

COVID-19 Update



The safety and well-being of the people we serve is our top priority.



To our Volunteers of America MN and WI Community,

Today, I'm thinking about the future of our shared community. Now more than ever, our interdependence, how our fates and fortunes are intertwined, is readily apparent. COVID-19 has already taken us on a rough ride and, if anything, the road ahead only seems rockier. Yet, I remain hopeful. I firmly believe that together, we are strong, and we will get through this.



I also believe that now is the time when we most need to reach out to those in our community who are hardest hit. The pandemic's impacts are, and will, disproportionately challenge our low-wealth community members and people historically impacted by health and opportunity disparities.

Uninterrupted Services on the Front Lines

At Volunteers of America MN/WI, we see those challenges every day because **we are on the front lines** of service. **We're there 24/7 and much of our work cannot be done remotely.** Kids with chemical dependency and mental health issues still need caring counselors in a pandemic. **Older adults and their caregivers relied on our support** long before the pandemic and COVID-19 has only heightened those needs. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities **still deserve to live lives of possibility.**

When we emerge from this worldwide emergency, the road to healing and recovery will continue. Partnerships, relationships and connections will be essential to uplift communities deeply shaken by this crisis.

Stepping Up and Stepping In, Together

That's why we are asking for your help. In the face of COVID-19, we have been asking our staff to step up – to lean in and show the compassion, integrity and perseverance we pride ourselves on. As part of our community, **we ask you to step forward as well.**

You Can Help in Two Ways

Donate to the COVID-19 Emergency Fund. Your donation today helps support Volunteers of America MN/WI's critical services for those at great risk during the COVID-19 crisis.

Please Donate Now

Donate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). We are also in urgent need for:

- N95 masks
- Protective clothing
- Gloves
- Hand sanitizer
- Homemade facemasks for everyday preventive measures

Contact us at info@voamn.org to connect about PPE.

Together, We Can Build and Rebuild Communities Where ALL Lives are Uplifted

In all my life, I have never seen a time when our community was more in need of coming together and standing as one, even if it is six feet apart! **There's a spot available for you** right next to me. Please step up and lean in.

Thank you for being a part of our Volunteers of America MN/WI community.

Take care and be well,
Julie

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P.S. Did you know that the recently passed federal CARES Act encourages your charitable contributions by allowing deductions on up to \$300, regardless of whether you itemize as well as other tax incentives?

