VIDA Projects 2021/2022

Doing civic engagement work in the time of Covid-19 is very different, but we think it can be great for keeping you having a sense of connection and purpose in these hard times. Some of the projects below are straightforward. Some ask you to show up and distribute food or provide other forms of direct assistance. The advocacy and campaign projects all have virtual options, such as phone banking, letter writing, and attending virtual advocacy meetings. Others will require you to use a bit more initiative and take some leadership to make a project happen. We hope that you are able to find the right project for your interests. VIDA office staff will be around to guide you on how to do your project if you decide to do something that requires more leadership and initiative than you are used to exercising. You might want to do a project at a team with some classmates so you can have someone to talk it through with.

The pages below are organized into the following categories:
- Advocacy and Organizing
- Direct Services
- On-Line Services
- Elections

## Advocacy and Organizing:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Higher Education for Ab540/ Undocumented Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HEFAS</strong> is an educational student resource center and program that provides educational resources, reduces financial stress, and creates a safe learning environment for all students with an emphasis on undocumented/AB-540 information. HEFAS is dedicated to helping students build their leadership skills, promotes social change and advocate for higher education! Our vision is to provide students, parents, educators, and staff the tools to empower students regardless of their status and the barriers that may exist.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Volunteers will: help support some of the online services
HEFAS will continue to provide for the immigrant community.

Contact:  
- ab540hefas@gmail.com  
- deanza.edu/vida/hefas
### Faculty Association Political Action Committee (FPAC)

Join with the FA PAC student interns and other members of the FHDA community to fight for community college students, staff, and faculty. The FA PAC is the political arm of the faculty union (the Foothill-De Anza Faculty Association), an independent labor union representing full- and part-time district faculty.

We are engaging in advocacy around a range of issues including affordable housing, legislative & budgetary support for community college students and faculty, and institutional transformation at Foothill-De Anza and throughout the community college system to eliminate racism from our lives and our society. Our goal is to organize and empower students and faculty members on issues of common betterment.

In 2021-22, we will be focusing on continuing our work on public safety/campus police concerns and affordable housing. We may also be reaching out to faculty to invite them to support/continue to support the Faculty Association Political Action Committee. We want to ensure voices of students are adequately raised up and heard by our College and District leadership. If you are interested in possibly applying to be an intern with the PAC or other placements at FHDA, volunteering with us is a good opportunity to understand the work and issues involved and to build experience!

Since 2012, FA PAC student interns have fought for, and won, increases in the minimum wage, massive increases in funding for community colleges, and strong political representation in our state legislature, and policies and funding for affordable housing. Interns have organized training workshops and advocacy trips involving hundreds of students, have participated in legislative lobbying and other grassroots political advocacy work, and have achieved substantial gains for community college students by participating in electoral campaigns.

**Fall Volunteer Meeting Times:** Fridays 5-7 PM and Saturdays 9-11 AM

Please get involved! We need your help! Click on the form below to apply!

[Google form link to sign up form for FA PAC Volunteers!](https://forms.gle/1M518FLktDXzgu7n6)

Contact: FA PAC Intern
Liz Mullen
lizmullen05@gmail.com

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<tr>
<td><strong>Contact</strong></td>
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<td>FA PAC Intern</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Liz Mullen</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lizmullen05@gmail.com">lizmullen05@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Students for Equity and Environment at De Anza (SEED)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEED aims to help transform De Anza and the surrounding area’s policies and laws in order to ensure that clean air, land, water, and food are accessible to all inhabitants in our community. We intend to do this by educating and growing sustainability/eco-friendly awareness on campus by hosting workshops and working to amend current De Anza practices to minimize the environmental impact of our students. We believe that the time to act is now, to ensure not only the success of current students but for the success of future students to come.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Volunteers will:</strong> Help advocate for environmental policies to take place at De Anza and the surrounding area by promoting petitions, making classroom announcements, network with local environmental leaders, attending weekly meetings and any SEED endorsed events such as marches and protests. Volunteers at any level of expertise and majors are welcomed and encouraged to participate.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> <a href="mailto:DeAnzaSeed@gmail.com">DeAnzaSeed@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>SIREN</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SIREN</strong> is the largest immigrant rights organization in Silicon Valley, they service the community through 3 different components: 1. Legal Services 2. Policy Advocacy 3. Community Organizing Ideal volunteers should have a strong interest in learning about immigration law, immigrant rights, and policy. Position could involve working with local elected officials on strengthening protection policies for immigrants in Santa Clara County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Volunteers will:</strong> Help with outreach and citizenship/DACA freeworkshops and more! Great opportunity for immigrant students, or children of immigrants. Spanish or Vietnamese language preferred but not required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> <a href="mailto:HR@siren-bayarea.org">HR@siren-bayarea.org</a></td>
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# Our City Forest

