

Last update: March 24, 2020, 1:15 pm

UPDATE (3/24/20):

In an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19, Michigan's Governor Whitmer announced a "[Stay Home, Stay Safe](#)" order (effective March 24 through April 13) calling for the "temporary requirement to suspend activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life."

Healthy, willing volunteers can still legally assist those who are most vulnerable during the pandemic (see below). If you have signed up via our [United Way volunteer portal](#) or wish to volunteer in response to COVID-19, you will still be able to volunteer, should you choose.

As stated in Exemption 9d of this order, the following are considered critical and therefore exempt from order restrictions: *"Workers and volunteers for businesses or operations (including both and religious and secular nonprofit organizations) that provide food, shelter, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals, individuals who need assistance as a result of this emergency, and people with disabilities."*

VOLUNTEER SAFETY AND HEALTH

Your safety and health are our top priorities. In collaboration with partner agencies, schools, businesses, organizations and municipalities, United Way of Midland County is dedicated to providing the safest volunteer environment we can, along with safety plans for each event.

Please note that many of our nonprofit partners will need to cancel volunteers shifts to limit the risk of exposure and community spread of COVID-19, and meet current requirements for sizes of groups and social distancing guidelines. *Please check your email for any updates to volunteer shifts you may have signed up for, should there be a change.*

VOLUNTEER SAFETY GUIDELINES

Please note: If you feel vulnerable to exposure or do not feel comfortable reporting to your scheduled volunteer shift, please notify Rebecca Rekeweg at rekeweg@unitedwaymidland.org as soon as possible.

- If you (or someone you have been in close proximity with) have shown symptoms of illness (such as fever, cough, difficulty breathing, etc.) or fall within a demographic that is listed as [higher risk by the CDC](#), we ask that you refrain from volunteering at this time.
- Please wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- For additional resources and preventative tips, please visit the [CDC website](#).

We are in this together. Click [here](#) to read the entire "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order.