

100+ Volunteers Across the Continent Deliver Life's Essentials to High-Risk Individuals

March 27, 2020 — In an immediate response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a team of Rotary & non-Rotary volunteers have launched an initiative to provide high risk individuals in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia with essential grocery and medicine delivery. The COVID-19 Rotary Response team is currently expanding its reach by opening this initiative to all Rotary Clubs members and volunteers, as well as non-Rotarian volunteers, looking to join the effort.

The initiative started when Rotarians from District 7620 joined together to discuss how to appropriately respond to the pandemic and to provide help to those in need. In a mere 72 hours, the team mobilized 100+ volunteers from 5 states and 2 provinces in Canada and has secured a partnership with two companies -- RingCentral and BaseCamp -- to provide its technology to support the new 'hotline' service. The team has expanded its effort to include a [GoFundMe campaign](#), where 100% of funds raised will go to provide free prescription fulfillment for those unable to afford medicine. In the first 24-hours, the team has already raised \$1200+ USD.

Rotary District 7620 Governor, Barton Goldenberg notes: "All 1.2 million Rotarians in 200 countries around the world are devoted to serving those in need. The COVID-19 Rotary Response is an outstanding example of Rotary in action. I strongly encourage all Rotarians and non-Rotarians to volunteer with this initiative in a way that works for you. I also encourage local government agencies and other service organizations to collaborate with our initiative."

How it Works

Between 9am-6pm EST, any high-risk individual (elderly, disabled, or severely injured person) unable to leave their home can call **240-781-6586** to coordinate grocery and medicine pick-up.

Interested volunteers and supporters are encouraged to:

- Share the hotline number with people in need: **240-781-6586**
- [Sign up to volunteer for ground support](#) (pickups and deliveries) or remote support (participation in the call center, logistics, marketing).
- Donate to the [GoFundMe campaign](#)
- Follow and share the efforts of the team on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

Coordinators of this project are committed to the health and safety of the Ground Support volunteers. All necessary precautions, including social distancing and personal protective gear, will be taken to ensure Rotary supports communities without risk of spreading.

Contact

For Volunteer & Partnership Inquiries

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