***COVID-19-RELATED PRIORITY OPPORTUNITIES***

We are encouraged that, even in these uncertain times, Exelon employees are looking for opportunities to volunteer.  Two of the most critical community issues are the severe shortage of blood due to cancelled blood drives and empty shelves at local food banks.  We are sharing national resources in these two areas, through which you can search via zip code to find opportunities closest to home.

* To learn more about donating blood, visit [American Red Cross](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.redcrossblood.org%2Fgive.html%2Ffind-drive&data=02%7C01%7CPaula.Conrad%40ComEd.com%7Cc71f22dfdf6c4f1220be08d7cd12e814%7C600d01fc055f49c6868f3ecfcc791773%7C0%7C0%7C637203353390011311&sdata=pZuhAVcSWZMcDDCtoUeTt60rwUmOCzjD6kTs%2Bf3JlVs%3D&reserved=0) or [America’s Blood Centers](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.americasblood.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CPaula.Conrad%40ComEd.com%7Cc71f22dfdf6c4f1220be08d7cd12e814%7C600d01fc055f49c6868f3ecfcc791773%7C0%7C0%7C637203353390011311&sdata=rJfLs8CQyVAQJoK3Ct9V%2BvCtrdO2SBeddGUamcwXe1U%3D&reserved=0).  As with all of your activities, your safety is paramount, so read [CDC guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html), be sure to conduct social distancing, and do not – under any circumstances -- report to work or any events if you are symptomatic or have been exposed to anyone who is symptomatic or has been diagnosed. Please read this FDA [statement](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.fda.gov%2Fnews-events%2Fpress-announcements%2Fcoronavirus-covid-19-update-blood-donations&data=02%7C01%7CPaula.Conrad%40ComEd.com%7Cc71f22dfdf6c4f1220be08d7cd12e814%7C600d01fc055f49c6868f3ecfcc791773%7C0%7C0%7C637203353390021307&sdata=doAQRtA0lR6v3lkHzQQawnTcLvU1rd3bYG2vHAZ8OlY%3D&reserved=0) and the attached letter from the Red Cross on safety related to blood donation.  and, if you live in a shelter-in-place area, blood donation is typically exempt from those restrictions, but we ask that you check with local rules.  Also, note that the cancelled blood drives have resulted in fewer locations, so immediate appointments may not be available.  If that’s the case in your area, booking an appointment later in the calendar will help our community, as the need for blood is expected to increase in the weeks and months ahead.
* To support a food bank near you, visit the [Feeding America](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.feedingamerica.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CPaula.Conrad%40ComEd.com%7Cc71f22dfdf6c4f1220be08d7cd12e814%7C600d01fc055f49c6868f3ecfcc791773%7C0%7C0%7C637203353390021307&sdata=5lfng2t9q%2BO6HRuwfBaBiHt3sFt9F0TO9h4aCqXhFN4%3D&reserved=0) site.
* If you participate, these activities count as volunteerism and you can log your time on the [Powering Communities site](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cybergrants.com%2Fexelon%2Flogin%2F&data=02%7C01%7CPaula.Conrad%40ComEd.com%7Cdba09303ce3e4097ffa908d7cd0602be%7C600d01fc055f49c6868f3ecfcc791773%7C0%7C0%7C637203298026392646&sdata=wC7IcakyG8tOaRuDPHLmT0qDxO0MnWEn%2F6hRW%2FM4Oqs%3D&reserved=0); go to Independent Volunteering and search for the American Red Cross or the Foundation for America’s Blood Centers (both in Washington, DC) or Feeding America (in Chicago, IL).  Once you have logged at least 10 volunteer hours, you can redeem your Dollars for Doers grants for the nonprofits of your choice, also on Powering Communities.

We also encourage you to participate in our virtual-volunteer opportunities as detailed below, and please continue to support your favorite charities through our Matching Gifts program via the [Powering Communities site](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cybergrants.com%2Fexelon%2Flogin%2F&data=02%7C01%7CPaula.Conrad%40ComEd.com%7Cc71f22dfdf6c4f1220be08d7cd12e814%7C600d01fc055f49c6868f3ecfcc791773%7C0%7C0%7C637203353390031302&sdata=Lkom8lw4rcD%2B%2BNPCsy3KGZk%2BczhJiwk1yyt8lA41KBM%3D&reserved=0).

