

VA Puget Sound Fisher House

Volunteer Meals at VA Puget Sound Fisher House

We appreciate your group's interest in preparing a meal for the guests of VA Puget Sound Fisher House. Our families will be notified of your event through a variety of in-house communications. However, please understand that we are unable to give you a head count for your meal, due to the fact that our occupancy changes so often. We don't judge the success of a meal by how many guests are able to come. The value of your time and service is appreciated. Please know that all guests will benefit, even if they are unable to join you for the meal. (Leftovers are always a hit!)

Below you will find some basic information about preparing a meal at Fisher House. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

- If this is the first time your group is volunteering we ask that you make an appointment to meet with the Management staff during business hours prior to the date of your event. Staff is available between 7:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.
- We generally suggest groups plan on cooking for 25 people, 30 for holidays. Leftovers can be stored in the House fridge for those that come in after the event. Please put the event date on any leftovers. We have limited storage for perishable goods.
- The size of your group should be no more than 8-10 people. Too large a group proves to be intimidating to guests who would otherwise feel free to use the kitchen prior to the meal.
- Groups generally choose to have dinner served between 5:30 and 6:00 PM.
- Groups have the option of preparing meals offsite and bringing them in or using our kitchen to prepare and cook. It is also at the discretion of the volunteers if they want to drop off the food for service later or stay and join the families for dinner.
- On the day of your event, somebody from your group needs to arrive no later than 3:30 PM.
- The kitchen is well stocked with pots, pans, crockpots, utensils, and small appliances. Volunteers are asked to provide ingredients for the meal they are preparing. (Our nonprofit, the Friends of VA Puget Sound Fisher House, provide ingredients for major holidays.) We also have an organic herb and vegetable garden and in season volunteers may help themselves to produce from the garden for the meal.
- We can't stay on top of special dietary restrictions so don't worry about that. Guests with allergies or other restrictions will ask if they aren't sure they can eat something.
- **Absolutely** no alcohol is permitted on the campus of VA Puget Sound.
- We ask volunteers to clean up from the meal preparation; guests are responsible for cleaning up after the meal. When you are ready to leave just bundle the leftovers into the fridge, finish tidying up, and take your leave.

--Thank you for your willingness to be of service to our Veteran and active duty families--