

Mercy Volunteer Corps  
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March 16, 2020

Dear Mercy Volunteers,

As we continue to monitor the spread of the Coronavirus, Mercy Volunteer Corps would like to share additional information and policies. We would first like to emphasize that the health and safety of each Mercy Volunteer is our priority during this time.

All volunteers will have been contacted by their Community Coordinator by the end of today. We are working to assess, on a case by case basis, the directives of each of your service sites. We are especially mindful of the needs of healthcare positions during the outbreak. Many of you have already transitioned to telecommuting and some will move to this option in the coming days. **Mercy Volunteer Corps would like to emphasize to please contact your Community Coordinator if you need any assistance communicating with your service site, are unsure about your health or safety, or have any additional questions or concerns.**

In addition, Mercy Volunteer Corps is implementing the following:

- This week, each community will receive a \$100 stipend to assist in [preparedness for social distancing](#). It is our hope that this money can be used for additional non-perishable food and household products like cleaning supplies.
- Until April 1st, we are suspending our visitor policy for each of the volunteer communities. During this time, no visitors are permitted in the community house. This is in an effort to limit contacts and keep volunteers healthy and safe.
- MVC strongly recommends that each of you refrains from traveling home during this time in order to adhere to [CDC guidelines](#). We are mindful that each of you works with vulnerable populations, and therefore it is imperative to limit your contacts to the best of your ability. MVC will continue to monitor travel recommendations, particularly the increased measures to self-quarantine after travel across state borders.
- At this time, MVC is refraining from purchasing transportation to Transition Retreat in June. We are monitoring the situation closely and are committed to following [CDC directives on large gatherings](#). We will continue to keep Mercy Volunteers updated as we have more information.

Please know that Mercy Volunteer Corps continues to coordinate with the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and Catholic Volunteer Network during this time.

The staff of Mercy Volunteer Corps continues to hold each of you in prayer and gratitude. You have each exemplified what it means to be Mercy during these last few weeks, and we are especially grateful for your continued commitment to serving the most marginalized members of our society. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Community Coordinator.

In gratitude and Mercy,

Marian Uba  
*Executive Director*  
Mercy Volunteer Corps