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Opportunities for Remote Community Engagement

Many community engagement projects can be completed remotely, often entirely online. [This article](#) provides a good introduction to potential online efforts that may support local communities. Consider sharing these ideas with your students (potentially as alternative assignments) or engage in some yourself while off-campus. Other opportunities for anyone to get involved while practicing social distancing include:

(Thanks to [Portland State University](#) and [George Washington University](#) for many of these options)

[Weaving Our We](#)

This crowd-sourced resource coordinated by Imagining America is documenting small ideas for supporting communities and local economies. [Imagining America](#) is a national association for community engaged artists and scholars. "In this time of uncertainty, we wanted to create a resource that would help connect and support to fight against isolation and despair. There is no time more urgent than now to think about how we can nurture a spirit of shared responsibility, co-creation, and hope." Please be a part of this effort and share some of the great things that you are seeing or advice that you have via this [Google Doc](#). The team at Imagining America will collect information and curate into posts as things develop.

[Missing Maps with Doctors Without Borders](#)

Takes about 30-60 minutes on your own watching videos and doing the tutorials to learn how to do this, then you can map for any projects currently in their system! Can do from your own computer or even by phone with the App Mapswipe.

[Translate Emergency and Crisis Response Documents](#)

Apply to help translate documents, if you have another language skill, with [Translators Without Borders](#). Critical documents include medical information and crisis response documents.

[Poetry Feedback for Book/Writing Clubs for Individuals Currently Incarcerated](#)

Leave [poetry feedback on the Free Minds Book Club](#) blog for youth incarcerated as adults who are participating in book and writing clubs. Watch [these videos](#) to learn more about how to

comment (one of the videos is about hosting your own event, but it gives you an idea of what kinds of feedback to provide and how to be a virtual volunteer).

[Citizen Archivist with National Archives](#)

Help make the records of the National Archives more searchable and discoverable

[The Smithsonian Transcription Center](#)

Help transcribe historical documents and biodiversity data, making information more accessible to all.

[Assist the Visually Impaired](#)

Volunteer to help people who are blind or visually impaired with Be My Eyes. Note that calls can be infrequent.

[Record Audio of Publicly Accessible Books and Materials](#)

Help record audio books for books and materials created prior to 1923

[Become a Trained, Volunteer Listener](#)

Become a volunteer listener with [7 Cups](#). 7 Cups is an on-demand emotional health service and online therapy provider.

Volunteer with Online Scientific Research

Volunteer with the Zooniverse doing [scientific research online](#). Help the [National Park Service test their web applications](#). Help researchers [study cyclones](#).

[Mapping Prejudice Project](#)

Help visualize the hidden histories of race and privilege in the urban landscape.

[Proofread Public Domain Books](#)

If you're really good with proofreading and editing, you can volunteer to help proofread online books with Project Gutenberg.

[Provide Text Support in Times of Crisis](#)

This is a long-term (200 hours, 4 hours/week, so basically a year) commitment, but may be a uniquely useful experience for individuals interested in mental health.