

V4U DAY

2021 PROJECT PARTNER GUIDE



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FUNDED**

Student
LIFE
◆ VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

MESSAGE FROM

ADAM SHOEMAKER



I am thrilled to invite you to participate in the nationally acclaimed V4U Day event as we enter its eleventh consecutive year.

At VU, we are committed to shaping and building a better future that has a positive impact on the health of people, place and planet. As a university embedded in Melbourne's west, we have an obligation to uplift the communities that we serve.

V4U Day is an engaging and inclusive way for our students, staff, alumni and partners to form invaluable connections and build their sense of social responsibility through volunteering their time to help in our community.

It also celebrates our partnerships with not-for-profit organisations, schools, community groups and local councils. This collaboration enables us to reach over 4000 individuals in our local communities.

The project has substantial ripple effects, with the benefits extending far beyond the day itself. It creates a strong sense of belonging for our students and our staff, and a sense of positivity and wellbeing throughout the local community.

It is a truism to say that V4U Day was unique in 2020. In 2021 we are focussed upon three themes – to reset, reinvent and to engage in regional resurgence.

I look forward to welcoming you to V4U Day on Friday 29 October 2021.

Regards,

Professor Adam Shoemaker
Vice Chancellor & President



WELCOME

On behalf of Victoria University (VU), we would like to thank you for taking the first step in becoming a Volunteer 4 You (V4U) Day project partner.

V4U Day is an annual, one-day community volunteering event delivered by VU's Student Life & Leadership team.

Held in Semester 2 each year, the day involves students, alumni and staff members taking part in volunteering activities across the Western suburbs of Melbourne. Projects are organised with the Maribyrnong Council, local not-for-profit organisations, schools, community groups and neighbourhood houses. Since V4U Day started in 2010, we have partnered with over 70 organisations in Melbourne's Western suburbs. We were honoured to receive a 'Highly Commended – Most Successful Event' award for V4U Day at the 2018 Campus Link Awards. The team was also awarded a citation for Excellence in Service at the 2015 Vice Chancellor's Awards.

By participating in this event, you will help to solidify the relationship between VU and the community, and strengthen the partnership between Maribyrnong City Council and our Footscray University Town initiative.

Thank you again and we look forward to working with you in 2021.

The V4U Day team

Phone: +61 3 9919 6011

Email: v4u@vu.edu.au

OUR IMPACT IN 2020



1441

HOURS CONTRIBUTED



252

VOLUNTEERS

(Including 177 students, 34 staff, four VU alumni, 27 student Team Leaders and, for the first time, 10 children of volunteers.)



\$56,647*

IN VOLUNTEER HOURS CONTRIBUTED



15

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

44%

MADE NEW FRIENDS

92%

PLAN TO VOLUNTEER MORE

86%

FELT MORE CONNECTED TO THE COMMUNITY

91%

FELT MORE CONNECTED TO VU

81%

OF STUDENTS FELT POSITIVELY IMPACTED

*Calculated based on the hourly rate of VU HEW 3 casual staff.

OUR REACH IN THE WEST



Organisations we have worked with

- ◆ 1000 Hearts
- ◆ Acacia Children's Centre St Albans
- ◆ Annecto David House
- ◆ Asylum Seeker Resource Centre
- ◆ Australian Dingo Foundation
- ◆ Baptcare Westhaven Community
- ◆ Doutta Galla Aged Services
- ◆ Doutta Galla Woornack - Sunshine
- ◆ Doutta Galla Yarraville Village
- ◆ Grantham Green
- ◆ Melton Specialist School
- ◆ Royal Freemasons Gregory Lodge
- ◆ The Community Bike Shed
- ◆ Western Health
- ◆ Yarraville Special Developmental School

FEEDBACK FROM ORGANISATIONS

“

**DESPITE COVID-19,
V4U CONTINUES TO RUN.
A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL
THE ORGANISERS OF THIS
PROGRAM.**

”

CARINA HOLLENKAMP
Woornack Aged Care – Doutta Galla

“

**KEEP ON DOING THE GOOD
WORK. THE RESIDENTS
LOVED THE ITEMS
VERY MUCH.**

”

SHIVALIKA SHARMA
Yarraville Village – Doutta Galla

FEEDBACK FROM VOLUNTEERS

“

IT MADE ME FEEL LIKE A PART OF VU AND PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY.

I ALSO PASSED ON MY FEELINGS TO WHOEVER NEEDS, WHICH IS QUITE IMPORTANT DURING THIS COVID-19 PERIOD.

”

RUYI JIN

Volunteer in Project 17 – 1000 hearts

“

WHAT I LOVED MOST ABOUT MY EXPERIENCE THIS YEAR WAS THE SUPPORT FROM OTHER STUDENTS.

THE ATMOSPHERE WAS SO FRIENDLY AND WARM IT MADE ME EVEN MORE PUMPED FOR THE NEXT V4U DAY.

”

MALAIKA NAMBIAR

Volunteer in Project 12 – Face Mask Making



V4U DAY

OVERVIEW

Purpose

The purpose of V4U Day is to strengthen VU's relationship with Melbourne's Western suburbs community. V4U Day is dedicated to giving back to the local community while also providing an opportunity for students to learn practical skills. It is also to assist you with a project that you have been planning but may need extra resources to complete.

This year, VU has set goals to be more proactive in planetary health. We would love to partner with organisations for projects with a strong environmental focus.

