# **Volunteer Center Network**

Virtual Meeting Notes

**Wednesday, Oct. 21 | 9:30 AM**

**Hand Sanitizer, Socks, Office Supplies**

Hand sanitizer is still available. If you need hand sanitizer for your agency, please sign up at the following link for a time slot to come to the United Way office and fill up your containers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4eaea62da2f9c43-hand1>

We received a generous donation of socks from Wigwam and will have a phased approach to distributing them to various organizations in the coming weeks. Information and a sign-up link will be available in will be sent in the coming weeks.

Sheboygan County has a variety of office supplies available for nonprofits. Katelyn Piper (katelyn@uwofsc.org) is the point of contact. See the attached list and contact Katelyn if you want any of the items.

Reach out if you have any questions to Gina Covelli (gina@uwofsc.org).

**Day of Caring - Feedback**

We are looking for your feedback regarding this year’s Day of Caring event. Please fill out the brief survey and let us know your thoughts, even if you did not participate in the event. This information will be used as we plan for next year’s event.

Reach out if you have any questions to Katelyn Piper (katelyn@uwofsc.org).

**Holiday Volunteer Opportunities**

We have created a specific initiative on the Volunteer Center Website so all holiday volunteer opportunities will be organized together. Whether your opportunity is in-person, virtual or a wish list of items you need for your organization and/or your clients, make sure to select “Holiday Needs” in the initiative area of the submission form.

Contact Gina at gina@uwofsc.org with any questions.

**Conversation on Holiday Volunteering and COVID**

VCN Members discussed ideas, challenges and solutions for keeping the holiday spirit alive through volunteerism during the pandemic.

Some suggestions included:

* Using a QR Code for people to scan and be brought directly to wish lists or other sites.
* Reach out to Public Health to receive feedback on plans for in-person opportunities, to ensure all safety protocols are considered.
* Use fishing nets to collect items from individuals at drives (such as at Making Spirits Bright) in order to maintain social distancing.
* Hold virtual events with pre-recorded videos
* Encourage families or small cohorts of employees who are already working in proximity together to volunteer together.
* Utilize wish lists on the volunteer center website to allow the community to give back safely

**Future Meetings**

It was agreed that our next meeting will be in January, and will follow the normal quarterly schedule unless needed otherwise.

**Agency Shares**

* **Above & Beyond:** Starting virtual parent resource discussions on Nov. 14.
* **Boy Scouts of America, Bay Lakes Council:** Scouting for Food was held and was very successful. 850 lbs of food and $160 cash were collected in Sheboygan County during the event.
* **Love INC:** Held a virtual fundraiser on Oct. 23 that included a cooking demonstration. New Volunteer Coordinator!
* **SCIO:** Will be holding a virtual Giving Tuesday event this year. Details to come.

Reminder: Reach out to Gina to add new staff members to the Volunteer Center email list.

**EVENT CALENDARS**

As you plan your upcoming events, we wanted to share with you two resources to post your event on as you plan and finalize your events:

* As you **plan** your events, [click here to fill this form out for access to the shared Nonprofit Google Calendar](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScf_yi_i3bposvHxUws5BclvpPnYZdepJpDCUB6yf8FrEkrMg/viewform). This can help you see what other nonprofit events are being planned in our community. (This google form is hosted by Big Brothers Big Sisters) (<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScf_yi_i3bposvHxUws5BclvpPnYZdepJpDCUB6yf8FrEkrMg/viewform>)
* As your events are **finalized**, [click here to post event details on Sheboygan County Chamber of Commerce](https://business.sheboygan.org/events/public-submission). This can help you spread the word about your upcoming event. (<https://business.sheboygan.org/events/public-submission>)