

# Virtual Community Service Opportunities

During COVID-19

Many non-profit organizations offer opportunities to use your skills and talents to volunteer virtually! While the campus is not recommending in-person community service at this time, you can still make a difference! As always, please follow general safety precautions and the [CDC guidelines](#) currently in place.

If you have any questions or projects you'd like to add, please contact Andy Hoffman, CSI Community Service Program Coordinator at [aphoffman@ucsd.edu](mailto:aphoffman@ucsd.edu). Last updated 3/19/21

## UC San Diego CSI Sponsored Service

### [Write letters to seniors with Carrefour Companions](#)



Did someone say free!?! The Center for Student Involvement is hosting a card making project for local San Diego seniors. Want to participate? There are three ways you can do so:

(1) Already have supplies? Simply write a letter, take a picture, and mail

(2) Don't have supplies but want to type a letter? No problem! Open a google document, write a letter, and share it with [omichael@ucsd.edu](mailto:omichael@ucsd.edu). I will print it off and send it in for you.

(3) Want to get a packet of supplies in the mail? All you have to do is fill out the following form. After you have done that we will mail you a packet with all the supplies you will need!

Once you make your cards email us a picture [ucsdservice@gmail.com](mailto:ucsdservice@gmail.com) and post on your Instagram story (#carrefourcompanions) nominate 3 friends to do the same! Be sure to tag [@getinvolveducsd](#) so we can feature you on our Instagram story! **Sign up for Carrefour Companions [here](#).**

### [Join community of Triton Translators and translate materials for San Diego orgs](#)

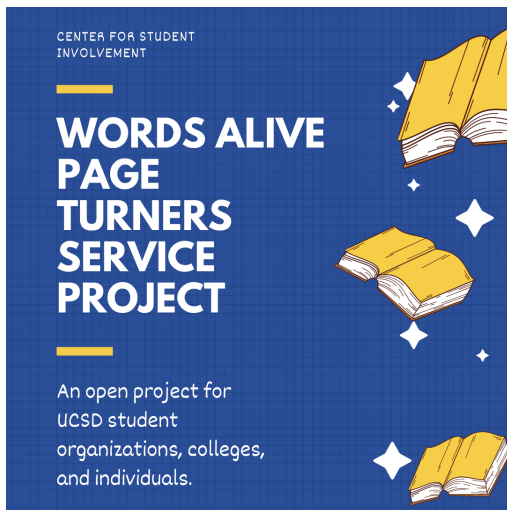


Triton Translators is a brand new program dedicated to providing translation support for community organizations in the San Diego area.

Triton Translators is a cohort of UC San Diego students who volunteer to translate documents for San Diego community organizations. [Navigate to our website for more information about the project.](#) Please contact [aphoffman@ucsd.edu](mailto:aphoffman@ucsd.edu) if you have any questions.

**[Interested in joining? Complete this interest form and someone will reach out to you.](#)**

## UCSD Words Alive Page Turners



You help determine which books should be added to the program curriculum and taught in the classrooms across San Diego county by reading and reviewing titles from the Words Alive recommendation list. [Book list examples here.](#)

Choose books that focus on topics of identity, mental health, race, immigration, migration, courage, gratitude, forgiveness, gender, sexuality, and more.

Connect with each other, serve the community, and reflect on important issues all virtually.

**For student groups:** [Sign-up](#). For individuals: Sign-up coming soon.

## [Tutor local K-12 students with UCSD HDH Wellness](#)



We call upon UC San Diego students to volunteer to remotely tutor K-12 students in need. The sessions will take place in a Zoom meeting room where HDH W&E student coordinators will take lead, pair students with tutors, and check-in on breakout rooms as they are happening.

[More information and RSVP here.](#)

## [Mentor local K-12 students with YouSeeYou](#)



We welcome any graduate and undergraduate enrolled at UCSD. This is an opportunity to shed some light of your major/field of study to young people looking to get a head start their professional careers and help them through the stressful process of applying to college!.

## Local Service Opportunities

Please note: These opportunities below are not sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement or UC San Diego. As always, please follow general safety precautions and [CDC guidelines](#).

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### [International Rescue Committee Tax Preparation Volunteer](#)



The IRC operates a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to provide FREE tax preparation services to individuals and families with incomes below the national average who would like to get the most out of their tax return. Last tax season, the IRC in San Diego's VITA Volunteers completed more than 2,200 returns and helped our community receive more than \$3.5 million in refunds. As a tax preparation volunteer, you will provide important support to individuals and families with incomes below the national average by guiding them through the tax preparation process and connecting them with other IRC resources when appropriate. You will work one-on-one with clients supporting them in navigating the

ins and outs of tax preparation.

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### [Companionship Calls by Meals on Wheels San Diego](#)



Companionship Calls program to make lasting human connections between our volunteers and senior clients. The goal of the program is to help ease social isolation and loneliness, which has been exacerbated by COVID-19.

