



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEENS

Last updated 5-28-2020

**Bags to Beds.org** Founded in Salt Lake City, Utah, Bags to Beds aims to reduce plastic waste while creating sleeping mats woven from plastic bags for individuals experiencing homelessness. Visit their Facebook [page](#) or their website [bagstobeds.org](http://bagstobeds.org). "I do think that this is something that teens can be involved in...We have instructions on our website ([bagstobeds.org](http://bagstobeds.org)) on how to make plastic bags into plarn that we use for the mats (it is really simple and all you need are scissors). Also if anyone is up for it we need help with people crocheting the mats. We can supply them with hooks, I can teach them over Zoom, and we can give them plastic yarn (plarn). [The plarn] is a little bit more challenging than the other method." -Emily Voll, Bags to Beds. Please reach out to [bagstobeds@gmail.com](mailto:bagstobeds@gmail.com) with any additional questions.

## **City Library Book Review**

Create a written or filmed book review that can be posted on the library website or social media to promote reading! Please visit [this page](#) to learn more about writing book reviews for the City Library. Each written Book Review counts as 30 minutes of volunteer time, and each filmed book review counts as 1 hour. A letter to verify volunteer hours is available on request.

## **City Library Teen Art Project**

Create art and send it to the City Library to be seen and enjoyed by others in our online Teen Art Space. Visit <https://slcpl.librariesshare.com/slcplteencreations/> to submit your art.

**Covid19MutualAidSLC** - Many members of our community are self-quarantined and financially affected by COVID-19. Volunteers are needed to run errands, deliver groceries and supplies. If interested, submit a volunteer application [here](#) and a team member will reach out to you. While they are mainly focused with grocery delivery, there are many other ways to help and they're open to any ideas and abilities you may have.

**Help Tribal Communities Within Utah.** Indian Country has been hit hard by COVID-19. Utah Tribal COVID-19 Relief was established to provide relief to Utah Tribal Communities. They are directing people who are still interested in donating supplies (Food, Sanitizing supplies, PPE) but missed previous pickup deadlines to ship the supplies directly to the Utah Navajo Health

System Office, which is partnering with us to distribute supplies. We realize shipping can be costly, so perhaps teens could raise money and then purchase items on Amazon or another retailer and have them shipped down. If they'd like to pursue that option, the address is:

Utah Navajo Health Systems  
1478 East Highway 162  
Montezuma Creek, Utah 84534

Many children on the Navajo Reservation are currently in need of educational materials, supplies and books. Teens could do a drive to gather those items, and use Utah Tribal COVID-19 Relief as a point of contact to answer questions about the type of materials to gather as well as where to ship the supplies. Items should be new. This is an option that would involve teens shipping items directly to various Tribal Reservations. For information regarding how teens can help their Tribal communities, please contact Adelaide Parker at [tribalcovid@learlaw.com](mailto:tribalcovid@learlaw.com). For more information please visit:

<http://indianlaw.utahbar.org/covid-19-tribal-relief-fund.html>. Please note that the donation collections through this website end on June 5th, after which, it will be the responsibility of the person collecting donations to send/deliver said donations. Utah Tribal COVID-19 Relief is happy to be a point of contact for teens regarding where to send the supplies. The shipment addresses for educational materials/new toys is different than the address above for other supplies. Please send questions to the email address above.

**Just Serve** - reached this page from [Coronavirus.utah.gov](https://coronavirus.utah.gov). You can type in your zipcode [here](#) and discover volunteer opportunities near you. Some examples near my zipcode are Hospice volunteer: spend quality time with patients (art, friendly visit, scrapbooking and more), Guest services/ administrative work, or Cooking Dinner for people going through cancer treatment, etc. And many more. Some of these opportunities would be great for teens, and others are obviously for adults only.

**LET (League of Extraordinary Teens)**- Teens in grades 7-12 can apply to join LET [here](#). LET is a monthly club. Teens work with librarians from Anderson Foothill Branch and Marmalade Branch to help shape the ways The City Library serves teen customers. Meetings will be held virtually for the time being. Apply [on our website](#) or contact Claire at [cdoctorman@slcpl.org](mailto:cdoctorman@slcpl.org) or Yoli at [jperez@slcpl.org](mailto:jperez@slcpl.org) for more information.

**Organize a Neighborhood Drive to benefit the YWCA.** They are accepting diapers and other hygiene items from Amazon Wish List. Only accepting new donations at this time.

