

Frequently Asked Questions

Shoval Center

February 5th, 2021

1. Will there be volunteering in the community this semester? Service to others is at the core of King's College's mission. Although the coronavirus presents the College with unique challenges to helping others, the Shoval Center will strive to provide an array of online and direct-service opportunities that maximize the safety of our students and the community members with whom they work. When the Shoval Center organizes direct-service volunteering opportunities, prior planning will occur with our community partner(s) to ensure that appropriate social distancing and CDC-recommended practices are followed by all participants. Should individual student volunteers want to understand better the safety procedures of community partners, the Shoval Center will be happy to inquire on behalf of the students. All students will be urged to follow social distancing and CDC-recommended practices to protect themselves and those with whom they work. The Center can help student volunteers obtain masks and sanitizer for service opportunities.

Students and community partners exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, or those who have recently been exposed to persons with COVID-19, will be asked to refrain from participating in these events.

2. Will there be SERVE trips this year? Due to King's College's compressed fall 2020 calendar, there will not be a traditional Fall, Winter or Spring SERVE. The status of other SERVE trips will be determined by the of the COVID-19 epidemic and the guidelines of King's College and appropriate government authorities. Where possible, virtual and more regional volunteer opportunities may take the place of usual SERVE projects.

3. Can I stop by the Shoval Center to talk to someone about volunteering, and, if so, how do I proceed? Students interested in discussing volunteer, SERVE, work-study, and service-learning opportunities with Shoval Center staff are encouraged to make an appointment in advance whenever possible. These meetings may be in person, or they may be virtual via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. While drop-ins will not be prohibited, the number of students allowed in the Shoval Center at any one time will be limited. Therefore, prior appointments are preferred. The Center will be open on a regular schedule, and several staff members are available to assist.

- Maura Modrovsky – SERVE Trips; Community-Based Work Study
(mauramodrovsky@kings.edu; 570.208.5915)
- Kelly Gibbons – Group & Individual Volunteering; Social Justice Events
(kellygibbons@kings.edu; 570.208.6020)
- Bill Bolan – Communities of Hope; Service-Learning williambolan@kings.edu;
570.208.8058)

4. Are masks required at the Shoval Center? Yes. Masks are required of all students and staff, regardless of social distancing. Also, a hand sanitizer dispenser has been mounted near the front door, signage is posted to direct the flow of traffic, and signs are posted reminding visitors that they must wear masks and should wash hands as necessary. When appropriate and as weather permits, outdoor seating for meetings may be utilized.

5. How I do access the free food pantry and clothing closets? Students will continue to have maximum access to the free food pantry and clothes closet at the Shoval Center and the clothes closet at Hafey-Marian. Drop-ins at the Shoval Center will be allowed, though only one person will be allowed use of the pantry or closet at a time. Grab-and-go food may also be made available depending on demand. If you would like to guarantee quicker access at a specific time, please make an appointment with Maura Modrovsky (mauramodrovsky@kings.edu; 570-508-5915) for the Shoval Center, or Courtney Zabresky (courtneyzabresky@kings.edu; 570.208.5900, ext. 5384) for the Hafey-Marian clothes closet.

6. Can I hang out at the Shoval Center to study or take a break? While student groups may not congregate at the Center, individual students can use the Center for study or breaks with the permission of a Shoval staff member.

7. How will larger Shoval Center groups like SERVE and Communities of Hope meet this semester, and what will happen for larger Shoval Center events? There are two options for Shoval-sponsored groups and events: virtual meetings (using ZOOM or Microsoft Teams), or in-person meetings that satisfy social distancing requirements. Staff members and (where appropriate) student leaders will meet to plan and discuss the scheduling and practical details of group events. If the decision is made to host an in-person meeting/event, the leader(s) will ensure that the meeting space is adequate to the number of expected participants in the context of social distancing. The attendees will be required to wear face coverings and maintain six feet of social distance. Shoval Center sponsored groups include SERVE Trips, Communities of Hope, Hunger for Justice Planning Meetings, the Employment Preparation Program and the Madison Community Garden. Due to the Shoval Center's small size and COVID-19 reduced seating capacity, meetings will only be held at the Center for very small groups.