



Giraffe Heroes Project

#StickYourNeckOut

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Dear JOHN,

The pandemic marches on, the "normal" crises abound, and always, everywhere, there are people standing up, speaking out, being brave and caring in the midst of the fear and chaos.
Let their stories light up your day.

As long as there are Giraffes, there's hope—
Ann Medlock Founder

*These are "teasers," quick looks at new Giraffes.
For their full stories, click on their names, in blue.*



[Richard Apramian](#) stepped away from his attending medical school so he can help people who are sick *now*. He's volunteering as an emergency medical technician, a job that includes working on the streets to get Covid patients to hospitals.

Mexican journalist [Carmen Aristegui](#) regularly reports on scandals and abuses, making the nation's powerful so angry she's been fired from several networks. Despite the firings, hacks of her computer, and threats against her and her family, she continues undaunted, broadcasting on *CNN en Español*, and getting the facts to her millions of Twitter followers.



When he was a teenager [Eli Beer](#) started a rapid-response team in Jerusalem, using dispatch medics on motorcycles that can get there much more quickly than ambulances. Now his United Hatzolah worldwide volunteer organization, rescuing thousands of victims all over the world and training emergency medical technicians. After recognizing Covid-19, Beer immediately donated blood to support research efforts.

In 1968, a day after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., third-grade teacher [Jane Elliott](#) facilitated an exercise with her all-white students in rural Iowa: She divided them into a “superior” brown-eyed group and an “inferior” blue-eyed group, giving them an experience of unreasonable prejudice. Elliott was reviled by many, including people in her own school and town but the highly effective exercise has been used in diversity training ever since. The hostile kickback has continued throughout Elliott's long career as a successful educator on the fallacy of “race.”



High school student [Daniel Goldberg](#) started Zoomers to Boomers—a group of teenaged volunteers who pick up groceries at stores and deliver them at no charge to people who are susceptible to contracting the coronavirus. The organization has expanded to cities across the U.S., with hundreds of volunteers like [Megan Leong](#), giving their time and risking their health to make thousands of deliveries to people who often have no other human contact.



[Asma Hanif](#) climbed out of poverty to become a nurse and to create a shelter for the poor in Baltimore, and then a shelter where she takes care of indigent and victimized women. She provides them not only a home but also food, education, and counseling, and in this time of crisis, she's been taking masks and cleaning supplies to the homeless of the city. The abusive men who have escaped from are an ever-present danger. Money is a constant worry, but Hanif endures. These vital services are to the women and to her.

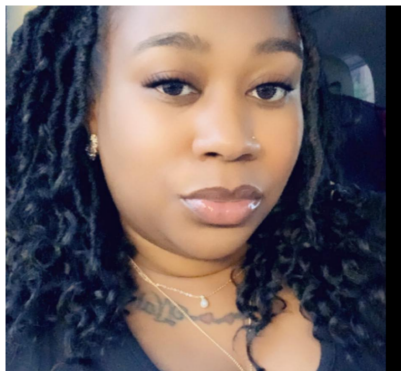
[Lisa Hobbs](#)' husband was on a work crew when he was crushed by a truck that didn't have an audible back-up beeper. When Kentucky's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) ruled that no procedures had gone wrong, Hobbs channeled her grief into a campaign for workplace safety, despite hostility from the state. After years of her efforts, the federal OSHA office found that Kentucky was remiss not only in this incident but in many others. The state is now trying to amend its safety regulations so other families don't lose loved ones in negligent workplaces.





[Lauren Leander](#) is a nurse in Arizona who left her family because she's working full-time in a crisis response unit. When she heard that people who thought the crisis is a hoax were rallying to demand the end of pandemic restrictions, she led a group of nurses to stand between the mob and the governor. She delivered a powerful message of how real the crisis is, as she screamed insults, and a state senator called her a liar. Leander continues to speak out about the suffering and death she sees every day.

Because [Antoine Robinson](#) is a paramedic with the Fire Department of New York City *and* the volunteer leader of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Volunteer Ambulance Corps—and because there's a pandemic—he's on ambulance duty day and night. The volunteer service constantly needs funding for supplies and protective gear but Robinson and his team go on, helping New Yorkers survive. (And we must tell you that he's the son of Giraffe Hero [Rocky Robinson](#).)



When she read about the pandemic overflowing New York's hospitals, nurse [Brittany Sims](#) resigned, though it meant borrowing money for a plane to get her mom to take care of her three children. She works at Brooklyn Hospital, taking care of COVID-19 patients. After a month of crisis nursing, despite exhaustion and caring for her children, she signed on to keep going, the great.

[Jianli Yang](#) was born in China and came to the United States to pursue an academic career. On a return to China he witnessed the Tiananmen Square massacre and was moved to become an activist for a peaceful transition to Chinese democracy. On a subsequent visit to China, he was imprisoned for five years and then expelled back to the United States. Yang goes on, speaking before groups around the world, advocating for the rights of the people of China.



We hope these Giraffe Heroes gave you some hope in this dir
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