For the latest information on the company’s status related to COVID-19, visit the [Exelon Coronavirus Information Center](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fexeloncorp-1.hs-sites.com%2Fexelon-coronavirus-information-center&data=02%7C01%7CPaula.Conrad%40ComEd.com%7Cc71f22dfdf6c4f1220be08d7cd12e814%7C600d01fc055f49c6868f3ecfcc791773%7C0%7C0%7C637203353390031302&sdata=z%2Bxx670DjikiiXbu6JylkYgEPxVirbwILzZ8Ed3h5xI%3D&reserved=0). the

***OTHER COVID-19-RELATED OPPORTUNITIES***

* **Skills-based Volunteering** is also something to consider. Currently, nonprofits need to divert their resources to the rising needs of the community; volunteers with particular skills can provide them with infrastructure support and capacity – whether it’s moving forward a technical or functional project that would otherwise move to the back burner or supporting their work handling the crisis directly.  This is a time when skilled volunteers are needed the most and a great way to continue to engage with the community when traditional, in–person volunteering becomes less viable.
	+ [Catchafire](http://www.catchafire.org/)
	+ [Skills for Change](https://skillsforchange.org/)
	+ [Taproot+](https://www.taprootplus.org/consultants)
* **United Way** is recruiting for help:
	+ As we navigate the COVID 19 crisis, there are a lot of needs that are becoming apparent.  People are asking [what they can do to help](https://uwcm.galaxydigital.com/need/?q=COVID&age=&agency_id=&county=&dateOn=&distance=&zip=&need_impact_area=&need_init_id=&qualification_id=&cat_id=&meta%5B%5D=&meta%5B%5D=&meta%5B%5D=&allowTeams=&ug_id=&s=1).  United Way is currently collecting information from volunteers who are able to help in the following areas: childcare, student tutoring, food assistance/delivery.  They also have opportunities for families to do at home as we practice social distancing.  Please register to let United Way know how you can help.  As opportunities arise, you will be contacted. You can find your local United Way [here](https://www.unitedway.org/find-your-united-way).
* [**Business Volunteers Maryland**](https://businessvolunteersmd.org/waystohelp/)**--** has links to many volunteer opportunities
* **United Way Maryland**
	+ The United Way 211 Maryland Helpline is getting an UNPRECEDENTED number of calls from people who are worried, who are concerned, and who need our help to connect to vital resources. The 211 team works 24/7 and is answering the thousands of calls that are coming in related to COVID-19.
	+ You can help. They're looking for social workers, crisis managers, counselors, and/or those with backgrounds in human services who can volunteer to answer high-volume calls and direct people to resources.
	+ There will be a virtual training and all volunteering can be done remotely. Volunteers must have access to their own computer, high-speed internet (computer must be hard wired into your modem via ethernet cable) and a headset with microphone (which can be provided, if necessary).
	+ [REGISTER HERE](https://www.volunteermd.org/need/detail/?need_id=508232) and you will receive additional information.
* **Serve Illinois**
	+ This site is the central source for Illinois residents to volunteer and how to stay safe while doing so. [www.Serve.Illinois.gov](http://www.Serve.Illinois.gov).

***EXISTING VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES***

***DISASTER***

The [American Red Cross](http://www.redcross.org/support/be-a-digital-advocate) always has needs for volunteers to act as digital advocates.

Volunteers can help generate donations to the Red Cross while shopping for themselves

online or by setting up online fundraisers. Volunteers can also help spread awareness by repost

their social media content.

[Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX)](https://data.humdata.org/) Key data needed by humanitarian workers addressing

critical needs during a crisis, such as a natural or man-made disaster, as well as data needed

by other development workers and researchers, is often trapped in PDF documents.

Volunteers extract this data into a database so that it can be easily found, helping anyone to

visualize trend lines across regions or countries and compare this data to other indicators.

[Humanity Road](http://www.humanityroad.org/) volunteers use Internet and mobile communications technology to collect,

verify and route information online during disasters. They provide public safety information as

well as directing the public to governmental and aid agencies that are providing assistance

for the disaster. Each year, disasters around the world kill nearly 100,000 and affect or displace 200 million people. Many of the places where these disasters occur are literally 'missing' from any map and first responders lack the information to make valuable decisions regarding relief efforts.

[Missing Maps](https://www.missingmaps.org/) is an open, collaborative project in which you can help to map areas where

humanitarian organizations are trying to meet the needs of vulnerable people.

***ENTREPRENUERS AROUND THE WORLD***

[Bpeace](http://www.bpeace.org/) is a U.S. nonprofit that recruits business professionals to help entrepreneurs in

countries emerging from war to create and expand businesses and employment (particularly

for women). Volunteers need a particular area of expertise regarding business development

or project management and pay a monthly membership fee.

