Nova Scotians are always there to help their communities during times of great need. The COVID-19 pandemic is no exception. That’s why VolunteerNS.ca has redesigned its website to highlight opportunities for Nova Scotians to help their neighbours and communities, safely.

“More than ever, we need to take care of one another,” said Angela Patterson, Chair, King’s Volunteer Resource Centre, which operates VolunteerNS.ca. “Some of the most vulnerable people in our neighbourhoods and communities rely on non-profit organizations and their volunteers for essential services, like meal delivery. VolunteerNS.ca connects volunteers with safe opportunities that can be done from home or in the community while still respecting social distancing requirements. We also encourage any non-profit organizations offering essential services to the community, and are in need of volunteers, to post their opportunities on VolunteerNS.ca. We are here to help you help community.”

People can browse a list of opportunities to volunteer from home or in the community to support organizations responding to needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are also opportunities for groups of volunteers. Volunteers can create a profile that tells non-profits organizations what they are interested in and what skills they have, and Volunteer Nova Scotia can help make that link.

As an example, Shelter Movers Nova Scotia is a not-for-profit organization that support survivors of abuse, including women and children fleeing domestic violence situations. Shelter Movers is currently looking for volunteers to fill both in-person and volunteer-from-home opportunities. Move coordinators provide support to clients before, during and after a move. This project-management role can be done from home and is best for resourceful individuals with good problem-solving skills. Shelter Movers is also recruiting in-person movers and drivers to help transport survivors and their belongings to a safe location on move day.

Since its launch in November 2018, VolunteerNS.ca has directly connected 4,118 volunteers to organizations in need. VolunteerNS.ca is a partnership between King’s Volunteer Resource Centre, Volunteer Canada and the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage.