

VOLUNTEERING LOOKS A LITTLE DIFFERENT



As social distancing and self-quarantines become our temporary normal due to COVID-19, we're collectively facing new challenges. Our nonprofit agencies are mighty but fragile. How do we continue to meet the needs of our mission with support from volunteers when one of the unique barriers of COVID-19 is social distancing?

KEEPING VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED

While you might be closed to the public, updating current volunteer opportunities or creating new virtual activities can continue to engage volunteers with your agency's mission. Volunteers are looking for ways to occupy their time while under the "Safer At Home" order. Some sources say this is even a great time to engage new volunteers that are working remotely and looking for ways to give back!

IDEAS

Time to think outside the box!

Here are some ideas nonprofits are trying:

- Writing (this could be for letters and/or grants)
- Assisting with administrative tasks, such as answering email inquiries
- Editing videos
- Creating digital art
- Designing websites
- Supporting your marketing or public relations efforts at this time
- Host a brainstorming session, this could be with your board, to come up with new ideas
- Technology training, help teach staff and/or clients to use technology as an advantage
- Take this time to review your 'when you have time' to do list
- Bonus tip: creating opportunities that the whole family can participate in can support parents and guardians in finding fun activities to do with their kids and helps foster volunteerism in youth



QUALITY EXPERIENCES

Continuing to provide quality experiences can keep new volunteers even when we are back to 'normal.' When designing new volunteer opportunities, don't forget to include your existing policies and procedures. Create position or project descriptions and/or agreement letters to ensure that new volunteers receive a thorough orientation to the work they will be doing to support your mission. Virtual or remote volunteer opportunities can bring new challenges, so welcome feedback and prepare to pivot.



United Way of
Sheboygan County
Volunteer Center

The Volunteer Center created a specific area to list COVID-19 pandemic-related volunteer opportunities online at [uwofsc.org/volunteer](https://www.uwofsc.org/volunteer). This section also includes a new list to share your tangible in-kind needs, such as hand sanitizer.

Reach out to Lee Anne Raleigh via email (leeanne@uwofsc.org) with any questions.