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## SERVE WISCONSIN

## COVID-19 Response Initiative launched on <u>Volunteer Wisconsin</u> website to connect volunteers and organizations to address pressing needs

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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As COVID-19 cases continue to increase in Wisconsin, significant community needs are developing in response to individuals having to self-quarantine and practice social distancing and the closure of schools, businesses, and other community resources.

To connect potential volunteers and organizations addressing these pressing concerns, the United Way of Wisconsin, Serve Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin Volunteer Coordinators Association created the <u>COVID-19</u> <u>Response Initiative</u> on the Volunteer Wisconsin website.

"Many of the needs that communities across our state are currently facing and those that will arise in the coming weeks will require the assistance of volunteers to help provide critical services, such as food distribution, supplementing staff at medical or care facilities, services for children, and transportation to essential medical visits," said Charlene Mouille, Executive Director of United Way of Wisconsin.

"The Volunteer Wisconsin website will provide a centralized location for organizations throughout the state to post information on projects addressing these needs and for people interested in helping others search for COVID-19 response projects in their local communities," said Jeanne Duffy, Executive Director of Serve Wisconsin

The COVID-19 Response Initiative can be found on the Volunteer Wisconsin website at <u>www.volunteerwisconsin.org</u>.

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Serve Wisconsin is the state commission for national and community service. Our mission is to promote service, provide training, and allocate resources to programs that enrich lives and communities through service and volunteerism. We currently support 26 AmeriCorps programs and 950 AmeriCorps members throughout the state and work collaboratively with Senior Corps and other national service programs. We are governed by a 21-member citizen board appointed by the Governor. For more information about Serve Wisconsin or funded AmeriCorps programs, visit <u>www.servewisconsin.wi.gov</u>.

The United Way of Wisconsin is the statewide organization providing member support services to the 40 local United Ways in Wisconsin. Through United Way of Wisconsin member support services, local United Ways in the state have capacity to individually and collectively fight for the health, education, and financial stability of all Wisconsinites. For more information about the United Way of Wisconsin, visit <u>https://unitedwaywi.site-ym.com/</u>.

Volunteer Wisconsin is a collaborative initiative working to connect volunteers, promote volunteering, and support the capacity of nonprofits in Wisconsin. This website is designed to help individuals find volunteer opportunities in their area and for organizations to make postings to find volunteers, as well as to provide several other resources on volunteering. Volunteer Wisconsin is operated through a partnership between the United Way of Wisconsin and Serve Wisconsin. To access volunteer opportunities, including those in response to COVID-19, visit <u>www.volunteerwisconsin.org</u>.