[Cherie Blair Foundation Online Mentors](https://cherieblairfoundation.org/programmes/mentoring/) Online mentors are successful businesswomen in the

U.K., and mentor online women entrepreneurs in developing countries.

[Grow Movement](http://www.growmovement.org/) recruits online volunteer business consultants from around the world to

work via Skype, phone and email to empower African entrepreneurs in Uganda, Rwanda and

Malawi, helping them with business skills, enabling them to run their organizations more

effectively, increase profitability and create jobs in their communities.

***GENERAL SKILLS***

[Doe Network](http://www.doenetwork.org/) Devoted to assisting official law enforcement agencies in solving cold cases

concerning unexplained disappearances and unidentified Victims from North America,

Australia and Europe. Online volunteers also help translate documents into various

languages.

[Mozilla/Firefox](http://www.mozilla.org/contribute/areas.html) Did you know that this web browser is produced by a nonprofit organization?

"We believe in the power and potential of the Internet and want to see it thrive for everyone,

everywhere." Mozilla involves hundreds of online volunteers, and "you don't have to be a C++

guru (or even know what that means!)" to contribute as an online volunteer.

The [OpenMRS](http://openmrs.org/) community is a worldwide network of volunteers from many different

backgrounds including technology, health care, and international development. Together,

they are working to build the world's largest and most flexible technology platform to

support delivery of health care in some of the most challenging environments on the planet.

[Wikipedia](http://www.wikipedia.org/), the largest online volunteering initiative in the world. To volunteer, you simply find

an article you have some knowledge of and add information to the entry. Note that Wikipedia

now strongly encourages all additions to any entry be attributed to a verifiable source.

Available in Spanish, French, German, Polish, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese and more!

The [Zooniverse](https://www.zooniverse.org/) is the world’s largest and most popular platform for people-powered

research. This research is made possible by volunteers. With its wide-ranging and ever- expanding suite of projects, covering many disciplines and topics across the sciences and

humanities, there's a place for anyone and everyone to explore, learn and have fun in the

Zooniverse. To volunteer with Zooniverse, just go to the Projects page, choose what interests you and get started.

***HEALTH, WELL-BEING & EMPOWERMENT FOR ALL***

[Amnesty Decoders](https://decoders.amnesty.org/) is operated by [Amnesty International](https://www.amnesty.org/en/), this network of digital volunteers helps conduct research into global human rights violations. Volunteers have used their phones and computers to find evidence of drone strikes, and flag abusive tweets to women politicians in India.

[Be My Eyes](https://www.bemyeyes.com/) is a platform that allows volunteer helpers from around the world to “be the eyes” of someone visually impaired via live video chat.

[Crisis Text Line](http://www.crisistextline.org/join-our-efforts/volunteer/) is a free 24/7 national crisis-intervention and counseling service conducted

exclusively through SMS text. Volunteers use the nonprofit's web-based platform to provide

emotional support to texters who are dealing with a wide range of issues– bullying, self-harm,

suicidal thoughts, and more. Prospective volunteers go through screening and a lengthy self-paced training. Once completed, volunteers are required to sign up to take one four-hour shift each week for a year.

[DoSomething](https://www.dosomething.org/us) empowers young people to enact social change both online or off. Volunteer online through social media campaigns and by crowdsourcing community solutions for issues such as mental health, bullying, environmental protection, etc.

The [Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network](http://www.rainn.org/get-involved/volunteer-for-RAINN/ohl-volunteer) (RAINN) is the nation's largest anti-sexual

violence organization, and operates the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1.800.656.HOPE

and the National Sexual Assault [Online Hotline](https://ohl.rainn.org/online/). Online volunteers who staff the online hotline

must complete an in-person training course facilitated by RAINN, complete a background check, and be

on time for shifts.

TED Translators are a global community of volunteers who subtitle TED Talks and enable the

inspiring ideas in them to crisscross languages and borders. Bring TED into your language!

[Join the global community of volunteers](https://www.ted.com/participate/translate).

[Trevor Project](https://www.thetrevorproject.org/get-involved/volunteer/) is an online, social networking community for lesbian, gay, bisexual,

transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth ages 13-24, and their friends and allies. Online

volunteers monitor the TrevorSpace site in an effort to maintain a safe online space for young

LGBTQ people. The 40-hour training for online volunteers is provided quarterly.

Help to bring personalized voices to people with speech impediments or who have lost their

voice! VocaliD is aimed at designing personalized synthetic voices so that people with severe

speech impairments can use a voice that fits their body and personality. Share your voice and

help drive innovation in voice technology through [VocaliD](https://www.vocalid.co/voicebank).

***LITERACY***

[BookShare.Org](https://www.bookshare.org/cms/get-involved/volunteer) offers thousands of books to people with reading disabilities. As an [online](https://www.bookshare.org/cms/get-involved/volunteer)

[volunteer](https://www.bookshare.org/cms/get-involved/volunteer) you can either scan books to be added to the collection or edit books that have

been scanned.

[Distributed Proofreaders](http://www.pgdp.net/) These online volunteers turn public domain books into online books,

mostly for [Project Gutenberg](http://www.gutenberg.org/). Many volunteers work on a book at the same time and

proofread each other’s work.

[IntoBooks](http://in2books.epals.com/) is an online mentoring program where students and their adult mentors read the

same books and then discuss them online. It's part of the [ePals](http://www.epals.com/) program.

[Learning Ally](https://go.learningally.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer-Opportunities) Many audiobooks are created with text-to-speech software that scans text from

computer files and uses synthesized human voices to read the text aloud. However,

illustrations or figures used throughout the books are not included. Online volunteers type

those figure descriptions into the text, enabling students to receive ALL book material, not

just the text.

[LibriVox](http://www.librivox.org/) is a nonprofit that coordinates online volunteers to record audio versions of public

domain books.

[Translators Without Borders](http://translatorswithoutborders.org/) recruits volunteers who want to translate texts into different

languages for NGOs and nonprofits.

***MENTORING/TUTORING – note that these could be longer commitments as volunteers may form ongoing relationships with students***

[Career Village](https://careervillage.org/about/#become-a-mentor) An online platform where students ask career questions that are answered by

people working, or that have worked, in that field. All you need is a LinkedIn account to start

helping students become better informed about the career decisions they are facing.

[icouldbe.org](http://www.icouldbe.org/) is meant to connect the energy and expertise of mentors from various

professions with the most vulnerable students in the U.S. educational system.

[iMentor](https://imentor.org/) matches every student in our high schools with a committed college-educated mentor, equipped to guide that young person on their journey to college graduation.

[Infinite Family](http://www.infinitefamily.org/), an online mentoring program matching adults and families in the U.S. with at

risk, impoverished children in South Africa.

[MicroMentor](http://www.micromentor.org/) matches small business owners with business mentors. Volunteer mentors

should have three years of business ownership experience, or five years of management

experience, or several years of professional experience in a specialized skill. The program is

part of [MercyCorps](http://www.mercycorps.org/).

[MentorNet](http://mentornet.org/), a division of Great Minds in STEM (GMiS), strategically matches STEM students

and professionals in compatible online mentoring relationships.

***TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING***

Volunteers are a key element of [NPower’s](https://www.npower.org/get-involved/volunteer/) program success. As part of preparing our

students for a career in technology, we engage tech professionals throughout our program to

share their knowledge, experience, insight, and advice. Interacting and learning from

professionals in the industry is a crucial part to our students becoming well rounded

professionals. Connect with NPower students in-person or virtually, in small or large group

settings, and for short or long-term projects. NPower can create a customized volunteer

experience suited to your team’s needs that readies each student for career success.

[Crisis Commons / CrisisCamp](http://crisiscommons.org/) mobilizes technology volunteers to work together to create

disaster response and learning events with volunteers, who collaborate to aggregate crisis

data, develop prototype tools and train people on how to use technology tools to aid in

disaster response. Online volunteers need to be experienced, credible IT experts and need to

sign up before a crisis.

[FOSS Manuals](http://www.flossmanuals.org/get-involved-0) online volunteers produce free manuals about Free and Open Source Software

(FOSS) in their own language. To date, they have completed 120+ manuals in more than 30

languages, such as French, English, Farsi, Dutch, and Finnish.

[Geeks Without Bounds](http://gwob.org/) is an international coalition of passionate problem solvers working

together using technology to assist people whose survival is threatened due to violence,

neglect, or catastrophe. Online volunteers need to be experienced, credible IT experts and

need to establish a relationship with this organization before a crisis.

[TechSoup](https://www.techsoup.org/joining-techsoup/become-a-volunteer) has a series of discussion groups where nonprofits ask questions about technology.

