

Baltimore Repair COVID19 Local Actions

Repair the World Baltimore

*Serving our communities, especially during this trying time, continues to be Repair the World's priority. While Repair the World has decided to **put our in-person service and learning opportunities on hold**, we are **shifting our focus to consider how we can mobilize Jews and our neighbors to take action** to repair the world as an essential avenue of support for people impacted by the unfolding circumstances. Based on the guidance of public health officials, we understand that social distancing not only helps keep individuals healthy, it also ensures that we are doing all we can to slow the spread of COVID-19 and that the health care system can focus on patients who need care during this outbreak. Still, we grapple with the question, **"what can we do to support those around us?"** We know that vulnerable members of our community and our neighbors require extra support and thoughtfulness during times of distress.*

*Please read the following [blog post](#), from Repair the World's President and CEO, Cindy Greenberg, on **ways you can continue to serve and build community** during this time and please read and **share our [resource](#)**, developed in partnership with [Amplifier](#), on **caring for the sick** during the COVID-19 crisis. Then continue reading below for ideas on how to **stay committed to social justice even while social distancing right here in Baltimore**. This list is not comprehensive, and will continue to be updated as more opportunities arise.*

Direct Volunteer Opportunities

- The **Baltimore Hunger Project** provides weekend meals for food insecure students in Baltimore City. They are working closely with their partnering schools to make sure they can best support the children in our community while schools are closed. Register to sign up for a 2 hour **packing session** or to **deliver meals** on a Wednesday or Friday.
- **Meals on Wheels** is committed to meeting the rapidly growing demand for service so that aging adults throughout Maryland remain safe, healthy, and well-nourished during these challenging and uncertain times. Sign up for a **packing session** or to **deliver meals** on a regular basis. All volunteer orientations are happening virtually!
- **Johns Hopkins Hospital** is looking for volunteers to help **assemble Personal Protective Equipment PPE/Face Masks** at the CSC Warehouse in Southeast Baltimore.
- Visit [our website](#) to sign up.

Indirect Volunteer Opportunities

- Spend some creative time making **notes of encouragement** for the **Baltimore Hunger Project**. The Baltimore Hunger Project provides weekend meals for food insecure students in Baltimore City. They are working closely with their partnering schools to make sure they can best support the children in our community while schools are closed. [Click here for instructions](#).
- Make sure everyone practices good hygiene by assembling **hygiene kits** for **SAFE Alternative**, **Baltimore Youth Kinetic Energy** (BYKE), and **MissionFit**; three local organizations that typically serve youth in afterschool programs. Hygiene kits can include a combination of items like shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand sanitizer, toothbrush, toothpaste, tissues, etc.
- Collect **activity books** and **reading books** that are appropriate for elementary or middle school aged youth to give local students something productive to do over the next couple weeks through **Soccer Without Borders**, an organization that serves newcomer refugee, asylee, and immigrant youth and their families.
- Collect **non-perishable food** or **bake casseroles** that can be delivered to families served by **Soccer Without Borders**.
- Ensure that no one goes hungry by assembling **bagged lunches** for people experiencing homelessness at **Weinberg Housing and Resource Center**, and **St. Vincent de Paul's** agencies. Bagged lunches

should include: a meat and cheese sandwich (condiments on the side), chips (individual serving size), an unrefrigerated beverage (juice box, water, Gatorade), soft fruit (fruit cup, banana, orange), and a cookie (or other small treat).

- And check out the full list of **individual volunteer opportunities** offered through **Jewish Volunteer Connection's** Live with Purpose program by clicking [here](#).

Places to Donate

- Purchase items for **The Baltimore Station**, a comprehensive resource center for veterans in the cycle of homelessness, poverty, and addiction, from their [Amazon Wishlist](#).
- Purchase items for the **Baltimore Hunger Project**, an organization that provides weekend meals for food insecure students in Baltimore City, from their [Amazon Wishlist](#).
- Purchase items for **Bedtime in a Box**, a non-profit program working to improve nightly reading, health and Bedtime routines for low-income families with children ages 0-5. Bedtime in a Box has served over 7,200 families across the state of Maryland as of today. Each Box contains high-quality, new bedtime materials and books that help families establish and sustain a bedtime routine in their home. Items can be purchased from their [Target Registry](#).
- Purchase items for **ShareBaby**, an organization that believes that every child deserves the best start in life. ShareBaby seeks to address the unmet basic needs of Baltimore's vulnerable young children through the distribution of diapers and other essential items. ShareBaby leverages its national partnerships, corporate gifts and community donations to help ensure Baltimore's most vulnerable young children get the diapers and items they need to get the best start in life. Items can be purchased from their [Amazon Wishlist](#).
- Donate directly to the **Baltimore Hunger Project** by clicking [here](#).
- Donate to the **Maryland Food Bank's** Virtual Food Drive by clicking [here](#). The Maryland Food Bank supports food-insecure individuals and families in Maryland and needs help packing "Back Up Boxes" containing 30 pounds of shelf-stable, nutritious foods.

Recommended Books & Movies

It's likely that some of us have a bit of unexpected extra time on our hands. If you find yourself busy binge-ing Netflix, check out some of these great documentaries. Or, when you get sick of screens, pick up a book to make the most of your time!

Documentaries

- 13th
- Food Inc.
- The True Cost
- Race to Nowhere
- Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise
- American Promise
- The Interrupters
- Fire at Sea
- The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson

Books

- The New Jim Crow
- White Fragility
- Between the World and Me
- Just Mercy
- So You Want to Talk About Race
- The Book of Pride
- Pleasure Activism

- How to Be an Antiracist
- Freelance Rabbi: The Story of Ariel Samson

→ *Want to access these books from your **local library** virtually? First, grab your library card. Don't have one? Get a Baltimore County Public Library card by clicking [here](#), or sign up for an Enoch Pratt Free Library card by clicking [here](#). Then, download [Libby](#) onto your phone or tablet and sign up to start **reading ebooks or listening to audiobooks from your local library for free!***

Where Meals are Being Served to Students (& Families)

With Maryland Public Schools closing from March 16-27 in effort to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, many school districts and meal sponsors are serving meals at various schools and community sites to **ensure youth 18 & under receive the nutrition they need**. Click [here](#) for a full list of meal service locations **across the state**. Visit the **Baltimore City Public School [website](#)** for a list of local schools serving meals, and the **Baltimore City Recreation and Parks [website](#)** for a list of local recreation centers serving meals.