



**Response to COVID-19
Community Human Service Needs
as of March 17, 2020**

1) HYGIENE KITS FOR HOMELESS STREET OUTREACH

Status: Critical Need March 16 – 20 (may be extended as needed)

- Individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness may not have access to COVID-19 information or hygiene supplies. CoSA Homeless Street Outreach will deliver hygiene kits, assess needs, and connect people to services.
- Hygiene kits for the street homeless population are needed. Hygiene kits will include, but are not limited to, the following: hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, soap, bottle of water, socks, and snacks. Items may be packaged in plastic grocery bags.
- Hygiene kits can be delivered to your nearest SAPD SAFFE substation. Additional information at: <https://www.sanantonio.gov/SAPD/SAFFE>

2) MEALS FOR OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

Status: Ongoing and immediate

- Out of school children are missing meals. Volunteers needed to serve at the San Antonio Food Bank. Work begins with a daily briefing on meals for distribution to Kid's Cafe sites, appropriate documentation, assistance with kitchen clean-up, prep for next day's meal and store supplies as needed.
- Contact San Antonio Food Bank Volunteer Services at (210) 431-8388 or volunteer@safefoodbank.org

3) SENIOR FOOD DELIVERY

Status: Critical 3/16 – 3/20 and ongoing

- Many seniors in our community depend on home food delivery while self-distancing. Volunteers are needed to deliver perishable and non-perishable food items to their homes.
- Contact San Antonio Food Bank Volunteer Services – (210) 431-8388 or <https://safefoodbank.org/ways-to-help/give-time-opportunities/>
- Contact Meals on Wheels samanthaf@mowsatx.org or call (210) 599-7405 ext. 309

4) MOBILE PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

Status: Critical 3/16-3/20 and ongoing

- Qualified clients and vulnerable families depend on food distribution from the SA Food Bank's Mobile Pantry.
- Volunteers are needed to break down pallets of product, pack bags, collect client vouchers, hand out product, help with traffic control, and clean up. Volunteering is 3-4 hours. Groups of 5-10 volunteers can help distribute groceries where needed.
- Contact San Antonio Food Bank Volunteer Services – 210-431-8388 or <https://safefoodbank.org/ways-to-help/give-time-opportunities/>

5) ELDER FRIEND VOLUNTEERS

Status – Ongoing

- Homebound elderly individuals are in need of socialization and friendship.
- Elder Friend volunteers typically serve three hours per week with a home-bound senior and do things such as play games, take a walk, run small errands or go out to eat as advisable.
- Contact Meals on Wheels, samanthaf@mowsatx.org or call 210-599-7405 ext 309

6) VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS

Status: Critical Need March 16 – 20 (may be extended as needed)

- Homeless service providers need extra help due to school closures resulting in staff shortages and an influx of homeless.
- Volunteers are needed to provide services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Volunteers assist with serving meals, sorting clothes, engaging with clients (arts/crafts, singing, etc.) and helping with everyday program operations.
 - SARAH Volunteer Registration: <https://forms.gle/oMan17mBZpEzE4vDA>
 - Have for Hope Volunteer Opportunities: contact volunteers@havenforhope.org, Volunteer Line: [210-220-2549](tel:210-220-2549) or <https://www.havenforhope.org/give/volunteer/>

7) ORGANIZE AND EASE GROCERY SHOPPING

Status: Critical March 17 – 23

- Major grocers are overwhelmed with urgent shoppers while small grocers are under-shopped.
- To redistribute the crowds, use NextDoor, or other social media, to organize your neighborhood's shopping days. Note smaller grocers in your area as alternatives. Example: Odd house numbers shop M, W, F and even numbers shop T, Th, Sat. Designate Sundays or a particular time window for elderly shoppers.
- Participate by putting a sign with **#taketurns** in your window. Use **#taketurns** to spread the word.

8) ASSISTANCE WITH FOOD COMMODITIES PREP

Status: Critical Need March 16-20 (may be extended)

- Individuals and families in the community who rely on food bank commodities, or those who have experienced a sudden loss of income due to layoff or reduction in hours, are in need of food support.
- Volunteer assistance is needed in the preparation, sorting, boxing and delivery of food to vulnerable members of the community.
- Volunteers needed at the San Antonio Food Bank Headquarters and citywide.
- Contact San Antonio Food Bank Volunteer Services – (210) 431-8388 or <https://safoodbank.org/ways-to-help/give-time-opportunities/>