Our City Forest is San Jose's leading urban forestry non-profit organization. Our mission is to cultivate a green and healthy Silicon Valley by engaging the community in the protection, growth, and maintenance of our urban ecosystem, with a special focus on our urban forest. We believe in the power of trees to transform homes, communities, and cities. We believe in the power of people to help us achieve this needed transformation.

Students can participate in volunteering with Our City Forest on Tuesdays - Saturdays. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities - they can attend our nursery workdays (help out with various tasks at our nursery and learn about the tree and shrub species we carry) or help out on our tree care and watering routes (head out into the field with OCF Americorps members and learn how to prune/water our trees that have been planted throughout San Jose).

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<tr>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tr>
<td>Erika Alvarez</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:erika@ourcityforest.org">erika@ourcityforest.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Visit:</th>
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<tr>
<td>ourcityforest.org/volunteers</td>
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# California History Center

The California History Center (CHC), founded in 1969, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education and engagement of the public in the study of California, its environment, history, its institutions, and its people, with a special focus on the Santa Clara Valley region. CHC operates the Stocklmeir Regional History Library and Archives that provides local history research opportunities, and the Audrey Edna Butcher Civil Liberties Education Initiative, which promotes the study of civil liberties issues, concerns, and democratic values as informed by local and regional history and current events.

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<th>Contact</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Izu at:</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:izutom@fhda.edu">izutom@fhda.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Christiansen - <a href="mailto:chcstocklmeirarchives@fhda.edu">chcstocklmeirarchives@fhda.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Office of Equity

The Office of Equity, Social Justice and Multicultural Education promotes — through programs and services — an academic, cultural and social environment that provides equity, social justice and academic success for all members of the De Anza College campus community. It supports the district and college missions, which consider diversity an essential component of student education in the 21st century. The Equity Office takes this charge seriously. We have expanded our mission of fostering a climate of healthy diversity that values individual and group differences and respects the perspectives of others by working to eliminate institutional oppression or barriers that perpetuate inequity, injustice, and mono-cultural education.

Volunteer Tasks:
- Document History of the Office
- Create content for social media, newsletter, and LibGuides
- Create video stories
- Outreach through class and event presentations
- Co-host virtual hours

Co-create workshops to learn about equity, Learn popular education frameworks, Create visuals to promote equity values online

### Contact

**Adriana Garcia:**
GarciaAdriana@deanza.edu

**Tony Santa Ana:**
santaanaanthony@fhda.edu

Website: [https://www.deanza.edu/equityoffice/](https://www.deanza.edu/equityoffice/)

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### The Fair Workplace Collaborative

The Fair Workplace Collaborative is a coalition of community organizations, legal advocates, nonprofits, and small business leaders working with Santa Clara County’s Office of Labor Standards Enforcement to ensure all working people are treated with dignity and respect at work.

### Contact

daniella@wpusa.org
408-614-6697

Free Attorney advice line:
1-866-870-7725 (toll free)
National Equal Justice Association

Founded in 1981, National Equal Justice Association (NEJA) is an all-volunteer, 501(c)3 non-profit organization which aids grassroots, community-based organizations of poor and minority workers struggling for equal justice, focusing on those most in need, those most exploited, denied and discriminated against. Through four decades of dedicated pursuit, NEJA has aided scores of organizing efforts of poor and working people with sponsorship, publicity, and consultation in their pursuit of safe working conditions, living wages, clean and affordable water, nutritional food, health care and decent living conditions.

