



For more information contact:
Lane Fortenberry, Marketing Manager
lane@generationserve.org
409.338.5924

GENERATION SERVE HOSTS VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERING AMID COVID-19 REGULATIONS

AUSTIN, TX – Generation SERVE has cancelled in-person youth and family volunteer activities for now and will move to virtual volunteer programming during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) restrictions on group gatherings set by state and local governments.

In-person, side-by-side volunteer activities will resume when it's safe to do so.

“At Generation SERVE, we want families, with kids of all ages, to have opportunities to give their time and energy to support the Central Texas community,” said Amy Loar, Executive Director. “We have been hard at work creating a plan to operate our upcoming programs virtually so families can still give back while at home.”

Generation SERVE will be adapting each program for the foreseeable future in the following ways:

- Facebook Virtual Events

Each Friday, a Virtual Volunteer Activity will be hosted on Generation SERVE's [Facebook page \(facebook.com/generationserve\)](https://www.facebook.com/generationserve). These events will be shared on Tuesday of each week. Families can click “going” if they can join in from their homes and are encouraged to share photos of their family participating in the comments to help motivate others to participate. If your family has participated in Generation SERVE volunteer activities in the past, the organization will track your at-home volunteer hours for you. Email carol@generationserve.org with the names of your family members and the hours worked on each project.

- Helping While Home

Generation SERVE is also offering ways families can give back through their [Helping While Home page \(www.generationserve.org/helpingwhilehome\)](http://www.generationserve.org/helpingwhilehome). Families are encouraged to check this page regularly as new opportunities are being added as Generation SERVE learns about new community needs from their nonprofit partners.

- Summer Teen Leadership Program

Applications are currently open for Generation SERVE's Summer Teen Leadership Program. In this program teens train in group facilitation, public speaking, and volunteer management, learning to become Teen Leads for Generation SERVE's Family Volunteering Program. Generation SERVE is developing a virtual plan for facilitating their Summer Teen



Leadership Program training, if needed. Applications are due on April 3 and can be found [here](http://www.generationserve.org/youthleadershipprogram) (www.generationserve.org/youthleadershipprogram). Generation SERVE will be in touch with applicants about virtual interviews in early April.

- Summer McKinney Falls Dedicated Family Placement

Generation SERVE is still accepting registrations for their Summer McKinney Falls Dedicated Family Placement and hopes to be able to follow through on this commitment to Colin's Hope and Texas Parks & Wildlife. If families would like to volunteer with their teen this summer on an on-going basis, providing water safety information to park visitors, they are encouraged to [register today](http://www.generationserve.org/teenservice) (www.generationserve.org/teenservice). This is a free program so there is no financial commitment – just a commitment of time. If citizens are still unable to gather in small groups this summer, Generation SERVE will be in touch with all families who have registered with a new plan.

“Although we are facing unprecedented and uncertain times, Generation SERVE remains committed to our volunteer families and our nonprofit partners,” Loar said. “We are working hard behind the scenes to adjust programming to create meaningful opportunities for families to serve, while still meeting the ever-evolving needs of our nonprofit community.”

For more information about virtual volunteer programming or future activities, please email contact@generationserve.org.

About Generation SERVE

Generation SERVE provides meaningful volunteer experiences for youth and families in Austin and Houston with a mission to engage children in volunteerism and inspire them to make a difference in their communities. Through Family Volunteering, Service Learning, and Teen Leadership programs, children learn the value of helping others while providing a service to their communities. To learn more about Generation SERVE or to join a volunteer activity, visit www.generationserve.org.

###