Guide to COVID-19 volunteering

Thank you for getting in touch it is fantastic that you want to volunteer.

Before volunteering please make sure that you are aware of the latest government information and guidance on COVID-19 and take all possible precautions to protect yourself and the wider community. www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19

1. Support your family, friends and neighbours in your community
Wherever possible people who are self-isolating are being encouraged to ask for help from family, friends, and neighbours. We would encourage everyone who can help others to let their family, friends and neighbours know if they are available and what they can do to help.
This frees up valuable time and resources that can then be used to support other people.
www.northyorks.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-community-support

2. Become an NHS volunteer
Recruitment to this scheme was temporarily paused on 29 March 2020 to process the initial 750,000 applications. Further information will follow.
The government have launched a national campaign GOOD SAM to recruit volunteers to support the NHS. You can find out about the different volunteer roles available and register to become a volunteer by visiting www.goodsamapp.org/NHSvolunteerresponders

3. Register as a volunteer with Community First Yorkshire
You can register as a volunteer with Community First Yorkshire. Charites and organisations across North Yorkshire will be advertising individual volunteer opportunities, you can search through these opportunities to find volunteering local to you www.volunteeringinnorthyorkshire.org.uk

4. Join your local COVID-19 Mutual aid group
A number of community groups called COVID-19 Mutual Aid groups have been set up across the country they are central points of contact within communities. You can find the nearest one to you by clicking https://covidmutualaid.org/local-groups and zoom into the map.

5. I already volunteer
If you already volunteer for an organisation but are unable to carry out your normal volunteer role, is there something else you can do for them? Many charities are looking at how they can continue their vital work with volunteering from home, working with other local organisations and continuing to engage the public with their work through social media.

6. What else can I do to support my community?
To support local organisations you can donate to Two Ridings Community Fund. They have launched a Coronavirus Community Fund to support people in North & East Yorkshire and welcome donations www.tworidingscf.org.uk/donate

To support national efforts, The National Emergencies Trust (NET) has launched a fundraising appeal to help those most affected by coronavirus, you can donate via their website
https://nationalemergenciestrust.org.uk/coronavirus

Further information and updates
Finally the Community First Yorkshire webpage is updated daily with the latest developments and guidance relating to communities and volunteering
https://communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk/coronavirus

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