



## Cleveland State Students Serve Remotely in Fall 2020

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This fall semester during the COVID-19 global health crisis, colleges across the state have had to adjust classes and activities to comply with social distancing and quarantine guidelines. One college who has managed to do so well within their Service-Learning Department is Cleveland State Community College in Cleveland, TN. Staff quickly identified and offered remote service-learning projects that students could easily complete from home to complete their service hour requirements. “We are proud of the way students and faculty have embraced the opportunities,” said April Sakowski, CSCC Service-Learning Program Assistant.

Here are the remote projects CSCC offers students, which can hopefully be useful for other educational institutions seeking remote service-learning opportunities

### **1. Making cards of inspiration for residents and staff quarantined in assisted living facilities.**

Many individuals are currently isolated in senior living facilities. They are not able to see their family or leave for their own health protection. Mental health is an important part of overall health, including or emotional, psychological, and social well-being. Our mental health affects how we think, feel, and act, as well as how we handle stress, relate to others and make healthy choices. Cards of inspiration send out joy during this difficult time. You can use pre-made greeting cards or get crafty with homemade cards. Seniors especially enjoy uplifting words and colorful drawings that make them smile.



### **2. Sewing reusable cloth face masks for healthcare staff and patients.**

Several facilities in the Cleveland area have a need for masks. Check with those in your town!  
[See instructions for approved masks here.](#)

### **3. Contributing to CSCC Library archives through a COVID-19 Living History project.**

The COVID-19 Story Living History Project is designed to collect and then tell the story of CSCC during the COVID-19 Pandemic. How did your life change during the height of the pandemic? What about your daily routine changed? What didn't? The library is collecting stories from CSCC community members to be kept in the library archives as a kind of time capsule to be used by future students and researchers to provide a clearer picture of how COVID-19 influenced our country and our communities.

### **4. Making story time and craft time videos for area public libraries.**

Volunteers create a video of themselves reading a story for small children or explaining how to make a craft that relates to the library's current theme of fairy tales and magic. They submit the video to be shared on the library's website.



**5. Adapting jigsaw and other minimal piece puzzles for seniors affected by dementia.**

Seniors in assisted living and memory care facilities find it helpful to have puzzle pieces sectioned and labeled so that they can complete the puzzle more easily. Volunteers label and color code the puzzle pieces and place them in zipped plastic bags for each puzzle section.

There are many helpful ways to engage in service-learning remotely. Reach out to your community partners and investigate new projects for your students today!

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