

REVIVING COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Service is one of California Eastern Star's CORE VALUES. Although it was a bit more difficult in 2020 to serve our communities, we were able to adapt. We added work parties with social distancing to get back into the "giving groove". Following are a few tips to successfully revive your Chapter's Community Service activities, and be sure to wear Eastern Star logo apparel to gain appropriate recognition during these activities.

- Begin by researching your community's needs to determine which can be met by your members. Contact local outreach agencies for kids, nearby Blue Star Moms Chapters, local food bank, or a local assistance organization.
- Seek out ways to volunteer your time and abilities. Ask local schools if they need tutors for challenged students. Ask if a local library or family services nursery needs a volunteer storyteller. Ask local charities if they need office help or assistance to hand out bags of food, and find out if they need plastic grocery bags to distribute their food items so that your members can gather their unused bags to fill this need.
- Consider a partnership with an organization that can offer you supplies to fill the needs of a local charity to save on expenses and to Pay Goodness Forward from your members.
- Set aside funds in your Chapter Budget for the WGM/WGP's project when your Chapter Budget is created, or plan an activity to support our WGM/WGP's project (a yard sale designated for monies to go to their project).
- Collect school supplies, books, and toys for donations to local kids, non-perishable foods for a local food bank, or toys for donation to Shrine kids or local needy kids.
- Clean out your closets and hold a yard sale to benefit your Chapter, or if you don't have ability to do this, donate the unused items to a local shelter, church, or service organization.
- Make blankets for a local hospital's nursery or local Veterans.
- Deliver old towels to a local SPCA shelter for their animals, and ask if they need volunteers to work at an animal shelter.
- Adopt a family in need for the holidays or a special occasion.
- Deliver care packages to a local VA office for veterans in need.
- Make and deliver sandwiches and bottled water in lunch bags to those in need.
- Adopt the care of a flower pot in your local downtown area and post a small sign recognizing Eastern Star.