



Tips for a Successful Caring Cardmaking Project

At a time when we are all socially distanced because of COVID-19, a cheery card with a thoughtful message can be a meaningful touchpoint and a way to show how much we care about the older adults in our community. We invite you to bring a smile to a DOROT senior; please create and send us your Caring Cards so that we can distribute them to those we serve.

Here are some tips for making cards that are easy to read and enjoy:

- Use cardstock for your card base. You can order cardstock at Michael's or another craft store.
- Glue white paper on the inside of the card to make personal messages easy to read.
- Make your cards as colorful and decorative as you'd like, but please refrain from using materials that might fall off or make a mess, such as glitter, sequins, feathers, tissue paper, ribbons or buttons. Suggested materials include stickers, watercolors, puff paint, decorative paper pieces and of course, colored markers.
- "Sign" the back of the card with your first name AND, if applicable, the name of your volunteer group. If children are involved, please write their ages.
- Include a note or greeting inside the card. You can also write a simple poem or share some information about yourself (e.g., favorite hobbies, pets, school, etc.). This makes the handmade card a very personal and thoughtful gift for the older person to receive.
- Write in large, clear block (print) letters. As people get older, many have a hard time reading small print and cursive writing.
- Caring cards are to remind older adults that someone is thinking of them, during this lonely time. Please do not write "Get Well" as we don't want to assume that an older adult is sick or in poor health. Here are some sample messages:¹
 - *I hope you are having a nice day.*
 - *I wanted to let you know that I am thinking about you.*
 - *Find joy in the ordinary.*
 - *Thank you for staying home.*
 - *We can do this!*

After you complete your cards, please send them to DOROT at the following address along with a [Cardmaking Project Volunteer Information Form](#):

DOROT
171 West 85th Street
New York, NY 10024
Attn: Caring Cards

¹ If DOROT cannot accept the cards that you provide because they do not meet our messaging guidelines, we will send them to partner agencies that are able to use them.