

Photojournalism for Good DIY Project

Civic Circle Area: Voice

The impact of COVID-19 continues to change our daily lives and routines, but volunteering and civic engagement are just as important as ever. This project can be modified to adhere to social distancing guidelines set by local and national authorities, to do virtually or to do at home and deliver via mail or drop off.

Become a photojournalist (someone who takes photographs to tell a story or convey specific news) for a day by capturing photos or video of people engaged in spreading peace and kindness. This project was inspired by generationOn's partnership with Children Mending Hearts.

Pre-Project Discussion:

- Are there specific issues in your community that are preventing people from enjoying a peaceful and kind environment?
- Why should you address these issues?

What You Need:

- A mobile phone with camera or a digital camera
- Social media account(s)

Steps:

- 1. Think about someone in your community, school, family or in the world who might be having a hard time or is in need of help.
- Ask yourself, "How do they feel, what are they going through and how can I help?"
- Use this reflection to inspire an act of kindness.
- 4. Record, or have someone else record, the act of kindness by taking a picture. Alternatively, consider taking pictures (assuming you've asked permission) of people in your community doing kind things.
- 5. Upload the photo to social media using the hashtags #SpreadingKindness with a caption that briefly explains what is happening in the photo.
- 6. You've become a journalist, documenting that kind people are out there and good deeds do happen. Keep up the good work.

Reflection Questions:

- What kind of story can a picture tell?
- Why can it be hard to empathize with other peoples' struggles?
- Why is it important to show empathy?
- Why do you think we don't always reach out to help strangers?
- How does technology help bring people together?
- How does it drive people apart?