



Camp Fire

## Get Organized! Service & Advocacy From Home

Did you know that you can make a BIG difference without even leaving your neighborhood? The following ideas are just a few ways that your organization skills can make a positive impact in your community during COVID-19 or ANYTIME throughout the year.

- #1** Use your creative mind to organize fun things in your neighborhood. Think of things like a window Easter Egg hunt where folks decorate paper Easter eggs and display them in their windows so you can walk the neighborhood and count all the eggs. You could also do scavenger hunts the same way.
- #2** Organize a food or clothing drive in your neighborhood! Go through your closet and set aside stuff you don't wear anymore and donate it to your local shelter or thrift store. Many homeless shelters and community thrift stores offer curbside pickup so you could ask all of your neighbors to leave their gently used unwanted clothes on the curb, and call the shelter to come pick them up.
- #3** Create and distribute a list of hotlines for people who might need help. Help your community find the resources available to them by putting them all in one place. Include crisis hotlines, food pantries, emergency medical services, clothing closets and shelters.
- #4** Hold virtual story time in your neighborhood. Schedule a time to read books via Facebook Live, Zoom, Google Hangouts, and invite your neighborhood to log on.

- #5** Become a virtual tutor. Can you help other young people with their homework? Offer to tutor your friends and neighbors via Facebook Live, Zoom, or Google Hangouts. This doesn't just work for school work! You can give lessons on how to play a musical instrument, or make your favorite craft!
- #6** Start a little library! Collect books you no longer read or would be willing to give away, disinfect them, and place them in your yard for your neighbors to borrow. Include a bottle of hand sanitizer in your little library to encourage your neighbors to stay safe and clean their hands before handling the books. These can simply be in a cardboard box, or you can build a cool display that protects your books from the weather. If you are using a box, be sure to move your little library inside before it rains.
- #7** Start a little pantry! Just like a little library, you can ask your neighbors if they have any canned goods they would be willing to donate to your neighborhood's little pantry.
- #8** Start a neighborhood newsletter or Zine! Keep your neighbors connected through a newsletter or Zine just for your neighborhood/apartment complex. Send out ideas for things other young people can do while they are stuck at home, recruit other youth to help you organize, include activities like mazes and word finds or even write short stories, poems, comic strips to share with your community. You could even have a "classifieds" section where your neighbors can let folks know if there is something they need, or something they have to spare.

