



## United Way of Lake County

### COVID 19 Response Volunteer Opportunities

**Our number one priority is the safety and well-being of our staff, volunteers, agency partners and the community we serve.**

United Way of Lake County is closely watching the developments of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and assessing the situation daily, following all recommendations from the Federal Government, Center for Disease Control and Lake County Health Department. In conjunction with local health officials, we are working to slow the spread of the person-to-person transmission, particularly those who are most vulnerable to infection and severe disease. Please be assured our focus on providing continued service to the community is unchanged. We are currently involved in conversations with community partners to address emerging community needs issues.

General Guidelines for Volunteers. Please do not volunteer for any on site activity if in the last 14 days you have:

- Been around anyone who has been sick with cough, flu, or COVID 19
- Been to an event where more than 100 people were in attendance.

In the meanwhile, consider taking these precautions to ensure a safer environment for all in the community.

- Practice **social distancing**
- **Stay home** when possible and limiting personal interactions
- **Wash your hands** often and with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, sneezing, coughing, or touching your face. Alternatively, use alcohol solution hand sanitizer (at least 70% alcohol) when soap and water are not available.

Volunteer Opportunity	Volunteer Description
<p><b>Lake County Mass Vaccination Effort</b></p>	<p>Your help is needed at COVID-19 vaccination clinics. While those with medical training are needed to serve as vaccinators and wellness-check observers, there are many roles available for volunteers that don't require medical knowledge. This includes on-site traffic control, greeters, and check-in screeners, as well as remote customer support. <a href="#">Watch the video</a> and <a href="#">visit our website</a> to learn more and apply.</p>
<p><b>The American Red Cross</b>  <a href="https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive">https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive</a></p>	<p>The American Red Cross is experiencing a severe shortage of blood donations. Additional health screenings, sanitation measures and social distancing guidelines have been implemented to ensure donor and staff safety.</p>
<p><b>Meals on Wheels- Catholic Charities</b>  <b>847-782-4000</b></p>	<p>Noon-time meals prepared and usually delivered by volunteers, for those who are homebound and unable to prepare their own food due to physical or mental difficulties. In some programs, an evening sack meal may be included. <b>Urgent need for drivers to deliver meals to homebound seniors.</b></p>
<p><b>Cool Foods Ministry Food Pantry</b>  <b>Cindy Hinkemeyer</b>  <a href="mailto:chinkemeyer@coolministries.org">chinkemeyer@coolministries.org</a></p>	<p>Cool Foods Pantry needs reusable grocery bags to continue to provide local vets with monthly bags of essentials. They are also in need of:  Shampoo  Men's deodorant  Razors and shaving cream</p>

**Northern II Food Bank  
(630)443-6910**

Northern Illinois Food Bank has been identified as an essential business and is able to continue our operations during the “Shelter in Place” order for Illinois. Our volunteer workforce is also exempt from this order and are more important than ever to help pack and distribute food.

The Food Bank has made modifications to our shifts at all of our Centers to ensure we are following the CDC recommendations and practice social distancing. All volunteers beginning on March 23rd will be asked to sign our Volunteer & Visitor Health Statement upon arrival to our Center or at an offsite distribution. The Food Bank will also provide all volunteers registered for a shift from March 23 to April 7 a letter stating their exemption status during the “Shelter in Place” order. If you have not received your letter, please email our Volunteer Team or call (630)443-6910.

Please consider volunteering if you are well and able, so we can maintain our operations and continue to help provide food for our neighbors. Our shift schedule is **available on our calendar, but we encourage you to call us to sign up at (630)443-6910.**

**Letters and cards of Encouragement**

Homebound seniors and veterans are isolated and cut off from their family and friends. Writing letters of encouragement or creating cheerful cards can be a wonderful way to brighten their day and provide some connection to the world again. Please consider writing letters or making cards to mail to a senior living center or a veteran’s center of your choice.

**Beacon Place**  
**Katie Lawler 847-708-8537**

Even though Beacon Place has temporarily cancelled programs due to COVID-19, we are still up and running! Our organization has been approved by the city of Waukegan to be an organization to stay open to the public to continue serving food and educational tools. Each week, Beacon Place, with the help of many generous food, games and supply donations, will be distributing necessities to our enrolled families. If anyone would like to contribute during this time we are accepting canned goods, pasta, cereal, nutritious snack foods, and new/ gently used games and puzzles. We are also looking for pain medications such as ibuprofen, Advil, Tylenol, Dayquil, Nyquil for families who can't get access to over the counter medications during this time. Thank you so much in advance!

**ElderCARE of Lake County**  
**Jill Grubbs 847-406-4683**  
[info@eldercarelakecounty.org](mailto:info@eldercarelakecounty.org)

**Transportation volunteers** needed to provide elders with transportation to their medical appointments in northern Lake County. Appointments are Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will work with the volunteer's availability. We have masks & hand sanitizer for the volunteer's vehicle.

**Grocery Shopper volunteers** needed for elders in northern Lake County. Volunteers get grocery list from elder, go shopping and then drop off groceries at elder's home.

Application, background check and copies of driver's licenses and car insurance are required.