



# Social Engagement While Working Remotely

Working remotely can come with many challenges for employees who may not be used to working away from their coworkers for extended periods of time. For some, the interpersonal interaction is a major part of their work experience and a strong workplace culture.

Fortunately, there are many ways that employees can interact with their coworkers even while working remotely to stay connected and engaged.

Make sure to replicate regular weekly or daily check-ins and meetings with a phone call or virtual meeting:

- **Set up regular check-ins every week to stay connected with your team or supervisor**

It can be difficult to adjust to losing daily social interactions. There are many ways that your team can replace those valuable spontaneous conversations and connections with just a few adjustments:

- **If you don't already have one, consider using a chat app or program like Jabber, Slack or Yammer to connect with colleagues and virtually 'drop by'**
- **Try a remote breakfast, lunch or coffee catch up with a colleague or friend over video**

Social distancing doesn't have to mean social isolation. Take staff activities virtual with these suggestions and get creative:

- **Organize a remote game such as Words with Friends or a virtual walking challenge**
- **Share photos of individual remote workspaces**
- **Share reading lists or your favorite shows**

If community engagement plays a big part at your organization, there are still ways that your employees can make a difference while staying safe:

- **Organize a fundraiser for a local food pantry or at-risk community center**
- **Share positive stories of people supporting each other in your community**

You can take small steps to support your staff during COVID-19 by helping employees stay connected to one another and to their organization while working remotely.