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2A4MSGNIQWXHG?&sort=default>

**Organize a Neighborhood Drive to benefit the Road Home.** They are accepting reusable/resealable zipper storage bags (all sizes), disposable forks, spoons, bowls, plates, blankets, and mats. Check out [this link](#).

### **Homemade Cloth Face Covering U of U Health**

You can sew homemade cloth face coverings made of cotton or cotton blends, you can donate them to the University of Utah Health. They will be disinfected and distributed to frontline health workers for home use. Fill out the donation form [here](#).

### **Homemade Cloth Face Coverings Intermountain Healthcare**

You can sew homemade cloth face coverings made of cotton or cotton blends, Intermountain locations are accepting donated cloth face coverings. A large "Homemade Cloth Covering Donation" bin will be located near the entrance of these facilities. Non-contact drop off is available. We are unable to accept packages through the mail, nor can we offer pick-up service. Donated face coverings will be laundered and sanitized before being distributed. We appreciate your donations. It will make a difference. See all Intermountain drop off locations [here](#).

### **Red Cross -**

- Start a [Red Cross Club](#) at Your School. Note: In accordance with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998, people under the age of 13 cannot be registered in Volunteer Connection, but can still be a member of your Red Cross Club. Members under the age of 13 must complete a parental consent form that your Red Cross region will provide and then submit the form to be recognized as a Volunteer and Club member.
- Join [Summer Youth Corps](#) Age 13+ with parental supervision or parental recommendation (must be mature enough to maintain confidentiality and respond appropriately to adverse donor reactions)

Donate blood to the American Red Cross. See [eligibility requirements](#). In many states you must be 16 or older and at least 110 pounds. Find locations and blood drives [here](#). Or call 1-800-RED-CROSS

**Silicon Slopes Serves** - There is a need for healthy volunteers to assist our nonprofit partners and in transporting supplies. We are working closely with the Utah Coronavirus Task Force to ensure that all of our efforts are complementary to state and local actions. Please fill out this [page](#) to share your availability and skillset. Silicon Slopes Serves does accept teen interns.

### **SLCC Gardens**

Volunteer outdoors with activities such as planting, weeding and harvesting as well as indoor activities such as graphic design and writing. Have fun outdoors while helping the community. The food grown in the SLCC garden is donated to the SLCC pantry. The garden coordinator's name is Christina. Volunteers helping in the garden are encouraged to bring their own gloves, and wear masks, but masks can be provided. Fill out a volunteer interest [form here](#). You can emailed questions to [slccgardens@gmail.com](mailto:slccgardens@gmail.com)

**United Way of Utah** - All United Way of Salt Lake volunteer events are cancelled until further notice. Please contact our partner organizations before showing up to volunteer and ensure you are following any new protocols due to the new health concerns in our community. See an updated list on United Way of Salt Lake's Facebook Page.

<https://uw.org/blog/volunteer-opportunities-during-covid-19/>

**Utah Food Bank** - Is currently closed to external Volunteers. Check back in a couple of weeks. We do normally accept teenagers as long as they have adult supervision if they'll be in a large group. However, you can [host a food drive or a virtual food drive!](#) To check to see if the UFB is accepting volunteers, call 801-887-1234 or email [volunteerinfo@utahfoodbank.org](mailto:volunteerinfo@utahfoodbank.org)

**VOA (Volunteers of America)** - Purchase, cook, and serve a meal at the Youth Resource Center. Group sizes of 10 or less are the best, or else it gets very cramped in our kitchen. Volunteers must be ages 16+. 16 and 17 year olds will need to be accompanied by an adult. Sign up [here](#). [Please read this document regarding volunteer information.](#) If you are unable to make your scheduled volunteer shift but would still like to provide your meal, you can drop it off at the center. Contact Alexis Brown-Brotherton ([alexis.brotherton@voaut.org](mailto:alexis.brotherton@voaut.org)) for more information.

### **Other Things You Can Do to Help:**

Share Your Art with Instagram @coronaartcollective, an Instagram account created by Susannah Mecham, a 20-year-old University of Utah fine arts major.

<https://www.instagram.com/coronaartcollective/>

Order Takeout from a local restaurant

<https://supportutahdining.com/>

Donate Goods such as Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Soap, Kleenex, Hand sanitizer. Salt Lake City School District is not currently accepting volunteers. See drop-off locations and contact information [here](#).