

Promoting Social Justice while Social Distancing

We have had many inquiries from members of our community (faculty, staff, and students) who, true to the Georgetown spirit of *Hoyas for Others*, are interested in volunteering virtually during the COVID-19 crisis. Information on this Google Doc has been compiled by staff members of the [Center for Social Justice, Research, Teaching & Service at Georgetown University](#) (CSJ) based on their experiences and recommendations. While these opportunities are not being run or endorsed by CSJ or Georgetown University, we hope this list is a helpful resource for individuals considering virtual volunteerism.

Before signing up for a virtual volunteering opportunity, we suggest you [read this article](#) from Omprakash Partners or [this article](#) from MovingWorlds which offers **virtual volunteering best practices**.

Current Hoyas: Check out CSJ's Spring 2021 Federal Work Study and Volunteer positions at csj.georgetown.edu/spring2021. Positions available in virtual advocacy, mentoring and tutoring, and operations. Questions to csj@georgetown.edu.

Virtual Volunteering Opportunities

- **Omprakash Partners** offers free online volunteering and internship opportunities with vetted grassroots social impact organizations in over 40 countries around the world. Find positions [here](#).
- The **United Nations** has online opportunities in [writing and editing](#), [translating](#), [teaching and training](#), [art and design](#), [technology development](#), [research](#), [project delivery and management](#), [outreach and advocacy](#), [community organizing](#), [administration](#), [healthcare services](#), [leadership and strategy](#), and [event organization](#).
- **VolunteerMatch**, **Catchafire**, and **All for Good** also have large numbers of opportunities that are searchable by the type of service you would like to engage in.
 - VolunteerMatch has created a [direct link](#) for those looking to participate in COVID-19 related virtual volunteer opportunities.
- **Connect & Care** works closely with non-profit partners to connect numerous volunteers to their most urgent operational needs.
- Tech-Savvy Hoyas Needed on **Vaccine Sign-Up Support Project**: Support 65+ seniors in the DMV who are struggling to obtain vaccination appointments. This non-contact opportunity is supported by Jewish Life at GU, in partnership with GW Hillel and the DCJCC (all students welcome). [Sign up here](#) to receive volunteer information and calling instructions. Q's? Email Adena at adena@gwhillel.org.
- Are you fluent in more than one language?
 - **Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society** (HIAS) is seeking native Spanish speakers to translate rights over Zoom calls to people at the border. The translators do not need to have a legal background as you'll receive training and a lawyer will also be on the call with you. Sign up [here](#).
 - There are also other long or short term opportunities with HIAS. Long term roles include Mentors, English as a New Language Tutors, or English Language Partners. Short term roles include Volunteer Interpreters and Translators and Volunteer Letter Writers. Learn more and sign up [here](#).
 - Spend some time helping **Translators Without Borders** translate materials for crisis relief, health, and education projects around the world. Or with **TED Translators** or [tarjimly](#).
 - Or, if fluent in Madarin, Cantonese, and/or Spanish? Help with multi-lingual document translation, family outreach, and tutoring through [GO Project](#).



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Virtual Volunteering Opportunities [continued]

TUTORING

- Remotely tutor students in the DMV with the [Latino Student Fund](#). [Apply here](#).
- [Washington English Center](#) is looking for online tutoring volunteers to make a ten-week commitment with their students - you can begin at any point in the semester/year!
- [CovEd.org](#) is seeking virtual mentors for K-12 students from under-resourced communities.
- Sign up to provide math tutoring and college counseling with [UPchieve](#) for low-income students.
- [The Scholar Network](#) is looking for virtual tutors able to make a commitment of 2 hours per week to support students grade K-8 during the COVID-19 crisis.
- **B'More Tutoring** supports students near graduation in the Baltimore City Public Schools by connecting them with subject-specific tutors to pass necessary classes for their diploma. [Sign up](#) to make a 1-3 hour per week commitment with an assigned tutee (those who speak Spanish, Arabic, and Amharic especially encouraged to join!).

LETTER WRITING

- **Ignatian Young Adult Ministries** invites folks to connect with older Jesuits living in health care communities by [sending them an email or letter](#). Even in normal times, Jesuits in these communities are immensely grateful when they hear from young adults, and the need for connection is stronger as we remain in this "extra" isolating period.
- Write letters to folks who are incarcerated and are experiencing social isolation at this time with the **Malta Pen Pal Program**. To get involved, email Doug at maltapenpalprogram@gmail.com.
- [Write letters](#) to new mothers and families in Charlotte, NC, in need of support and encouragement during this challenging time.
- [Write letters](#) to deployed troops, first responders, and emergency medical personnel on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic with [Operation Gratitude](#).
- Write a [love letter to your favorite restaurant](#).

DIGITAL VOLUNTEERING

- [Transcribe notes](#) for **Supreme Court** Justices.
- Help make records of the **National Archives** more searchable and discoverable as a [Citizen Archivist](#).
- Be a [Smithsonian Digital Volunteer](#) and...
 - [Transcribe historical documents](#) from their collection
 - Update their [Wikipedia pages](#)
- Contribute to digital mapping of vulnerable communities with [Missing Maps](#).
- Scan or proofread books added to an online digital collection for individuals with reading disabilities through [BookShare.Org](#).
- Allow your computer to run calculations that support researchers in better understanding how proteins fold with [Folding@Home](#).
- Join the [U.S. Digital Response Team](#) for COVID-19 Volunteers, and provide assistance with data, digital, and operational capacities for the government.

