

## **The MUSC COVID-19 Archive: Documenting Life During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

While every period of history contains dramatic events, the COVID-19 pandemic is an extraordinary time in medical history, and we feel it is important to document the daily life of the university, its students, faculty, and staff. Historians of the future will want to know what it was like to experience these events, and what we did in response to the pandemic.

It is important to document your individual stories, and provide an opportunity for people to share experiences as a community. By sharing your stories in any way you see fit, by written narrative, the spoken word, through images, you make sure that the future understands what we are going through, and that people's stories are not lost.

The MUSC University Archives and the Waring Historical Library invite you to keep a diary of life during the COVID-19 epidemic. Diarists may type or write by hand, draw, compose poems, and gather stories in a variety of formats. You may keep an audio or video diary of what your life is like. If you prefer, we can set up a schedule to call and talk on the telephone on a regular basis, recording your responses. No need to be concerned about grammar, spelling, or correcting and editing recordings. The emphasis is on self-expression, candor, and your willingness to be a social commentator.

Some basic parameters, no matter which method you would like to employ, follow:

- 1) Set a regular schedule to write, record, collect information, or comment on events. This can be daily or weekly. If you get off track, don't worry about it. Just get back into it whenever you are able.
- 2) Spend as much time as you have available, even if this is just 10-15 minutes each time you sit down to record your comments. The key is to be consistent, no matter how short or how long.
- 3) You don't need to report the news and the events. Those resources will be archived elsewhere. We are interested in how you are responding, your thoughts, fears, challenges, hopes for the future. This is about your thoughts and feelings, about what is happening around you and to you.
- 4) Send material to us as often as you would like. The first time you submit something, include a signed Deed of Gift form (included below). You only need to do this once, not with each submission.

You can save photographs or images with commentary. You can write five sentences or one hundred and five sentences. You can record your daily work schedule. Record how the pandemic has disrupted your life. Tell us about your personal reaction, hopes, and challenges.

Contact us at [waringhl@musc.edu](mailto:waringhl@musc.edu), [fors@musc.edu](mailto:fors@musc.edu), [foxeb@musc.edu](mailto:foxeb@musc.edu), [samuel@musc.edu](mailto:samuel@musc.edu), or [schuldt@musc.edu](mailto:schuldt@musc.edu) to get started.

Thank you.



175 Ashley Ave  
 MSC 403  
 Charleston, SC 29425  
 (843) 792-2288  
 waringhl@musc.edu

### COVID-19 Archive Project Deed of Gift

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby give to the Waring Historical Library as a donation this material for the COVID-19 Archive Project. With this gift, I hereby transfer to the Waring Historical Library legal title and all intellectual property rights to the items, including copyright.

All materials become part of the Waring Historical Library, where they will be made available for use consistent with the library’s mission.

Typical uses may include scholarly and other publications, audio/visual presentations, exhibits, and websites. Your consent to participate in this research as provided in this agreement is entirely voluntary.

I, the undersigned, have read the above. I hereby give, grant, and assign all rights, title and interest, including copyright, of whatever kind to the Waring Historical Library.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Print)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Street)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (City, State, Zip)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_