

Virtual Volunteer Opportunities

Service Opportunity #1

Better Living For Seniors (BLFS) is a nonprofit association comprised of a diverse range of professionals serving Polk's senior adult population. BLFS is looking for people of all ages to start NOW to create holiday cards that will be distributed to senior adults throughout the holidays. Thousands will be needed! This may be done at home while social distancing.

Project Requirements:

1. Cards can be the standard size, as typically sold in stores.
2. Envelopes are optional.
3. NO GLITTER!!!!
4. Cards should be signed ONLY with your first name.

Project Accountability:

1. Each time you sit down to start planning your card design, cutting out pieces to glue/ coloring or painting for your cards - Document your time on your school time sheet.
2. Take photos of yourself working on different stages of the cards.
3. Once you have completed making all of your cards, fan them out on a table or set them up by multiple stacks and take a photo of them.

Project Deadline, Contact & Receipt of Cards:

1. This project ends at noon on Fri. 11-20-20.
2. Students needing to report hours for the Spring Semester may do so by emailing your: time sheet, labeled photos and any school paperwork that needs to be signed to: BLFS Board member, Michelle Shiver at michelleshiver@polk-county.net.
3. At that time, she will give you Instructions for where and when your cards may be dropped off once social distancing restrictions are lifted.

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Service Opportunity #2

Making Masks - Many students have wondered if there is some way they can help with the COVID-19 crisis efforts. Please see below.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- A not-for-profit Bartow medical facility is in need of a minimum of 60 homemade medical masks just as soon as we can get them made!
- The need is actually greater than 60 masks (just as many as we can make), so once that goal is reached we want to keep on with this project.
- While these are NOT medical-grade masks, they offer more protection than having nothing at all.
- We want to be compliant with all social distancing orders, so we are hoping that there will be some of you that may have a basket of fabric scraps and sewing notions at home.
- Attached is a photo of a paper manufactured mask that is similar to the fabric ones you could make.
- The video link below also gives ideas for alternate supplies, for example, if you don't have the ¼" elastic.
- OnPoint-TV You Tube: Making a Face Mask
(Healthcare workers have requested the pleated mask with opening)
<https://youtu.be/M3Dm1NKoqfA>

LIST OF SUPPLIES & LINK TO YOUTUBE VIDEO FOR MAKING MASK:

100% cotton fabric 9"x15"

End Casing (2) 2 ½"x5"

Metal nose piece- twist tie or pipe cleaner: about 2" (optional)

Elastic – ¼"x9" (or smaller width elastic)

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ:

- Tracking and reporting the time you spend on this project, is almost as important the masks themselves.
 - Because your service for this project is in response to the COVID-19 crisis, your service hours on this project will also be reported by us to FEMA.
 - Disaster/Crisis volunteer head count and hours served are calculated by us into a dollar value for the County's disaster reimbursement request to FEMA.
 - This is important to you as a tax payer, because the County is able to be a good steward of tax dollars and leverage or match your crisis engagement, as a means of diminishing the overall COVID cost burden on tax funds.
 - (Optional for adults – Required for Students) – Take or have someone take pictures of you as you work on different stages of this project. You can email them in to us with your time sheet. We love to see what you have been making and schools like the pictures as support that you worked on the project!

WHAT TO DO WITH COMPLETED MASKS?



- Email me your time sheet, be sure to have your physical address on it. volunteerpolk@polk-county.net or janetbartuska@polk-county.net
- We will arrange to have a designated person pick them up in a bag you leave on your front porch marked “Masks”.