

Share Volunteer Service Opportunities

Meal Preparation & Serving

Time Commitment: 3-4 Hours. Time commitment and frequency is determined by the meal and shelter location. Volunteers work alongside our staff and residents to help prepare and serve meals in our Community Hot Meals Program and in our Shelters. Individuals as well as groups are welcome. Hours: Share Orchards Inn & Share Homestead (family shelters) 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. daily/weekend brunch 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.; Share House (men's shelter) M-F, breakfast: 6 to 8 a.m., lunch: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., dinner; 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.; weekends & holidays: breakfast: 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., lunch: 1 to 5 p.m. Volunteers will be working in commercial kitchens and should follow an appropriate dress code of closed-toe shoes, long pants and hair tied back.

Backpack Program

Time Commitment: Every Thursday morning from 8:00 to 9:30 during the school year excluding holiday breaks and spring break. Part of the Children's Hunger Program, the Backpack Program provides food-filled bags for children that are part of the free and reduced lunch programs. Volunteers work with staff to assemble and deliver approximately 1,535 backpacks to 95 Clark County Schools. We also provide food at 12 Fresh Food Pantries in school Family Community Resource Centers through Evergreen and Vancouver Public Schools, plus through our Mobile Fresh Food Pantry; through these initiatives, food assistance is provided to about 2,000 kids per week.

Children's Activities

Time Commitment: 1-2 hours. Volunteers prepare an activity that is suitable for a variety of ages. Volunteers will work alongside clients to complete projects, play games, watch movies, etc. During the school year, children's activities take place weekday evenings 7 to 8 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday with flexible times. During school breaks, days and times are flexible.

Summer Meals Program

Time Commitment: This program runs Monday through Friday from late June to mid-August. Volunteers can spend from two to six hours as many mornings per week or month as will fit their schedules. Drivers are also needed to transport lunches and must be capable of carrying full coolers. Part of the Children's Hunger Program, Summer Meals provides between 20,000-25,000 lunches to children during the summer months. Meals are assembled from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and drivers are scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Special Events and Activities

- Warehouse cleaning and sorting: this is a continual project and is great for groups and individuals
- Clerical assistance; six month and one day per week minimum commitment
- Share Gala and Soup's On!, our annual fundraising activities; set up, clean up, and other opportunities.
- Easter baskets and school supplies
- Skilled maintenance: painting, plumbing, electrical, landscaping and gardening
- Adopt-a-Family & Wish Tags: assist with receiving and sorting gifts to families
- Holiday Cheer Party: Santa's Helper, greeters, snack service, fill wish list, clean up after the event and other activities during the day as needed
- Shelter & other client holiday shopping
- December warehouse help (to receive & organize holiday donations)
- Holiday meals: prepare and serve Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner at our shelters and our Hot Meals Program
- Off-site activities associated with Care for Share events (Cruise the 'Couv, NW Vintage Motocross, etc.)

If you have any questions regarding any of our volunteer Service Opportunities, please call Molly Evjen, Director of Volunteers, at 360-952-8228 or email her at mevjen@sharevancouver.org.

We look forward to seeing you at Share!