

**Waiver for Individual Community Engagement Participant
(Simple Version for COVID-19)
Name of Institution**

Note on the Template: *This simple two-page waiver can be used by the Bonner Program and its community partners with its student and other volunteers in cases where in person service and community engagement is legal and permissible (in light of local and state laws). It is a simplified version, based on a model executed by a school. Your institution may also want to consider other more complex versions, depending on input from your Risk Management and Legal offices. Should you choose to adapt this waiver, you should consult with your Risk Management or appropriate office. It is based on a model from Bates College.*

**Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to
Coronavirus/COVID-19**

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and federal and state health agencies recommend social distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the gathering of groups of people.

[Name of Organization/School] has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, the *Name of Organization/School* cannot guarantee that individuals that serve and work at the *Name of Organization/School* will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, attending the *Name of Organization/School* could increase your risk of contracting COVID-19. While serving, meeting, and or in any way working on the premises, all personnel must observe the following social distancing and health guidelines:

- **DO NOT show up to volunteer for any activity without confirming that there is a need for the activity**, that it will be conducted, and that volunteer support is needed and expected.
- **DO NOT consider volunteering if you live with or are in frequent contact with people in the higher-risk categories** for the virus.
- **DO ask about any risk that may be associated with the task** and **DO NOT** take part if you are uncomfortable with the level of risk.
- **DO practice universal infection control precautions. Wear a mask**, even if it is not required.
- **Clean and wash your hands** before, during, and after volunteering for a minimum of 20 seconds.
- **Avoid physical contact** with others and maintain a **social distance of 6 feet**.
- **Cover your cough and sneezes** with your elbow or tissue.
- **If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer** that contains at least 70% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.
- **DO call ahead to the service agency and ask if any additional safety precautions** should be taken before, during and after the shift.

- **DO allow for extra time for additional screening** from volunteer organizations or agencies to make sure you are cleared to volunteer for the task.
- **DO clean any used spaces** thoroughly before and after, including table top surfaces and door knobs/handles.
- **DO use proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** if needed/provided for the task.
- **When traveling to and from a site in a vehicle, wear a mask.** If it is possible to distance (in a van or bus), do so. Also, use hand sanitizer or wipes to clean surfaces.
- **DO maintain the social distancing of 6ft apart ESPECIALLY when interacting with general public through meal pickups and deliveries.** Wear a mask. This is critical.
- **DO expect that shifts or opportunities may be cancelled;** especially volunteer opportunities working with the vulnerable populations. Please be gracious and understanding.
- **DO register your capabilities and availability** or find volunteer opportunities that may be available in your area.
- **Do look for and discuss ways that you can volunteer or provide time to your school, agency, and/or site remotely.** See the list of potential ideas and resources below.

Please read and acknowledge the following:

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by working at the *Name of Organization/School* and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 at the *Name of Organization/School* may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, *Name of Organization/School* employees, volunteers, and program participants and their families.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to my child(ren) or myself (including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I or my child(ren) may experience or incur in connection with my child(ren)'s attendance at the *Name of Organization/School* or participation in Organization/School programming ("Claims"). On my behalf, and on behalf of my children, I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless the *Name of Organization/School*, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from the Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating there to. I understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of the Organization/School, its employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in any Organization/School program.

Participant Name (Print and Signature): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Signature Date: _____

Credits:

This form template was developed by the Bonner Foundation, with input from the Bonner 2020 Working Group, drawing on an text from forms used by Virginia Serves and public schools.