



Cooking free, nutritious meals that feed dignity and wellbeing for people experiencing hardship



Who we are

FareShare is a charity whose purpose is to cook with care, creatively transforming food into nutritious meals that feed people's dignity and wellbeing, regardless of their circumstances.

We cook rescued, donated and homegrown food into delicious, healthy meals in our modern production kitchens in Melbourne and Brisbane.

FareShare believes that everyone deserves a nutritious meal no matter the challenges they face or where they live. A free, homestyle meal cooked by FareShare chefs and volunteers shows that somebody cares.

Each year FareShare gives away millions of cooked meals to frontline charities such as soup vans, homeless shelters, women's refuges and to First Nations communities and people recovering from natural disasters.

The need for meal relief is currently at an all-time high with the soaring cost of living, extreme weather events and the lingering effects of the pandemic impacting millions of Australians.

As a charity, FareShare is powered by donations and relies on the generosity of philanthropic foundations, businesses and individual donors.



Our operations

We operate Australia's largest charity kitchens located in Melbourne and Brisbane where every week around 1,200 volunteers cook 50,000 meals under the guidance of experienced chefs. Once cooked, our meals are distributed to hundreds of community food programs run by charities in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. In 2022, FareShare cooked 2.1 million meals.

FareShare's head office and Melbourne kitchens are located in Abbotsford where we employ 17 kitchen staff (13.6 FTEs) who supervise 700 regular kitchen volunteers.

The Melbourne kitchens work in tandem with our Derrimut warehouse which includes a small prep kitchen. The 1000 sqm warehouse includes 2 x 45 pallet freezers and a 1 x 45 pallet chiller. Five permanent staff are based in Derrimut.



FareShare's Queensland kitchens were established in Morningside, Brisbane in 2018. Foodbank and SecondBite supply most of our ingredients with Foodbank distributing around 85 per cent of the meals we cook, and FareShare the remainder.

In Queensland, FareShare employs 14 staff (13.6 FTEs), including nine kitchen staff, supported by around 500 regular volunteers.

Last year FareShare distributed 200,000 meals to First Nations communities in Queensland and NSW. FareShare's partnership with these communities is overseen by our First Nations Officer and forms part of FareShare's Reconciliation Action Plan.



In Melbourne FareShare operates three kitchen gardens which produce up to 100 tonnes of vegetables a year. The gardens are located at Moorabbin Airport, adjacent to Victoria Park train station and on the Baguley farm in Clarinda. An additional 150 people regularly volunteer on the three garden sites. There are currently around 3.5 FTEs employed across the gardens.

We have seven vans and light trucks in Melbourne and one small van in Brisbane. These are mostly driven by paid drivers.

FareShare maintains a high standard of food safety and our facilities are HACCP accredited.

FareShare's annual budget is \$7 million. It owns the warehouse, kitchen premises and vehicles.

FareShare is an incorporated association and overseen by a board of directors – see more details on our website.

fareshare.net.au
