

## Student Service Hours (None Contact)

Technology provides unique opportunities for students to reach out, support, and encourage people who are the most isolated. Nursing homes and care facilities have needed to stop all visitation in order to protect their residents who are most at risk from COVID-19. But technologies like ZOOM, Skype, Google Hangouts, WebEx, and FaceTime could allow youth to still interact with these populations who are feeling especially isolated. Students could arrange with facilities, using video conferencing technology, to perform music for residents, organize a sing-a-long, play games, hold a virtual prom, read together, and visit.

There have been calls for community support in the creation of masks, gowns, and face shields that can be used by hospitals. Students who are interested and able with access to materials and equipment like sewing machines or 3D printers might decide to engage in those actions. Students could also participate remotely in long established activities with organizations like [Project Linus](#), [Casey Cares](#), [Kids Helping Hopkins](#), [Cool Kids Campaign](#), [The Ronald McDonald House](#), [Believe in Tomorrow](#) , and [The Children's Inn at NIH](#), etc. to provide support.

Students could also engage in advocacy projects from home: emailing leaders advocating on issues on which students have conducted research and want to see policy changes; creating social media campaigns on various issues, including promoting critical COVID-19 safe behaviors such as the need to physically distance ourselves from one another. Keeping physical distance does not have to mean social isolation, and students can help the community understand ways to remain connected despite keeping physically apart.

High quality indirect and advocacy service-learning projects can be done from home as long as students work to meet [Maryland's Seven Best Practices of Service-Learning](#). Students need to be encouraged as they research the issue they are working on to vet their sources of information.