

A message from Volunteers of America Northern New England CEO Rich Hooks Wayman:

Dear Loyal Friend,

Here in Maine and New Hampshire, the COVID-19 pandemic has our attention -- as I am sure it has yours. In this moment, public and private citizens are working very hard to address community challenges. In times of need, New Englanders always rise up to help their neighbors.



VOA provides homes for over 580 members of the community - many of whom fall into the high-risk group for this virus. We are committed to making sure everyone remains healthy and safe during this time.

The safety of your family member or friend living or working at a VOA facility is our utmost concern. ***They are part of our family too.***

VOA's Leadership team has quickly mobilized a crisis team to ensure that our clients and staff are protected from the spread of germs. In addition to all of the recommended guidelines of hand washing, using hand sanitizer, diligently wiping down surfaces, covering coughs and sneezes, and quickly identifying anyone who may have the symptoms of COVID-19, I want you to know VOA has implemented the following:

- Canceling all in person meetings and gatherings of large groups
- Suspending all events and volunteer activities
- Coordinating our social services and supports in line with public health and safety recommendations
- Recommending all nonessential employees to work from home
- Cancelling all work travel

We are more concerned than ever for the well-being of those we have been called to serve. Fragile seniors, isolated veterans, and those who struggle with mental illness and homelessness are often disconnected from loved ones and support systems. **In many cases, VOA is their only family.**

Stay-tuned as we develop other ways to update you on the impact your support offers hope to the fragile individuals, we see every day in our community.

If you were planning to volunteer or provide companionship at one of VOA's residential communities, **please still consider making that donation but in a different way.** Your financial donation will be used to provide nourishing meals, warm and safe shelter, counseling, treatment, and so much more. Please remember: YOU make our work possible.



Thank you for being our partner in good times and these difficult times. **If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me or Michael Coon, (207) 373-1140 x214.**

I invite you to take two important steps each day: Continue to show unconditional love and kindness to others and keep our residents in your hearts and prayers. And I will keep YOU in my daily prayers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard A. Hooks Wayman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Rich Hooks Wayman
President and CEO
(207) 373-1140 x204