

## What can Cultural Spaces do to respond to COVID-19 for their homeless communities

Although cultural spaces are closed with devastating financial consequences for organisations and staff, many still want to respond to their local homeless community and those facing food poverty. Here are some suggestions of how you can get involved:

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**1 Reach out to your local homelessness partners and ask what they need.**  
Make contact with the smaller grassroots groups (rather than the big charities), many of whom are providing a lot of extra support as formal services close down
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**2 Be a hub and storage for food drops**
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**3 Donate dry and tinned food** from café supplies in the cultural space
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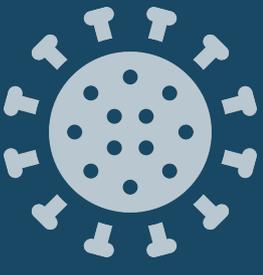
**4 Offer use of kitchen** or space for a food bank
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**5 Offer other products** e.g. latex gloves, masks or artistic materials
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**6 Be a hub for clothes drops**
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**7 Take key campaign messages** to government, local authorities and any corporate partners
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**8 Cultural spaces with vans or lorries** can be used for distribution of food and clothes
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**9 Raise money** for local homeless centres or foodbanks e.g. by putting artistic content on-line and asking for donations
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**10 Artistic content** – People who are or have been homeless will become even more isolated. Lots of cultural orgs are putting content on-line and running some of their creative workshops as webinars which is good for people and have a computer/internet connection. For those who don't, you can post or deliver creative projects including community writing projects; art materials or art packs; sending out disposable cameras for a photography project; artistic content projected onto walls of buildings

**11 Please don't open up communal space as a night shelter however well-intentioned that may be – it will increase the spread of COVID-19.** People sleeping rough need a single room with an bathroom – hotel rooms or college halls of residence are ideal.

## What can staff of Cultural Spaces do to respond to COVID-19 for their homeless communities

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**1 Co-ordinate food and clothing drop-offs** at the cultural spaces
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**2 Donate artistic materials and skills**
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**3 Volunteer on homeless outreach**
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**4 Offer to be a volunteer co-ordinator** (can work remotely)
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**5 Offer to support with digital/communications** (can work remotely)
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**6 Offer to do admin work** (can work remotely)
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**7 Offer use of vehicles and offer to drive**
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**8 Offer to raise money** for local homeless services or food banks

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