- Weekly 15-30 minute calls
- Volunteers call 1-3 seniors
- Companionship Calls [volunteer application](#)
- Live scan background check
- Brief training call before calls are initiated
- Completion of a call log after each call

[Create works of art to beautify living spaces with PATH](#)



You can help support PATH's Move In program by turning a house into a home. They are looking for volunteers who would like to create works of art to

help beautify the living spaces of their clients. Wall decor that is created for clients' new homes support the style and comfort of the interior setting. Any medium to create decor can be used but should be positive, supportive, and inviting.

If you are interested in creating wall decor please email [sigrids@epath.org](mailto:sigrids@epath.org).

## Community Housing Works



**VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Community HousingWorks (CHW) builds and provides life-changing affordable apartments with resident-centered services. Volunteer Virtually at a CHW Community Center today to help residents of all ages overcome obstacles and succeed.

**Volunteer At Community HousingWorks**

**Virtual School Program**  
Volunteer: Tutor CHW's Study Skills program virtually for K-5th grade youth to improve elementary school literacy. Volunteers support homework help, read alouds, and arts enrichment activities. Sessions will occur Monday-Thursday, with the average session lasting 40-60 minutes.

**CHW Community Volunteer Leaders**  
These lead volunteers to coordinate virtually Community Center programs, event coordination, Senior Activities, health & Wellness and work with residents of all ages.

**Health & Wellness Volunteer:**  
Volunteer will help sort, set-up, distribute and monitor food donations to CHW residents using safe food handling best practices.

Volunteering has allowed me to use my talents to assist in advancing their skills and knowledge.

- Oscar, CHW Resident & Community Volunteer Leader

Learn more and sign up:  
[chworks.org/volunteer](http://chworks.org/volunteer)  
Email [volunteer@chworks.org](mailto:volunteer@chworks.org) for more information.



Community Housing Works is currently seeking volunteers to help support our online tutoring program, in various elementary subjects, including but not limited to English, math, literature, history, science, and I-Ready. Tutors are needed between 9 am- 3 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday, with the average session lasting approximately 40-60 minutes. Ideally, volunteers can set a routine schedule and commit to at least 2-6 months of service. Learn more and sign up at [chworks.org/volunteer](http://chworks.org/volunteer) / [Flyer \(large\)](#)

## Card Writing for Jewish Family Services



# Jewish Family Service

**Moving Forward Together**

Jewish Family Services is a client-centered organization working to build a stronger SD. Provide a warm hand written, or hand decorated card to remind them they are not forgotten. Sign up at:

[https://jfssd.galaxydigital.com/need/detail/?need\\_id=519825](https://jfssd.galaxydigital.com/need/detail/?need_id=519825)

## Tutor with SD Refugee Tutoring



**SAN DIEGO REFUGEE TUTORING**

*Make a difference in someone's life  
Make a difference in your life*

SD Refugee Tutoring will start tutoring students via Zoom starting the end of September. If you are interested in giving your

time to tutor once a week during the school year in this capacity, check this out. For more information about our program, visit: <https://sdrefugeetutoring.com/how-you-can-help/>

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### [Design projects with San Diego River Park Foundation](#)

San Diego River Park Foundation has a multitude of ideas of ways you can support their efforts to care for the San Diego River: building a bat house, helping with GIS mapping, editing videos, leaving them a review on Yelp, and more!

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### [Support older adults with Project C.A.R.E](#)

Social Isolation among older adults is on the rise. Frail, older adults and/or those with physical or mental disabilities who are socially isolated are at high risk of abuse and neglect. Project C.A.R.E. identifies and

supports frail older adults and/or individuals with physical or mental disabilities to prevent social isolation, loneliness, neglect and abuse. Project C.A.R.E. is a safety net program for older persons and persons with disabilities and operates by maintaining effective contact and empowering individuals to remain as independent as possible in a safe environment.

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### [Join Cards Plus team with Solider's Angels](#)



The Cards Plus Team is dedicated to supporting deployed service members, veterans, and their families with encouraging or celebratory cards and notes. The Cards Plus Team also joins forces with many other Soldiers' Angels Teams to provide cards for service members, Post 9/11 wounded veterans, and military families supported by

volved@ucsd.edu

these programs. Cards of support sent by the Team include, but are not limited to:

## **National/Global Service Opportunities**

Please note: These opportunities below are not sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement. As always, please follow general safety precautions and the [CDC guidelines](#) currently in place.

### **[Reach Out and Read](#)**

Join in the nationwide #ReadTogether challenge to help ease children's anxiety from the pandemic. By making reading a daily activity, we help every child have the healthy foundation they need for success.

### **[Provide life-saving support with The Trevor Project](#)**

In line with The Trevor Project's mission, volunteers can staff various crisis intervention platforms to provide life-saving support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & questioning (LGBTQ) youth.

### **[GoProject](#)**

Remote volunteers who are fluent in Mandarin, Cantonese, and/or Spanish to help with multi-lingual document translation and family outreach as well as providing remote volunteer tutoring services.

### **[Assist via app with Be My Eyes](#)**

People with visual impairments or reduced eyesight – many of whom are older adults – have lost access to their regular support systems due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The Be My Eyes app allows volunteers and companies to “be the eyes” of someone in need and quickly get them the support. This opportunity requires online training and no commitment.

