Each day brings new updates, concerns and the need for decisions involving COVID-19. I watch Governor DeWine’s press conferences, the news every day, and balance my days between following the guidelines, thinking about all the people who are working to keep us safe, fed and entertained, and planning for our future.

The nonprofit sector has been very challenged due to the pandemic. Some organizations are closed and some are busier than ever. All are adjusting to delivering services in a new way and wondering how this time will change their organization in the future.

Greater Cleveland Volunteers has also seen big changes. Our employees have been working remotely since mid-March, our volunteer celebration event scheduled for April had to be cancelled and many of the nonprofits we partner with are closed or not using volunteers at this time. We are keeping in touch with our partner agencies and our volunteers and planning for how we can continue to provide dedicated volunteers to help address needs in our community.

We anticipate that volunteerism will be different for a while- and maybe forever- with many more virtual opportunities, fewer group opportunities, new community needs to address and hesitancy among some people to volunteer.

We have a section of our website that lists opportunities for volunteers to help during this time. If you are healthy and able to volunteer, please look to see if there is something listed that is of interest to you. We are also posting volunteer needs on our Facebook and Twitter pages regularly.

As we work through this challenging time, I want to thank you- our volunteers, nonprofit partners, donors and funders for your support and ask you to continue to support Greater Cleveland Volunteers.

Thank you and take care,
Joy Banish
Executive Director

GARDEN FUNDRAISER
This year we are again holding a fundraiser at Dean’s Greenhouse. They are open and assured us they are practicing the safety precautions for COVID-19.

Enjoy browsing amongst all the flowers, vegetables, herbs and gardening supplies to make the perfect selection for your garden or gifts.

You can duplicate the insert (or cut in half) and share with family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. What a colorful way to support Greater Cleveland Volunteers!
Volunteer Spotlight
Curtain Call

The next time you see a performance at Playhouse Square, your favorite encounter may be with Red Coat volunteer Patty Dotts. The Red Coats are named after the signature bright-red blazers they wear for easy identification. Patrons may particularly recognize Patty as she has been assisting productions for nearly 30 years; that’s more than 7,500 hours of volunteering!

An initial training session is mandatory, plus meetings prior to each production. Volunteers need to learn seating, emergency exits, directions to the bathrooms and how to scan tickets.

Patty usually schedules to work on Thursday matinees and Monday evenings. She can also call in if she wants to help at additional shows. Playhouse Square’s Broadway series is particularly popular with both the volunteers and theatre-goers. Volunteers are permitted to see much of the show after people are seated. Mostly, this is viewing while standing. “The theatre community is doing wonderfully in Cleveland. It’s hard to get a seat anymore,” Patty explains.

Patty has been with Greater Cleveland Volunteers since 2002 and has served on its Advisory, Recognition, and Benefit committees. She has been a big help in planning Greater Cleveland Volunteers special events.

“If I wasn’t volunteering, I’d be sitting all day or at the mall to see what wants me to buy it. So I found something that makes me happy. I just find joy when I do it,” says Patty of her Red Coat volunteering. “You can do it as much as you want. I recommend volunteering to anyone who is outgoing, and also for timid people to make them a little more outgoing. You’ll run into good people!”

Employment Opportunities with Greater Cleveland Volunteers

**AARP Foundation Experience Corps Program Assistant from AmeriCorps VISTA**
This employee will build the capacity of the Experience Corps program by developing and implementing tutor observation, coaching and student assessments for the program that is operating in the Cleveland Metropolitan and Euclid City schools.

**Partnership Coordinator:**
This person will refer individuals to volunteer positions at local nonprofit organizations and build ongoing relationships with organizations. They will provide support to volunteers and partner agencies.

Both job descriptions are on our website, [greaterclevelandvolunteers.org](http://greaterclevelandvolunteers.org) home page

**JUNE FUNDRAISER:**
**Every Tuesday in June** enjoy a delicious take-out meal from the Melt Bar and Grilled at their Lakewood, Cleveland Heights and Independence locations

Use the enclosed flier (you can make copies) and **present with payment**. They will give 20% of your order total to Greater Cleveland Volunteers! Follow the guidelines on the flier and check their website for menu and hours of operation.

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A New Partner Connection
The City of Solon

Welcome to our new partner agency, the City of Solon and Happy 200 years to them.

In observance of their bicentennial celebration, the City of Solon and the Department of Senior Services is promoting and dedicating 2020 as A Time to Serve for their community and others. They are encouraging all to participate in 200 acts of service for their anniversary.

Volunteer opportunities are available in Solon and throughout Cuyahoga County. The volunteers would assist at the Solon Senior Center as a friendly visitor, help distribute food or with many other projects located in the city; or residents can offer their time and talent to those in need in other Cuyahoga County communities.

Contact Nancy at 216-391-9500 x 2123 or ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org to learn more.

Making Things Happen
Meet one of our Funders

Since 1959, the Harry K. and Emma R. Fox Charitable Foundation has been working to improve the quality of life for the residents of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. The Foundation was established by Emma Fox from her family inheritance and provides grants to support the arts, education, health, culture and human services.

From 1997 to present day, Greater Cleveland Volunteers has received funding from the Fox Foundation in support of our AARP Foundation Experience Corps literacy tutoring program. The Foundation is one of our most loyal and long-standing funders, for which we are so very grateful.