RESEARCH

- Help [Amnesty International](#) conduct research into global human rights violations.
- Assist professional researchers online by making classifications on data, being a beta tester on projects, or moderating a project for [Zooniverse](#).



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Virtual Volunteering Opportunities [continued]

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT AND SERVE

- Support [Project Gutenberg](#) in creating the largest digital library, but donating eligible materials, transcribing books into digital form, or proofreading others' work.
- [Big & Mini](#) is searching for young adults to connect with seniors and help combat feelings of isolation.
- [AARP's Friendly Voice Call Center](#) asks for volunteers to take calls with older adults experiencing isolation or just seeking a friendly conversation in these challenging times.

LONG TERM VOLUNTEER COMMITMENTS

- Make a 1-year minimum commitment to [serve as an e-mentor](#) to Prince George Country middle and high school students interested in the STEM field with [Patriots Technology Training Center](#).
- Started by Georgetown's own Shreyaa Venkat, [sign up to join NEST Tutors](#), a free tutoring program for kids in Pre-K, Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle, and High school designed to help children foster a love of learning.
- Applying to work on projects for a wide variety of government agencies via the [Virtual Student Federal Service](#).
- Get trained and staff [Crisis Text Line](#), a free 24/7 national crisis-intervention and counseling service conducted exclusively through SMS text. Volunteers are screened and complete self-paced training, afterwards staffing one four-hour shift each week for a year.
- [Be My Eyes](#) is looking for sighted individuals to receive video calls via their phones on a mobile app, from blind and low-vision individuals looking for help with miscellaneous tasks..
- Offer career advice to students interested in learning from professionals with [Career Village](#). All you need is a LinkedIn account to get started.
- [Taproot Plus](#) connects nonprofits and skilled volunteers to build stronger organizations. [Attend their next info session](#) on May 27th before [getting started](#).
- [Progress Point Tutoring](#) (started by a student at Notre Dame) is looking for tutors to provide support in a variety of areas for K-12 students who may struggle to access affordable tutoring.
- [Lutheran Social Services](#), a refugee resettlement agency for the DMV, is [seeking 15-20 mentors](#) for refugee youth (currently virtual, with potential for in-person at a later date). Minimum 6 month (1 year preferred) commitment of 1x per week mentoring sessions 30-60 minutes. Q's to Debi Kant at kantd@lssnca.org. [Application here](#).

If you have a virtual volunteer opportunity to share, please send it to dcmission@georgetown.edu.



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More ways to support social justice while social distancing

MAKE A FINANCIAL DONATION

- Donate to Georgetown's community-based partners, to ensure they have the resources needed to respond to COVID-19. We recommend: [Academy of Hope](#), [Bread for the City](#), [CARECEN](#), [Father McKenna Center](#), [L'Arche Greater Washington DC](#), [Life Pieces to Masterpieces](#), [Little Lights Urban Ministries](#), [Martha's Table](#), [One Common Unity](#), [Public Allies DC](#), [So Others Might Eat \(SOME\)](#)
 - As well as other organizations carrying out critical work at this time: [Asian Americans Advancing Justice](#), [Capital Area Food Bank](#), [National Domestic Workers Alliance](#), [Restaurant Workers' Community Foundation](#), [United Way](#)
 - Or local [Mutual Aid Networks](#) or [Worker's Relief Funds](#)
- Donate a meal to someone in need in D.C. through [Food It Forward](#).

LEARN

- Track federal COVID-19 legislation at [Congress.gov](#) and find your elected officials at [GovTrack.us](#).
- Read and share the World Health Organization's Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) [Advice for the Public](#).
- The Endangered Languages Project has compiled a list of [translated informational documents](#) about COVID-19 in over 100 languages.
- Listen to [NPR's Code Switch Podcast](#) on Racism and Xenophobia in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.
 - Here is an [article and set of resources](#) on how to stand up to anti-Asian racism during the pandemic.
- [Learn how to be a good neighbor](#) during a public health emergency.

CREATE

- Costs between \$17-\$50: Looking to give back and engage your children in fun, hands-on projects? Consider purchasing "[Volunteer in a Box](#)" which delivers meaningful volunteer projects for kids right to your home. Projects help support women and children in need, as well as animals in shelters. Completed projects can be distributed in your local community, or via the organization.
- [Create audio books by reading aloud at LibriVox.org](#).
- Share a [message of support](#) to those in nursing homes and assisted living residents via social media.
- Sew hospital face masks as part of [Rosie the Seamstress](#), a national effort to bring sewists and hospital facilities together to provide much needed masks.
- Record yourself reading a children's book to add to an online library of videos shared with children with special needs or chronic and life-threatening illnesses via the [Happy Hope Foundation](#).

ADVOCATE

- Advocate for a [rent and mortgage suspension in D.C.](#) until the end of the COVID-19 crisis.
- Join [your local Showing Up for Racial Justice \(SURJ\) chapter](#) or another group in your community that advocates for the most vulnerable. Most have moved their meetings virtually, and have remote needs that you could help with.
- Support efforts in your community to release people from jails and detention centers, where they face increased threat from COVID-19. Here are some organizations that are currently working on these issues all over the U.S.: [Color of Change](#), [Dignity and Power Now](#), [Justice LA](#), [Women on the Rise](#).



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