### **[Engage in Community Mapping with Missing Maps](#)**

To map the most vulnerable places in the developing world, in order that international and local NGOs and individuals can use the maps and data to better respond to crises affecting the areas. This opportunity requires online training and no commitment.

### [\*\*Write letters with Operation Gratitude\*\*](#)

Every year, Operation Gratitude sends 300,000+ individually addressed Care Packages to Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen deployed overseas, to their children left behind, and to First Responders, New Recruits, Veterans, Wounded Heroes, and their Care Givers. Each package contains snacks, hygiene products, entertainment, and handmade items, as well as personal letters of support. This opportunity requires no online training and no commitment.

### [\*\*Participate in research projects on Zooniverse\*\*](#)

The Zooniverse is the world's largest and most popular platform for people-powered research. Examples of projects include turning a collection of handwritten correspondence between anti-slavery activists in the 19th century into texts that can be more easily read and transcribing data from hand-written museum specimen labels to map biodiversity in the Midwestern US. This opportunity requires online training and no commitment.

### [\*\*Listen, support, and empower with Crisis Text Line\*\*](#)

Crisis Text Line is the free, 24/7 text line for people in crisis in the United States. The service is powered by volunteer Crisis Counselors who work remotely — anywhere with a computer and secure internet connection works. This opportunity requires a sizeable commitment of 200 hours and would be a great experience for volunteers interested in mental health and counseling.

## Further Community Engagement

- [Respond to xenophobia](#) and racism resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Call your elected representatives regarding issues with COVID-19 (elaborate here)
  - Find Yours Here: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>
- Share resources with community members seeking financial, emotional, or basic needs support
  - Community resource guide:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mHMjAQrT\\_KmlCgTWKZ2F5jjNqxEzlgM7lBPnn0O5ZO8/edit#heading=h.408vjoe6iq1d](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mHMjAQrT_KmlCgTWKZ2F5jjNqxEzlgM7lBPnn0O5ZO8/edit#heading=h.408vjoe6iq1d)
- Supporting mutual aid networks of San Diego
  - At this moment of global pandemic, it is evident that structures in our society leading to inequality and systemic oppression create chaos and harm everyone. Creating new structures of collective care can help us through this period, and engaging in mutual aid is a way for us to build new social relationships that recognize the importance of our shared well-being ([American Friends Service Committee](#)).



## COVID-19 UC San Diego Basic Needs Resources

### Food:

- [The Triton Food Pantry](#) will be open in Fall 2020
- [The Hub](#): Kroger Grocery Store Gift Cards \$50 available for pickup at The Hub during Concierge Hours or sent via mail
- [San Diego Grocery Store Restocking Schedule](#)
- [Affordable Grocery Store Map](#)
- [Grocery Shuttle](#): Tuesday 10 am-4 pm
- The ISPO iTable program is accepting food security self-referral forms. Click [here](#) to access a form.
- The San Diego Hunger Coalition has compiled a list of food assistance resources and information regarding Meals for Kids, Food Banks, WIC, CalFresh (SNAP), and Senior & Congregate Meals.
  - Check out the [flyer](#), or go to their [website](#) for more information.



TRITON FOOD PANTRY  
Spring Quarter 2020 Hours

MONDAY	10 AM - 2 PM
TUESDAY	10 AM - 1:30 PM
WEDNESDAY	10 AM - 2 PM
THURSDAY	10 AM - 1:30 PM
FRIDAY	CLOSED

### Housing:

- [Student Legal Services' new FAQ on ending leases early due to COVID-19](#)

### School Supplies:

- [VCSA Laptop Lending Program](#)  
Use this form to request a loaner laptop for the period in which students will be learning remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Book lending program SPACES](#)  
The SPACES Book lending Program strives to relieve the financial burden of higher education's academic textbooks. We loan out textbooks to students for free on a quarterly basis.
- Click [here](#) for Affordable Internet Service Programs
- Uhaul is offering free storage for students who've had to move out of their spaces for 30 days. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Financial Resources:

- FERT (Financial Emergency Response Team)  
[Lost Wages Form](#)  
This is for students who have lost a job on or off-campus and is open to graduate undergraduate students. Students who do not have access to Administrative Leave Pay, Remote Work, Federal Work-Study are welcome to apply.
- [Financial Aid Virtual Advising](#) is available

- [Student Employment Webinar](#):
- If you are a student and would like to file your taxes by April 15th but cannot pay a tax preparer, take a look at these resources:
  - To ask about Student Tax Credit: <https://www.myfreetaxes.org/>
  - To access your Student Tax Forms 1098:  
<https://sfs.ucsd.edu/student-accounts/1098-t.html#Viewing-Your-1098-T-Online>
  - Student Worker W2's: Found after you log your credentials into  
<https://blink.ucsd.edu/HR/benefits/AYSO/>
- [If you have been impacted by COVID-19](#) and are unable to work or have concerns about your options

**Mental Health:**

- [CARE at SARC](#): provides violence prevention education for the entire UCSD campus and offers free and confidential services for students, staff and faculty impacted by sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking.
- [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) - CAPS offers counseling to help students in crisis or who are feeling stress.

