



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 over 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.

Shift times and crew sizes are as follows:

- a morning shift (9am-12.30pm), for a crew of 12 volunteers
- an afternoon shift (1.15pm-5pm), for a crew of 12 volunteers
- an evening shift (6.30pm to 8.30pm), for a crew of 14-16 volunteers.

Volunteering in the FareShare kitchen 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, City of Yarra, Citywide, Clayton Utz, CUB, Fonterra, Goodman, Jemena, KPMG, La Marzocco, Latitude Financial Services, NAB, Nelson Alexander, Pitcher Partners, RACV, Sealed Air, Tabcorp, Treasury Wine Estates, Westpac, and Woolworths.

Testimonials:

Volunteering Victoria *"FareShare runs one of the most professionally organised and run corporate volunteering days in Melbourne. We have referred many corporate teams on to FareShare and have received only excellent feedback from them. It is a very rewarding team day and a great experience for employees looking to give back."*

"Accenture Australia *employees thoroughly enjoy volunteering at FareShare to cook hundreds of healthy meals for people in our community, while also seeing a positive impact on our environment by using quality food that would otherwise go to landfill. Congratulations to FareShare on the significant impact you're having on the community and environment."*

"NAB *employees have been volunteering with FareShare since 2005. In this time over 3,000 employees have volunteered helping make nutritious meals for those in need. FareShare is a very popular activity with our employees who say volunteering with FareShare is a rewarding and well run volunteering experience."*

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

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 half day or evening shift would be much appreciated. We can provide your organisation for an invoice for your donation if that is helpful.

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