



March 24, 2020

Dear Altamont Community,

I want to thank those of you who have reached out with helpful ideas for service and leadership during the COVID-19 crisis. Your communication tells me that The Miree Center is a known and trusted source for community engagement.

I have a growing list of service ideas from students and community partners. Most of the ideas can be accomplished from home. If you would like to receive it—or have your ideas added to it—[click this link](#) to be added to the new Miree mailing list. I will share updates once or twice a week, and we are working on a permanent home for this information on the Miree Center website.

Right now, student safety and public health are our paramount concerns. As such, practicing social isolation is your greatest act of service and leadership until the COVID-19 emergency is over. Also, please heed information from your local government entities and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

For general information about The Miree Center, [click here](#).

We are all in this together! #altamontproud

Yours,

Katherine S Berdy
Director, The C Kyser Miree Ethical Leadership Center

THE C KYSER MIREE ETHICAL LEADERSHIP CENTER
IDEAS FOR SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP DURING COVID-19

First, stay informed. There are numerous links in this list from the Birmingham Business Alliance: <https://www.birminghambusinessalliance.com/covid-resources>.

If we go to a Shelter in Place mandate, heed it.

Two Time Sensitive Initiatives!

#1 -THANK YOU NOTES FOR ST. VINCENT'S HEALTHCARE WORKERS NEEDED BY MARCH 27TH

The St. Vincent's Foundation has purchased gift cards for meals for the hard-working employees at St. Vincent's Hospital. They have reached out to schools asking for hand-drawn cards to accompany the gift cards. Let's show them how much our community cares! They would like to have the thank you notes by the March 26th.

Guidelines from St. Vincent's Foundation:

1. We want the notes to be heartfelt and encouraging, and say Thank You!
2. Individual letters, not group style
3. Letter sized paper (8 1/2 x 11) or smaller
4. Place inside an envelope
5. Please sign your **first name only**, age and school
6. Mail to:

St Vincent's Health System
ATTN: Human Resources/Thank You Notes
810 St Vincent's Drive
Birmingham, AL 35205

#2 -FOR ADULTS UAB BLOOD DRIVE MARCH 24-27

UAB is moving the emergency blood drive to the Colonnade. Need for donors is urgent.

- ***National authorities and UAB say giving blood can be done safely.***
- ***The nation's blood supply is critically low.***
- ***Those healthy are urged to donate.***
- ***Appointments are required to ensure a safe donation environment.***

The UAB drive runs from March 24 through March 27 at 3419 Colonnade Parkway, #400, adjacent to the Flying Biscuit Cafe.

Donors must go online to schedule an appointment to help ensure that other donors and staff are protected. Safe distancing will be observed, and appointments will limit the number of people donating at any one time. Donating blood is safe, and donation staff are appropriately disinfecting all surfaces at the donor locations.

Donors should make an appointment at the link below:

https://donors.lifesouth.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/659682.

Donors will need a photo ID.

UAB Drive, 3419 Colonnade Parkway, #400

- Tuesday, March 24, 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., LifeSouth
- Wednesday, March 25, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., LifeSouth
- Thursday, March 26, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., LifeSouth
- Friday, March 27, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., LifeSouth

SERVICE IDEAS YOU CAN DO FROM HOME

- Sew masks. There are numerous PDFs and tutorials out there. Here is the one from Callahan Hospital: [file:///C:/Users/kberdy/Desktop/Sewing%20a%20Mask%20\[1\].pdf](file:///C:/Users/kberdy/Desktop/Sewing%20a%20Mask%20[1].pdf).

You can create masks for Callahan Eye Hospital & Clinic employees. These masks will not be used in surgical areas, but in other patient interactions to keep our patients and our team members safe. If you have any supplies you would like to donate, or are in need of supplies to help create masks - please let us know. When you are finished creating your masks, we will happily pick them up from your home or a location you feel is appropriate. Simply email or call Jessica Martindale at jessicamartindale@uabmc.edu or 205.746.4926 to make arrangements.

- Friendship Bracelets for the Friendship Bracelet Club. Donated bracelets go to the Ronald McDonald House. Again, instructions abound online, but here's a quick tutorial:

<https://www.instructables.com/id/how-to-make-a-friendship-bracelet-1/>

These will be distributed once we return to life as usual, but you may mail them to the school at this address:

The Altamont School
c/o Friendship Bracelets
4801 Altamont Road South
Birmingham, AL 35222

- The Sunshine Project. This was started by a family in Forest Park. If you live near the school, just make a sun and hang it on your home and email Rachel Phillips with your address. She has a list to share for If you want to institute something similar in your own neighborhood, just send out an email and watch what happens. For more information, you can contact Rachel Phillips at rachelmariephillips@gmail.com.
- Call or text to check on your neighbors, especially the elderly.
- Play games for Free Rice: <https://www.wfpusa.org/get-involved/freerice/>
- Reading to and with younger students online. A great way to use social media's streaming platforms!
- Write letters to our veterans through Operation Gratitude. <https://28zynx7e84y43nfgd3f09vk1-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/VOLUNTEERING-FROM-HOME-3.2020-1.pdf>
- Apply to become a pen pal. <http://elevateachild.org/pen-pal-program/>
- Donations to local charities. Pick up services for most has been discontinued for now, but go ahead and do that spring cleaning with donations in mind. The Lovelady Center is a long-time community partner that welcomes donations. [The Lovelady Center](#)
- Altamont's Service Corps recently donated knitted and crocheted caps for preemies at St Vincents: Contact Laura Anne Ottaviani-Chacon at lottaviani-chacon@altamontschool.org for information and patterns. Caps can be sent to this address:
The Altamont School
c/o Altamont Service Corps
4801 Altamont Road South
Birmingham, AL 35222



FOR OLDER STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND ALUMNI

- There is a critical blood shortage. <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> or, to donate directly to UAB, sign up to give here: https://donors.lifesouth.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/659682
- Grace Klein Ministries is organizing canned food deliveries and pick up. <https://gracekleincommunity.com/donate/ways-to-serve/>
- Firehouse Shelter needs supplies dropped off at the loading dock. <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/COVID-19.html?soid=1128974084758&aid=QBilzIb3J2w>