunteers are needed to assist with individual outreach to seniors throughout Santa Cruz County. Our goal is to help 11,000 people in Santa Cruz County develop a personalized emergency plan. We are specifically reaching out to community members that do not already have a plan in place and are at high risk of being impacted by a fire or flood. We are especially in need of bi-lingual, English / Spanish volunteers. Volunteers are expected to commit to 5 - 10 hours a week. We will provide training and ongoing support for all volunteers. Volunteers are needed to distribute and explain information at food distribution sites.

More information: <https://scvolunteercenter.org/events-2/get-ready-summit/>

Contact: Aisha Charves, events@scvolunteercenter.org

Grocery Shopping for a Senior

Dates/Times: flexible

Location: Santa Cruz County

Description: We are dedicated to ensuring that our most vulnerable community members are able to get the food they need as they shelter in place. We are serving low-income seniors age 60+ and older adults with medical conditions. Are you a friendly, reliable, and safe driver that can give a few hours to help a senior or disabled person in need? Grocery Shopping Volunteers provide an invaluable service for seniors by shopping and delivering food. As a volunteer, your schedule is completely flexible; you drive when you have time. Volunteers must agree to a background check (takes about one week to get the results).

More information: <https://scvolunteercenter.org/programs/grocery-shopper-program/>

Contact: Laney Kjos, rsvp@scvolunteercenter.org, (831) 427-5070

Pajaro Middle School Food Distribution Support

Dates/Times: Fridays, 8:30am-11:30am

Location: Pajaro Middle School

Description: The School Lunch program operates Monday - Thursday and Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance is providing food distribution to families on Fridays so they have food over the weekend. Volunteers are needed to help us meet the growing demand from families. Volunteers are needed to help with handing out bags to people who do not have cars and to help with directing cars on how to enter and exit the parking lot and line up for maximum efficiency. Spanish speaking is a plus. Safety vests, gloves, and masks are provided, but please bring your own mask if you have one.

Sign Up: <https://www.scvolunteernow.org/opportunity/a0C2I00000ZL0Lm>

Contact: Heather 831.222.0203, americorps@scvolunteercenter.org

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La Manzana Community Resources Summer Lunch Program

Date/Time: Monday-Friday 11:45-1:15 PM from June 8th-July 31st

Location: various sites in Watsonville, Freedom, and Santa Cruz

Description: Come help with our summer lunch program! This volunteer opportunity includes distributing nutritious lunch to children ages 0-18 at various locations in Watsonville, Freedom, and Santa Cruz as well as tracking how many lunches are served each day. We are looking for people from June 8th-July 31st, Monday-Friday from 11:45-1:15, with lunch served from 12:00PM-1:00PM. We have six locations and will need two volunteers per location each day.

Contact/sign up: elizabethr@cbridges.org , (831) 724-2997 x204

Project Elderly Care Food Pantry Warehouse Support

Dates/Times: Mondays 12pm-4pm, Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10am-4pm, Thursdays 8am-10am

Location: 114 Walker St., Watsonville, CA 95076

Description: Project Elderly Care provides groceries for seniors in Santa Cruz County, Monterey County, San Benito County, and Santa Clara County. We are looking for volunteers to help in the warehouse! Mondays from 12pm-4pm (sometimes ends earlier) is set-up and organizing, Tuesdays from 10am-4pm is unloading food and starting to fill grocery bags, Wednesdays from 10am-4pm is finishing filling grocery bags, and Thursdays from 8am-10am is putting together care packages with any last minute fresh produce that we receive before deliveries go out. Come help out for as long as your schedule allows! Youth aged 10+ are welcome with an adult. **Please bring your own mask and complete our registration form/waiver when you arrive.**

Contact/sign up: Please call between 10am-5pm: Esther Guevara 831-498-0134

Project Elderly Care Food Distribution Drivers

Dates/Times: Thursdays, 10am-5pm

Location: 114 Walker St., Watsonville, CA 95076

Description: Help deliver groceries to a senior! Drivers pick up bags of food at our warehouse in Watsonville and transport them to homes in Santa Cruz County, Monterey County, San Benito County, and Santa Clara County. Drivers are given five or more addresses, depending on how many they are willing to do. Upon arrival, drivers hand off groceries and check in on residents (while maintaining six feet of distance). Drivers must have a valid driver's license and a mask and complete our registration form/waiver when you arrive.

Contact/sign up: Please call between 10am-5pm: Esther Guevara 831-498-0134

Pajaro Valley Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry Kitchen Support

Dates/Times: Monday through Friday, 8am-2pm

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 help with prepping and cooking in the kitchen. We need two people per shift, Monday-Friday, from 8am-2pm. Please bring your own mask to volunteer.

Contact: Cecilia, volunteer@pvloavesandfishes.org

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Inner Light Ministries Food Distribution Set Up and Take Down

Dates/Times: Thursdays, 9:30am-11:00am, 12:30pm-1:30pm

Location: 5630 Soquel Dr., Soquel, CA 95073

Description: Help set up and take down our food distribution station! We need three people to carry 50 lb. bags of food at the beginning of our distribution on Thursdays from 9:30am-11:00am, and again from 12:30pm-1:30pm. You are welcome to do both shifts and stay for the distribution in between. Some masks are available, but please bring your own if you have one. Bilingual in Spanish and English is a plus. Registration as a volunteer (with contact info and emergency contact info) is required on location.

