



Volunteering at FareShare



What is FareShare?

FareShare is a leading food rescue charity which since 2001 has been rescuing surplus food from businesses such as supermarkets, farms and manufacturers and, with the help of volunteers, cooking it into 25,000 nutritious meals a week. These meals are then distributed to over 500 charities across Melbourne and country Victoria, including soup vans, shelters for the homeless and refuges.

FareShare's volunteers

FareShare relies on a dedicated team of more than 750 regular volunteers to help make its meals. Many of these supporters have been helping FareShare for years and their hard work allows us to keep costs down in order to maximize the number of meals we produce.

To promote community connectedness and improve understanding about hunger, FareShare also offers one-off shifts to corporate, community and school groups.

Why volunteer at FareShare?

At FareShare, each group of corporate volunteers finish their 3-4 hour shift having made around 1000 nutritious meals for Victorian families and individuals in need. This is done in a state-of-the-art kitchen in Abbotsford (in fact, the largest charity kitchen in Australia), supervised by qualified chefs, meeting the highest Occupational Health and Safety and food hygiene standards.

FareShare is an increasingly popular option for businesses and other organisations who, often through a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program, want to make a meaningful contribution to the community in a way that is rewarding and enjoyable.

Volunteering in the FareShare kitchen, either on

- a morning shift (9am-12.30pm), or
- an afternoon shift (1.15pm-5pm), or
- an evening shift (6.30pm to 9.30pm),

provides the perfect opportunity for employees to interact with colleagues across departments and levels, in an environment where everyone is on an equal footing. Participants also learn about the impact of hunger in our community, and leave with a real understanding of how their efforts that day have directly helped disadvantaged Victorians.

Who volunteers at FareShare?

A wide range of organisations, including some of Australia's biggest companies, book corporate shifts in the FareShare kitchen; many of them on a regular basis. They include:

Accenture, AMP, Citywide, Clayton Utz, CUB, Fonterra, Goodman, Jemena, KPMG, La Marzocco, LFS, NAB, Nelson Alexander, Pitcher Partners, Sealed Air, Tabcorp, Treasury Wine Estates and Westpac.

Testimonials:

“Clayton Utz Melbourne office partners and employees have volunteered at FareShare since 2010. The group volunteer sessions are exceptionally well run, easy to organise and provide a great opportunity for team building. Clayton Utz is grateful to FareShare for the chance to support them in delivering an important service to the community.”

Kezia Adams

Lawyer & Joint Community Connect Coordinator, Clayton Utz

“The environment was very friendly and the entire experience was extremely informative in giving me an appreciation of the value your organisation provides. This experience was very rewarding to me and provided the team with a sense of collaboration and team spirit. Keep up the great work.”

Trevor Wing-Quay

National Australia Bank

Check out the link here [NABvideo](#) – showing a NAB crew here at FareShare in 2015

Why is there a financial contribution?

Like many similar organisations, FareShare requests a financial contribution to complement the volunteers' efforts. This donation forms a significant part of FareShare's modest income (we rarely receive funds from the government sector and have to find around \$2 million every year to reach our target of producing a million meals).

While we value the work these corporate and school groups do for FareShare, it's also true that these one off groups require greater FareShare resources in the form of administrative support, occupational health and safety training and general supervision. Once these overheads are paid for, the remainder of the contribution goes directly to paying for the production of additional meals.

A donation of \$750 (plus GST) for a morning or afternoon would be much appreciated for a crew of 10-12 volunteers. Volunteer crews for evening shifts are 14-16 in number and a contribution of \$1000 (plus GST) will be gratefully received.

FareShare does on occasion accept in kind payment for corporate shifts, usually in the form of food donations, other goods or services, or the provision of skilled volunteers and general expertise. If you feel your organisation has something to offer in this respect, please let us know.

Reminders – on the day

Appropriate clothing

For a kitchen shift we ask volunteers to bring a clean apron and hat (of any kind to cover your hair), comfortable clothing (no sleeveless tops in summer), and closed in flat comfortable shoes, like runners or sneakers.

How to get there

Our kitchen is located at 1 South Audley St, Abbotsford. We recommend you use public transport – the 109 tram runs along Victoria St (you get off at stop 22) or catch the train to North Richmond Station (which is a 10 min walk from us). We also have bike racks out the front.

Sometimes we do have access to off street parking nearby – but we cannot confirm that until the week prior to your shift.

To find out how your organisation can get involved call Rosie on 03 9428 0044 or email rosemary.kelly@fareshare.net.au