NEJA's Campaign for Sustainable Recovery and Development supports community-based organizations on the front lines providing emergency food, clothing, personal protective equipment and other resources as well as utility advocacy during the ongoing pandemic as well as the natural disasters. NEJA is uniting with dozens of environmental, business, student, religious, and other professional organizations around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to fight for 100% renewable energy, living wage jobs, and justice for all!

NEJA needs full-time and part-time volunteers for public speaking, community outreach, telephone outreach, film showings, house meetings and conferences and more. NEJA also needs volunteer writers, editors, researchers, and graphic designers for the NEJA Bulletin, our quarterly publication and other literature and presentations. No prior experience is necessary!

Join NEJA's struggle for 100% renewable energy with living wage jobs for all consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development!

Check out:
https://www.nationalequaljusticeassociation.com/contact

Call us today at
(415) 552-5833!
### Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley

Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley is a nonprofit organization that performs critical home repairs and safety modifications for low income homeowners, particularly seniors and individuals with disabilities, at no cost to them. We have a Fall and Spring Rebuilding Day, a bi-annual home repair blitz event that pulls together hundreds of volunteers, involving painting, fixing, installations, and other repair projects. Additional opportunities include assisting with outreach events, volunteering as a photographer or helping organize our warehouse.

Visit:  
https://rebuildingtogethersv.org/programs/rebuilding-day/

### 1500 stories

1500 Stories is a collaborative art and digital storytelling project about economic inequality in the U.S. At its core is open-ended, in-depth interviews with people at different economic positions about what their lives are like. These interviews get edited down into short narratives that live on the 1500 Stories website to educate people about economic inequality and build empathy and community.

**Volunteer Tasks:**

Transcribe audio interviews collected in New Jersey

Conduct, record and transcribe interviews right now (through Skype, for example) about how people at different economic positions are experiencing the COVID-19 crisis.

If you are an experienced art or music maker, consider reaching out also. The project director will work with you on creative projects related to economic inequality.

**Contact**

Jennifer Myhre: jennifermyhre@1500stories.org
LGBTQ Youth Space

The LGBTQ Youth Space is a non-profit organization serving the youth ages 13-25 who identify as LGBTQ or Allies residing within the County of Santa Clara.

Each interested individual will be worked with on a one to one basis to provided volunteer instruction and guidance based on a person’s current skill or interest within the program. All volunteer work will be completed remotely.

Contact

Erika Cisneros, ecisneros@fcservices.org
Mobile: (408)430-9488

Amigos de Guadalupe for Justice & Empowerment

Amigos de Guadalupe is currently taking volunteers for work in the office, remote/virtual work, and a hybrid of both. Our office has 3 primary focus areas of work: housing, education, and immigration. All 3 programs need volunteers to assist with a wide range of work including case work, research projects, artistic projects like working on flyers and handouts, data entry, and even translation work. Our Operations Team also has many opportunities for students to assist with our administrative work in the office as well--if the student is interested in learning about how a nonprofit runs and the kinds of work that help keep the organization running day to day.

Contact

Crystal Cisneros-Villa, ccisnerosvilla@amigosdeguadalupe.org
Monday-Friday 9 A.M.-5:00 pm
1897 Alum Rock Avenue San Jose, C.A., 95116
Ulistac Natural Area Restoration & Education Project

WANTED: Volunteers to help maintain 20 years of successful restoration of 7 acres of native trees, shrubs, & grasses

WHY: the six year drought & Pandemic isolation has prevented volunteers from watering & weeding our plants!

What Will you do: Spend a Minimum of 2 hours:
1. Water –with Recycled Water
2. Remove Invasive Species using Pulaski’s, McCleod’s, Hoe’s, and Hands
3. Prune shrubs with proper tools and instructions by our Lead Volunteer’s & City Employee
4. Mulch plants and large areas to provide cover from intense heat & lessen evaporation from soil
5. Plant a tree, shrub, sow native grass or wildflowers seeds.

