



Doing *Mission*

In our interview with Major Nakisha Carr, she spoke on the importance of equipping soldiers and corps members to do mission. This section expounds upon that by offering ways that the entire church can practice discipleship and minister to our communities during this time.

"It's a really good time not just for the officer to be out, but to equip our people to serve too."

MAJOR NAKISHA CARR

To start, figure out what your corps needs based on the ministries that are already going on. If your corps runs a food pantry or is handing out supplies, you can volunteer to help sort and box up the items. Many of those in need may not be able to leave their homes and need someone to transport these items to directly to their houses as well. You can also volunteer to assist your officer and local officers in making phone calls to check in and chat with corps members.

If you have a network of businesses, people, or friends who want to help, make those connections so they too can engage in the mission and ministry of the Army!

Does your neighborhood utilize the NextDoor app or have a Facebook group? Create a post introducing yourself and your involvement with the Army, what the church is doing to help the community and how your neighbors can contribute. This would be a great way to source food, clothing and money, using your own sphere of influence to the benefit of the corps and those around you.

Consider starting new initiatives, such as small groups or prayer gatherings, in your neighborhood! If you play an instrument, you can put on a little concert right from your front porch. Or get some friends together and play outside the homes of corps members!

If you have ideas on new initiatives, present them to your corps officer. Maybe you are gifted in photography and are interested in doing porch portraits to help raise money. Or maybe you see a need for a canteen ministry that goes out and feeds the hungry or hands out water to protestors and police.

Whatever it is, ensure that what you're doing is meeting needs and meeting them well. Do not stick with 'what you've always done' if it isn't serving your community sufficiently. Being in unprecedented times means that we're encountering new challenges and greater needs beyond just food and housing. Spirits are broken, hearts are hardened and faith depleting.

In following page, we offer a variety of ministry ideas; be creative, take action and **DO SOMETHING!**



So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind.

Doing Mission

in the midst of a pandemic

MAKE DELIVERIES

Food boxes to those unable to leave their homes or are without transportation.

Groceries and other essentials for elderly, single parents, the ill, etc.

Gifts - plants, flowers, desserts, gift cards - on the porches of those who are mourning, overwhelmed, furloughed or recently laid off.

Extra masks, toilet paper and cleaning supplies to hospitals, animal shelters, vulnerable populations.

Art kits and toys for those at home with their children.

BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER... SEPARATELY

Start a sidewalk chalk coloring contest! This can be done online with people posting their finished creations, or within your neighborhood, encouraging residents to walk around, enjoy and vote on the artwork!

Invite your neighbors to a weekly time of prayer. Set up the day and time, and invite them to step out onto their driveways or the parking lot of your apartment building, and pray over your community.

Teach a virtual cooking class or complete a DIY project. You can easily set this up through Facebook live or Zoom and invite people to tune in to learn a new skill!

Get a group together - virtually - to create an awesome video! Sing a song, play a piece of music, or record messages for someone moving away, mourning the loss of something or even to celebrate a milestone!

BRING CHEER

Put on a front porch concert for your neighbors or get a group together to play instruments outside of nursing homes, in the yards of those quarantined, etc.

Decorate your car, make signs, grab a small gift and do a drive-by of someone's home to help celebrate their birthday, anniversary, graduation or other milestone.

Make phone calls! Go through your contact list or corps directory and call to check in and chat with people you haven't touched base with in awhile (this would also help lighten the load of your officer!).

Post on social media or in your online neighborhood groups. Be a voice of hope - share scripture and encouragement, even silly jokes!

For more ideas, refer back to the Intentionality section of this book!

JUST DO SOMETHING

Grab a mower and mow the lawn at your corps, the home of someone out of town or unable to do it themselves, or simply for someone you know is just simply overwhelmed.

Enjoy photography? Offer to do porch portraits for your neighbors or members of your church. Families either pose by their front doors or in their lawns while you photograph from a safe distance.

Help sanitize the corps and corps vehicles!

Offer to help your officer by calling or writing Thank You notes to donors and volunteers.

Be on the lookout for and pass along any job opportunities that open up!

Doing Mission

by taking a stand against racial injustice

DEAR SALVATIONISTS,

Ask your corps officer if a canteen (or group) can go out to areas where people are gathering and distribute food or drinks. Local authorities may have already requested the Army's help, but you can come alongside to hand out items, or speak and pray with those you encounter.

If your community has been hit by looting, vandalism and littering, go help clean up! Take initiative to go by yourself or invite some friends to join you.

Organize a prayer walk or march through your community.

Be incarnational - create or find opportunities to minister and invest in urban neighborhoods and diverse areas of your community.

Write to your elected officials and demand that they take action to end social injustices.

Attend city council or neighborhood meetings. Be an advocate for those without equal or fair representation and offer support and encouragement to your officials and community leaders.

Spread the message of reconciliation. Speak up and speak out. Build relationships with people who don't look like you. Ask questions and listen. Pray for our brothers and sisters who have experienced injustice.

Take a good look at your corps and identify ways to bring greater diversity in your programs and in leadership. Expand opportunities for minorities there within your own sphere of influence.

Call out racism with love when you see it online, in public or in your own home or social circles. Be proactive rather than reactive and engage others in conversations about prejudice.

”

Every
Christian has a
responsibility
to lead in
some way.

—
Lt. Col. Connie Canning