Volunteer Opportunities

For these opportunities contact Nancy Dzurnak, 216-391-9500 x 2123
ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

Meal Delivery: We have a handful of partners that seek volunteers to deliver prepared meals, groceries or other essentials to specific clients.

Wellness phone calls: Friendly, reliable and trustworthy volunteers are needed as active listeners to check in with isolated seniors.

Do you sew? As you know we are being encouraged to wear masks for quite some time. We have the need to supply fabric masks to non-medical staff, volunteers and high-risk shelter clients.

Blood Services: Volunteers are still needed for Disaster Response Teams, Blood Donor Ambassadors and Transportation Specialists.

Hospice Services: Virtually train today to volunteer in the future with patients or clerical positions in a hospice organization.
Donations

We acknowledge and thank all donors that provided a gift to our agency between October 23, 2019 and April 23, 2020.

We have enclosed a donation envelope in this newsletter if you wish to provide a gift to support Greater Cleveland Volunteers or, you can use our website greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

AARP Foundation Experience Corps
Anonymous (3)
Patricia Abraham
Amazon Smile
Georgia Anetzberger
Marilyn Anthony
Erma Arrington
Donald Arthur
Carol Baldassari
Richard & Joy Banish
Thomas Barnard
Gwendolyn Barnett
Barrio Taco Trucks LLC
Benita Batulewick
Judith Beeler
Gary Bombei
Sr. Theresa Bontempo
Thelma Brazelton
Jocelyn Brown-James
Clark Button
Mark Carden
Rebecca Carlino-Madigan
Church of the Saviour United Methodist
City of Cleveland-Department of Community Development
Cleveland Foundation
Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center
Mark Cline
Sharon Collins
John Connelly
Virginia Connelly
Conover Farm Pickles
Corporation for National & Community Service
Barbara Daly
David & Inez Myers Foundation
Hestelia Davis
Veronica Davis
Roland De Monte
Dorr & Joyce Dearborn
Peggy Dicesare
Eileen Dignan
Barry & Suzanne Doggett
Evelyn Dolejs
Patty Dotts
Hannah Driscoll
Mike Dzurnak
Nancy Dzurnak
Eaton Corporation
Ann Eland
Mark Erzen
Robert Erzen
Willie Ezekiel
Stephanie FallCreek
Gerald Ferguson
Maria Foschia
Burton Frankel
Joy Freda
Kirsten Frei-Herrmann
Lawrence Gaylor
Ruth Glasgow
Robert Gries
Carl & Mary Jo Groppe
Elizabeth Hagen
Jessica Handlos Gentile
Luise Hanold
Marilyn Harr
Cecille Harris
Harry K. and Emma R. Fox Charitable Foundation
Shirley Hemminger
Veronica Hill
Hospice of the Western Reserve
Pauletta Houston
Joan Ibbett
Linda Ibbett
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation
Sherry Jackson
Sharon Jaskolka
Eileen Johnson
Frances Johnson
June Johnson-Ferrell
Janet Jordan
Pauline Joseph
Judson Services, Inc.
Dianna M. Kall
Marilyn Kay
Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust
Ronald Kiessling
Josephine Kinnard
Jon Kozesky
Josephine Kinnard
Jon Kozesky
Gerrit & Margaret Kuechle
Barbara Kuhlman
Lois Langell
Barbara Langlotz
Richard Lawrence
William Leahy
Calvin Leonard
Shirley Levett
Linda Levy
Lincoln Electric Foundation
Bonnie Lindberg
Mary Logan
Lubrizol Foundation
Mary Maechner
Margaret W. Wong & Associates
Kathy Marszalek
Robert Mast
Shawn McDermott
McGregor Foundation
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Anne McIntyre
Medical Mutual of Ohio
Elaine Minch
Patricia Minor
Ronald Minor
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Murtis H. Taylor Human Services System
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Kamla Nagpaul
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Joan Nethery
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Joan O'Block
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Jon & Jane Outcalt
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Leroy Parks
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Sherry Petkovsek
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Martha Pine
Donald & Carol Poe
Dick Pogue
Mary Lou Pollak
Molodian Price
Francis Raishart
Marilyn Raishart
Vanessa Ray
Rosemary Rehner
Marilyn Rep
Denise Reyes
John Reynolds
Joyce Reynolds
Gracie Riggins
Joann Robinson
Samuel Rosner
Rowena Rubin
Burt Saltzman
Senior Citizen Resources, Inc.
Patricia Sharkey
Devorah Silverman
David Simpson
Cynthia Skrovan
Donald & Beverly Smith
Michael Smith
Arthur Solomon
Rochelle Solomon
James Spearman
Susan Speizer
Mary Ann Stanky
Charles & Jean Stephenson
Georgia Taylor
The Catherine L. & Edward A. Lozick
Foundation
The Center for Community Solutions
The Lake Erie Soap Company
The Wuliger Family Charitable Funds
Claudia Toburen
United Way of Greater Cleveland
University Hospitals Health System
Bernice Ursich
Sondra Viburs
Wake Robin Fermented Foods
Deborah Washington
Thomas Wenderoth
Cheryl Whitlow
Nakeva Williams
Eugene Wolchko
Carolyn Wright
Carmelle Young
Mary Zajac
Ann Zellmer
John Zitzner
We recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of our older volunteers.

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