TIMES & DAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP THE NATIVE PLANTS SURVIVE THE DROUGHT:
MON-FRI 9-12 NOON: & SUN: OCT-NOV 9-12

Contact
Dennis Dowling
dennisdowling42@gmail.com
Call or text
408-416-8907
### Direct Services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sacred Heart Community Service</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sacred Heart Community Service</strong> brings our community together to address poverty in Silicon Valley. Through a comprehensive array of community organizing committees, mutual support programs, and resources, the SHCS community is working together to improve our lives. Our vision is a community united to ensure that every child and adult is free from poverty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They are taking in volunteers to work with the food pantry, distributing food and clothes throughout the community as well as financial assistance to help families impacted by COVID-19. Their volunteer hours are Monday-Thursday from 9am to 4pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> <a href="https://sacredheartcs.org/volunteer/">https://sacredheartcs.org/volunteer/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Phone:</strong> (408) 278-2160</td>
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<tr>
<th>South Bay Mutual Aid</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>South Bay Mutual Aid</strong> is a coalition of community organizations (Serve the People San José, Silicon Valley DSA, Party for Socialism and Liberation, Anakbayan, Rapid Response Network, South Bay Community Land Trust), students, workers, and community members organizing a mutual aid fund.</td>
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<tr>
<td>They are coordinating food and supply drop offs to people's front doors during the COVID-19 quarantine. Please use this form if you would like to make deliveries or donations.</td>
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<td>They are prioritizing folks who are sick, disabled, quarantined without pay, elderly, undocumented, queer, Black, Indigenous, and/or people of color -- including those displaced from the SouthBay in near by areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VDRra0HatLM8jjQ6GpmO4dHgQckPG6M7Lzg27xhVYg/viewform?edit_requested=true">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VDRra0HatLM8jjQ6GpmO4dHgQckPG6M7Lzg27xhVYg/viewform?edit_requested=true</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Opening Doors 2020</th>
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<td><strong>Opening Doors 2020</strong> is now accepting volunteers to assist with our temporary outdoor meal program during the COVID 19 crisis. Only (1) hr of service required. Help keep the food safety network open for our most vulnerable population in the St.James Park Corridor. They are also accepting donations of masks, water, juice, hand sanitizer, lysol, vinyl gloves, sanitizing wipes, paper towels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> <a href="mailto:info@od2020.com">info@od2020.com</a> <a href="https://www.od2020.com">https://www.od2020.com</a></td>
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# Online Services:

## Zooniverse

*Zooniverse* is a research focused platform. Volunteers can pick from a variety of projects focused on different topics such as arts, climate, history, medicine and so on. Working alongside professional researchers, volunteers will create new discoveries, datasets useful for wider research, and publications.  
**Website:** [https://www.zooniverse.org/get-involved](https://www.zooniverse.org/get-involved)

**Contact:**
[contact@zooniverse.org](mailto:contact@zooniverse.org)

## Voces

While staying at home, you can volunteer for Voces. Voces has recorded over 1,270 interviews of oral history. Volunteers watch interviews on YouTube and help clean up the transcripts. Voces will provide you with unedited transcripts in a Word document and you will email back an edited transcript with timestamps.

**What you need:**
1. Do you have broadband access to watch the YouTube interview?
2. Do you have Microsoft Word or another text-editing program to edit the transcript?

**Not necessary but Voces would like to know:**
1. Do you use Google Form? (another way if editing the transcript)
2. Can you read/edit Spanish?

If you’re interested in volunteering, email Voces your answers to those four questions.

**Contact:**
[voces@utexas.edu](mailto:voces@utexas.edu)

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Further suggestions for online community service
**Elections:** VIDA does not endorse Candidates or Ballot Measures. We list all campaigns that reach out to us to ask for volunteers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matt Mahan for Mayor of San Jose</th>
<th>Contact:</th>
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</table>
| Campaign for Mayor of San Jose. Direct voter outreach, research, and event staffing. | 408-680-3097  
adrian@mahanforsanjose.com |