Sign Up: <https://www.scvolunteernow.org/opportunity/a0C2I00000ZKzCGUA1>

Contact: Heather 831.222.0203, americorps@scvolunteercenter.org

Nueva Vista Community Resources Food Distribution and Pantry Support

Date/Time: Distribution: the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 3pm-5pm

Pantry organizing: ongoing

Location: 711 E Cliff Dr, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Description: Nueva Vista Community Resources provides a safe place for the Santa Cruz community to access resources that offer stability and hope for the future. We are looking for volunteers to help with food distribution and food pantry organization. Food distribution will be the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 3pm-5pm. You are not required to volunteer the entire distribution. You can volunteer for an hour or as long as you would like! Food distribution will include handing out food bags, taking information of those receiving food, and directing cars. Food pantry organization will include stocking shelves and packing food bags. The schedule for the food pantry is flexible so you can volunteer anytime you are available!

Contact: Mackenzie, mackenziem@cbridges.org

Holy Cross Food Pantry Support

Dates/Times: Tuesdays/Thursdays: 8:30am-11:30am (unloading/prep)

Wednesday/Friday/Sunday: 9am-11am, 11am-1pm (distribution)

Location: 210 High St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Description: On Tuesdays and Thursdays, come help unload deliveries from Second Harvest and stack shelves; prepare bags and boxes for different needs. On Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, assist with distribution; find and pass on produce items and other fresh foods to add to bags, as requested. Youth aged 12+ are welcome with an adult. Masks and gloves are required for volunteering; gloves are provided, but please bring your own mask. Bilingual English/Spanish is a plus. We are also looking for people to help pick up donations from stores and farms at other times. Opportunity also for a supervisor to be trained to interview clients and record personal details as requested by Second Harvest on a tablet Wednesday/Friday/Sunday (IT skills needed).

Contact/Sign Up: Irene Lennox, irenefraetroom@gmail.com, 831-457-2690 (no text)

Volunteer Opportunities for COVID-19 Support



Pajaro Valley Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry Restocking

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. Please bring your own mask to volunteer.

Contact: Cecilia, volunteer@pvloavesandfishes.org

Food Not Bombs

Dates/Times: Monday-Friday 1-6pm, Saturday and Sunday 12:30-4pm and 4-6pm

Location: downtown Santa Cruz: Front and Laurel (distribution), and 418 Front Street (cooking)

Description: Please join us at Front and Laurel Streets weekdays from 1:00 to 6:00 pm and weekends from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. We need help cooking at 418 Front Street from 12:30 to 4:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays.

Contact: Call us at 575-770-3377 for details.

Food Distribution at Davenport Resource Service Center

Dates/Times: Tuesdays, 11:00am-4:00pm

Location: 150 Church St. Davenport, CA 95017

Description: Assist with organizing and distributing food at our site from 11:00am-4:00pm on Tuesdays! We are looking for one or two people to help out each week. Spanish speaking is a plus.

Contact: Isai, (831) 425-8115, IsaiA@cabinc.org, or Brenda, BrendaS@cabinc.org

Second Harvest Food Bank (starting June 24)

Dates/Times: Warehouse: Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30am-12:30pm

Hospitality: Monday-Friday from 2:30pm-4pm

Location: Watsonville, CA

Description: Looking for volunteers to help with the warehouse and hospitality! Warehouse volunteers pack and sort dry goods and produce, clean and sweep the sort room, and help dump out spoiled goods. Hospitality volunteers maintain the break room, clean the kitchen, and clean out the conference rooms when they are not in use.

Volunteer criteria: Must be between ages 13-60 (no exceptions); healthy- no symptoms of any kind; no contact with people who have been ill of any kind; be able to lift, pull and push up to 25 lbs. (no exceptions); must be available the entire shift (no half shifts).

Process for volunteering: Contact Jael for online sign-up info (below), Online sign-ups only (NO WALK-INS), sign waiver online, temperature check before shift begins, wear mask at ALL TIMES, practice social distancing, wash hands frequently.

Contact: Jael, jael@thefoodbank.org, 831-232-8141

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Donor Ambassador - Helping with Blood Drives in Santa Cruz

Dates/Times: varying

Location: various locations in Santa Cruz

Description: Provide great customer service at Red Cross community blood drives! Greet and register donors, staff the canteen area and make donors feel appreciated! During this time we are maintaining 6 feet social distancing and you will be provided with gloves, face masks, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes. Minimum 1 shift (4 hours) per month. Attend one 2-hour online training followed by a shadow shift.

Contact: Ana, ana.romero@redcross.org

Assist with Homeless Storage Program

Dates/Times: Tuesdays and 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 Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. This includes greeting clients, pulling storage bins, and using a basic computer spreadsheet. Masks and gloves are provided.

More information: <https://www.warmingcenterprogram.com/>

Contact: Brent Adams, 831-588-9892, WarmingCenterProgram@gmail.com