You can log into the community at any time and try to help nonprofits and volunteers with

questions about software, databases and more. TechSoup also needs volunteers to [transcribe](http://forums.techsoup.org/cs/community/b/tsblog/archive/2009/04/23/transcription-services-needed-for-techsoup.aspx)

[its most popular archived webinars](http://forums.techsoup.org/cs/community/b/tsblog/archive/2009/04/23/transcription-services-needed-for-techsoup.aspx).

***VETERANS***

[American Corporate Partners](http://www.acp-usa.org/) provides veterans with mentoring through [ACP AdvisorNet](http://www.acp-usa.org/ACP_Program/acp-advisornet) –

an online network of volunteer advisors who commit to sharing their business expertise and

advice with military veterans and their immediate family. Veterans can post questions related

to employment, career development and small business

[Hire Heroes USA](https://www.hireheroesusa.org/volunteer/) works to create job opportunities for U.S. military veterans and their

spouses. Most of their volunteers participate remotely helping with mock interviews, career

counseling, or providing guidance on job searches, preparing resumes and filling out

applications.

***ARCHIVES, GENEALOGY & MAPS***

[Ancestry.com's World Archives Program (AWAP)](https://blogs.ancestry.com/worldarchivesproject/?page_id=1023) provides free software to its volunteers to

access already-scanned images and transcribe them into a common, publicly-searchable

database. The Ancestry World Archives Project’s online volunteers use their passion for

genealogy to help others discover their roots.

[The National Map Corps (TNM Corps)](https://my.usgs.gov/confluence/display/nationalmapcorps/Home), part of the U.S. Department of the Interior, asks citizen

volunteers to collect data on structures and use it to add new features, remove obsolete

points and correct data for The National Map database.

[OpenStreetMap](http://www.openstreetmap.org/) is a free editable map of the whole world. It is made by online volunteers.

Anyone can contribute to its geographical database.

[Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens](http://collections.si.edu/search/gallery.htm?og=archives-of-american-gardens&p=mystery-gardens-2) is an online database of thousands of images in

the Smithsonian's Collections Search Center. By correctly tagging an image regarding the

types of plants in the image, the structures, objects, people, or any details you notice, you

help make that image more useful to professional catalogers in museums, archives and

libraries.

The [Smithsonian Digital Volunteer program](https://transcription.si.edu/) engages the public in making its collections more

accessible. Digital volunteers transcribe historic documents and collection records to

facilitate research and preserve these valuable assets for future generations.

[Map Rectifier Project](http://maps.nypl.org/warper/) by the New York Public Library. This geo-rectification toolkit creates

layered digital maps utilizing all the information available about a certain geography from

sources as varied as Google's satellite imagery and centuries-old fire insurance land maps.

Volunteers index information that records how many floors a building once had or what a

street was named at different points in time, and the resulting layered digital map shows the

aggregate results.

***SEARCH ENGINES FOR VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNTIES***

[All for Good](http://www.allforgood.org/) is Points of Light’s database of thousands of volunteer opportunities, many of

which can be completed remotely. To find virtual opportunities, make sure to put “virtual” in

your keyword search under “More options” when searching.

[Create the Good](http://www.createthegood.org/) is an initiative by AARP to help its members get connected with nonprofits

and causes. Anyonecan use the site to find virtual volunteering activities in support of a

variety of organizations. Enter either “virtual” or “online” in the keyword search, chose any for

distance and date and leave your postal code blank.

[Crowd4U](http://crowd4u.net/en/) is a micro volunteering and crowdsourcing platform, an all-academic open and

generic platform for "Crowdsourcing for Good," providing a task pool for microtasks for

academic and public purposes. Crowd4U also serves as a testbed for developing advanced

crowdsourcing technologies.

[Help From Home](http://www.helpfromhome.org/) has a mix of volunteering activities you can do from home, both online and

without a computer. Most are micro volunteering – tasks that require just a few minutes or a

few hours.

[Idealis](https://www.idealist.org/en/actions)t has many volunteer tasks listed on its site that can be completed online.

[Microvolunteeringday](http://www.microvolunteeringday.com/volunteers.html) This site is designed to provide opportunities that can be done from anywhere and online.  It also has a downloadable activity pack and social media guide.

[United Nations Volunteers](https://www.onlinevolunteering.org/en)’ online platform connects volunteers with organizations working

for sustainable human development. Volunteers contribute their skills online to help

organizations address development challenges.

[VolunteerMatch](http://www.volunteermatch.org/search/virtual) uses their website to bring good people and causes together. Search

through their database of thousands of volunteer opportunities and be sure to look for those

opportunities that are virtual.