Event overview

- ◆ **Date:** Friday 29 October 2021
- ◆ **Time:** 8.15am–4.30pm
- ◆ **Onsite volunteer hours:** 10.30am–2.30pm
- ◆ **Number of projects expected:** 20
- ◆ **Project registration deadline:**
Monday 16 August 2021
- ◆ **Project registration form:**
bit.ly/V4U-projects-2021

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN V4U DAY

Before you register

1. Think about what project you would like to request volunteers for.

Here are some ideas to help you brainstorm:

- ◆ Assisting with English classes.
- ◆ Art and craft projects.
- ◆ Gardening and other working bee tasks (highly recommended).
- ◆ Facilitating a sports/activity day.
- ◆ Data entry or other administrative tasks.
- ◆ Painting (general and/or decorative).
- ◆ Categorising, pricing and displaying donated goods.
- ◆ Washing and cleaning.

2. Think about the details of your project.

Here are some questions to help you plan your project:

- ◆ How many volunteers do you need? (your project must involve a minimum of 10 volunteers)
- ◆ Do you need the volunteers to possess any particular qualifications or skills?
- ◆ What tasks do you want the volunteers to complete in the allocated project time (four hours, including briefing, break, and debriefing)?
- ◆ Are there any risks associated with the volunteering tasks?
- ◆ What is the desired outcome of your project?
- ◆ What tools or equipment do you need for your project?

If you need help planning or developing your project, feel free to contact the V4U Day team – we will be happy to provide ideas, suggestions, and help.

Register your project

After deciding on your project, you can register it with us by completing the online **Project Registration form**.

After you register

We will contact you to confirm more details, arrange a time to visit you, inform you whether we would like to proceed with your project, and provide you with further instructions and assistance.



WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US

Volunteers

We will recruit volunteers, transport them to and from your project and provide them with V4U Day 2021 t-shirts and caps, lunch, snacks and water (you are more than welcome to provide volunteers with additional food and drink). We will also issue them a certificate of appreciation after the event.

Team Leaders

We will recruit and train Team Leaders for your project. We will allocate approximately one Team Leader for every 15 volunteers. The Team Leader will be your main point of contact on V4U Day. They will assist you by communicating with the volunteers to ensure your project is completed.

Tools and equipment

We will provide and deliver requested tools and equipment to your organisation in the week of 11 October 2021 between 10am – 4pm (if applicable).*

We can supply tools and equipment provided our volunteers can bring them back after finishing their tasks. For example, we can provide paint brushes for your painting project, but not the paint.

After you submit your project registration, we will contact you to confirm whether we will be able to provide the tools or equipment you requested.

*Date is a guide only and subject to change



WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON V4U DAY

Schedule*

- ◆ **8.15–9.30am**
Volunteers arrive at VU Footscray Park campus.
- ◆ **9.30–10.30am**
Volunteers are transported to their assigned project.
- ◆ **10.30am–2.30pm**
Volunteers complete volunteering tasks at your organisation.
- ◆ **2.30–3pm**
Volunteers are transported back to Footscray Park campus for a post-event celebration.

*Please note that the above timetable should be used as a guide and is subject to change.



AFTER V4U DAY

We will email you a feedback survey after V4U Day.
Please complete the survey so that we can improve V4U Day 2022!

Contact us

Phone: +61 9919 6011

Email: v4u@vu.edu.au

TESTIMONIALS

From the organisations

- ◆ “The volunteers were very friendly and enthusiastic and were very helpful in helping out in our classes. Thank you for this very nice initiative.”

JENNY LEAHY

Education Co-ordinator, AMES Australia

- ◆ “It’s a great pleasure to have the groups with us on Friday. We all enjoyed their company. Thank you for including us always in your program, this is our third year with V4U and we are looking forward to the next one.”

CARINA HOLLENKAMP

Coordinator at Dousta Galla Aged Care Services Woorinack and Yarraville Village

- ◆ “Thank you so much for the amazing opportunity, the VU volunteers were fantastic and some were very interested in becoming an Ardoch volunteer. Ardoch is very impressed with the skill of the volunteers and their solution focused approach to the activity. We look forward to working again with VU in the near future.”

NICK GABB

Education Partnerships Coordinator, Ardoch Youth Foundation

From the volunteers

- ◆ “My overall experience was awesome. It was my fourth year being a team leader, I keep coming back because I always have a good time. This year was especially good for me because my team was all first time V4U students, we all had a blast and worked really well together. Very well organized by the V4U team.”

MARK MICALLEF

Volunteered at Friends of Stony Creek

- ◆ “V4U proves that in such a short period of time, you can create a miracle. It was such a rewarding experience. Also, thank you all working behind the scenes to make this great day happen.”

YAVUZ YILMAZOGU

Volunteered at Footscray Community Arts Centre

- ◆ “This was my first time doing V4U, it was an amazing experience. The whole team had an amazing time and the residents were so happy to have us there!”

MADELINE CHRISTOFIDES

Volunteered at Salvation Army Foley House

- ◆ “It’s an amazing opportunity because we can give back to society, we can give back to the community, and it has achieved all my expectations. It’s been amazing! I’m enjoying it very much.”

CYNTHIA THOMAZ

Volunteered at Newell’s Paddock Urban Nature Park

WE LOOK FORWARD TO

**WORKING
WITH YOU**
