



March 9, 2020

Dear Volunteer,

News about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Chicago and worldwide is changing how many of us live and work. Because the safety and well-being of our elders and volunteers is so vitally important to our Chicago Chapter, Little Brothers is being proactive with a **comprehensive plan to address potential risks from the Coronavirus**.

Because you are a valued volunteer, **we want you to be fully informed about what we, together, will continue to do to responsibly serve our elders, along with important changes we're making to keep us all safe**. We're organizing our important efforts with a new initiative, called the **We Care / We're Careful Campaign**, which will continue to monitor future Coronavirus conditions and communicate Little Brothers' strategic decisions to help protect you and our elders.

Here are the immediate steps we're making to introduce **new ways to show elders we care while also being careful** to minimize unnecessary close contact and potential viral cross contamination.

1. **Easter Sunday.** This year, on Easter (April 12, 2020), we will not be hosting our traditional holiday activities: No volunteer gathering at LBF and no nursing home visits.
 - Instead, we want to recruit volunteers to help us with new ways to celebrate: Making support calls, sending Easter cards, and delivering meals to only the most isolated homebound elders.
2. **Fete d'Armand Marquiset.** The celebration for our founder and our Chicago Chapter takes place at three party locations in the city. This year, we will not hold any Fête celebrations, nor are we recruiting or placing volunteers for the Fête.
 - Instead, we need your help to send personalized greeting cards, make phone calls to the elders, and, in the words of Armand Marquiset, ignite "little fires of love" and other acts of kindness.
3. **Visiting Volunteers.** We will encourage volunteers to follow Center for Disease Control guidelines and use your best judgment when visiting elders and to decide with your elder if scheduling a visit is feasible.
4. **More information.** For details about all event and service changes, please see the attached information sheet. You also can learn more and continue to stay informed about LBF by visiting our website www.littlebrotherschicago.org/WeCare. To get more help, please call Director of Volunteer Services & Community Engagement Josh Chartier at 312.604.7261; Director of Program Ann Wohlberg at 312.604.7255; or email: WeCare@littlebrotherschicago.org

We also encourage you to follow good self-care habits, including proper handwashing, to help halt the spread of any respiratory viruses. We sincerely appreciate your support and understanding in these challenging times and, as always, we are deeply grateful for all you do to care for and serve our elders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Mitchell-Peterson".

Simone Mitchell-Peterson
CEO, Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly, Chicago Chapter



Celebrating
6 Years