

## Global Volunteering July 2020

Research and examples of global volunteering have been provided by the CECP team below.

### CECP INSIGHTS

CECP's [Giving in Numbers: 2019 Edition](#) cited that 36% of companies offered virtual volunteering opportunities to domestic employees, while 18% did so for international employees.



CECP's [Giving in Numbers: 2019 Edition](#) found that Paid-Release Time and Flexible Scheduling were the most offered domestic and international volunteer programs in 2018. These two programs were the ones that increased the most (+5 percentage points) in terms of the percentage of companies offering them to their international employees between 2016 and 2018 in a three-year matched set of companies.

### OVERVIEW OF VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERISM

As a response to COVID-19, many companies have turned to virtual volunteering—also known as online volunteering, remote volunteering, or e-volunteering—to continue their employees' philanthropic efforts. To volunteer means to give of yourself (time, talent, and/or treasure) in service to a cause. It is wide ranging and can encompass small acts of kindness, such as handwriting letters of encouragement or picking up groceries for an elderly neighbor to more large scale projects, such as offering financial literacy webinars to underserved communities or signing up to be a UN Volunteer. Best company practices of encouraging volunteering online include reviewing and rethinking internal policies and processes related to community engagement, providing virtual and remote volunteer opportunities, and ensuring employees are receiving recognition of their work. While virtual volunteering is often practiced locally, there are global volunteer opportunities for employees to partake in as well. Below you will find many examples of global volunteering.

### GLOBAL VOLUNTEERING

- [The Conference Board of Canada](#), CECP's Global Exchange partner in Canada, recommends Volunteer Canada – a national organization that collects, directs and curates a lot of information on activities in the volunteer and corporate employee volunteer space.
- Points of Lights' [Global Volunteer Month](#)

- Adding to their database of thousands of volunteer opportunities ([All For Good](#)), in March 2020, Points of Light launched its platform for *Global Volunteer Month* to recognize people for their current and longtime support of their communities. Global Volunteer Month recognizes everyday volunteer heroes and supports employees and community members meeting community needs. It can also support achieving valuable outcomes.
- They are calling on corporate, nonprofit, and individual partners to be a **#LocalLight** by doing the following:
  - **Learn:** explore our resources on virtual volunteerism and safety recommendations for people that choose to volunteer inside and outside of their home.
  - **Find:** search our database for virtual volunteer opportunities, DIY projects that you can do from your home, and contact your local Points of Light affiliate to learn what your community needs.
  - **Share:** inspire others with the stories of people who are taking part in virtual volunteerism or uplifting their community in new and inventive ways by posting on social media, sharing how you're being a local point of light in your community. Use the hashtag **#LocalLight** so that we can demonstrate to the world that, in fact, there is a light.
- [UN Volunteers](#) is a platform where large number of pre-approved e-volunteer placements can be found.
- DEVEX recommends looking into [Cuso International](#), [Idealist](#), [Catchfire](#), as well as [Taproot+ Foundation](#).
- For other recommendations of volunteer opportunities in areas like technology, engineering, mentoring and others, please take a look at this [resource](#) from DEVEX.