

**Ministry for Seniors  
and Accessibility  
Assistant Deputy  
Minister's Office**

6th Floor, Suite 601C  
College Park  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto ON M7A 2J4

**Ministère des Services aux  
aînés et de l'Accessibilité  
Bureau de la sous-ministre  
adjoint**

6<sup>e</sup> étage, bureau 601C  
College Park  
777, rue Bay  
Toronto ON M7A 2J4

April 3, 2020

Dear Partners,

On March 30, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health recommended that individuals over 70 years of age self-isolate and, where possible, seek services over the phone or internet or ask for help with essential errands from friends and family. During this difficult time, it is more important than ever to come together and help those in need, ensuring Ontarians have access to food, medicine and basic necessities.

For more information on how the province is keeping Ontarians safe during the Covid-19 outbreak, please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus>.

**The Ontario government is encouraging volunteerism to support seniors, people with disabilities and other Ontarians impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak.** To help facilitate this, we are working with [SPARK Ontario](#), a bilingual online volunteer gateway that connects not-for-profit organizations with volunteers. We want to make it easy for these connections to take place.

We need your help in promoting SPARK Ontario and encouraging volunteerism.

- **Reach out to your volunteer pools** and ask them to visit [www.sparkontario.ca](http://www.sparkontario.ca) if they are interested in helping those impacted by COVID-19.
- **If your organization needs volunteers**, visit [www.sparkontario.ca](http://www.sparkontario.ca) so that you can advertise available positions and get the help you need.

Please see attached for a Call to Action one-pager that you can forward to your volunteers and others that may be interested in this initiative.

We thank you for your continued support in volunteering in Ontario. Stay safe.

**Original Signed**

Jacqueline Cureton  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Seniors and Accessibility Policy, Programs and Strategic Partnerships  
Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility