

V4U Day 2024

Project Partner Guide

25 October 2024



**VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY**

*Student
LIFE*

Message from Adam Shoemaker



I am thrilled to invite you to participate in Victoria University's (VU) nationally acclaimed V4U Day, which has been making a difference in the west since 2011.

At VU, we are committed to shaping a better future that positively impacts the health of people, place and planet. As a university embedded in Melbourne's west, we are proud to work collaboratively to benefit the communities 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 by volunteering to help 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 4,000 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 staff, and encourages positivity and wellbeing throughout the local community.

I very much look forward to welcoming you to V4U Day on Friday 25 October 2024.

With best wishes,
Adam

Professor Adam Shoemaker
Vice Chancellor & President



Welcome

On behalf of Victoria University, 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 2011, we have partnered with over 80 organisations in Melbourne's Western suburbs.

V4U Day was honoured to receive the Award of Distinction for Most Successful Event at the 2023 National Student Experience Network Awards and the Most Successful Event award at the 2021 CampusLink Awards.

The event also received the Engagement with Impact award at the 2024 VU Staff Brilliance Awards.

By participating in this event, you will have your project completed with help from our volunteers and help solidify the relationship between VU and the community.

Thank you again and we look forward to working with you in 2024.

The V4U Day team

Get in touch with us today

Phone: +61 3 9919 5084

Email: v4u@vu.edu.au



2,176

**Volunteer hours
contributed**



293

volunteers

(including 239 students, 30 staff,
2 alumni, 22 student Team Leaders)



\$80,577*

**in volunteer hours
contributed**



21

**Community
projects**

Our impact in 2023

Feedback from volunteers

95%

satisfied with V4U Day

92%

felt positively impacted

91%

plan to volunteer more

Feedback from project partners

89%

satisfied with V4U Day

80%

projects completed
with help of volunteers

*Calculated at VU HEP3 casual professional rate of \$37.03 per hour.

Our reach in the West



Organisations we have worked with

- ◆ Acacia Children's Centre
- ◆ Australian Multicultural Community Services
- ◆ Clean Up Australia
- ◆ Dinjerra Primary School
- ◆ Doutta Galla Aged Services Footscray
- ◆ EnactusVU
- ◆ Footscray Bowling Club/ Rotary Club of Footscray
- ◆ Friends of Stony Creek
- ◆ Jigsaw Childcare
- ◆ Mecwacare Gregory Lodge
- ◆ St John's Primary School
- ◆ Sunshine Primary School
- ◆ Sunshine Mosque
- ◆ The GREEN Lab @ Iramoo
- ◆ The Pines Scout Camp
- ◆ Uncle Bobs Club
- ◆ Werribee River Association
- ◆ West Welcome Wagon
- ◆ Women's Circus
- ◆ Woonack Doutta Galla Sunshine
- ◆ Yarraville Community Centre

Map not designed to scale. For artistic and representation purposes only.

Feedback from organisations



“What an incredible initiative helping support our school with our tree planting project. We really appreciate your help so much.”

St. Johns Primary School
Footscray

“Our facility have been participating in your projects and it is always a pleasure to be part of it. It is very fulfilling.”

Doutta Galla Wornack
Sunshine

Feedback from volunteers

“It was great getting to know others in my group and working together to make a change. I can’t wait till next year.”

Neeti Uniyal Bekele
Volunteer in Project 1 – Fence Removal

“For that one day I made impact in so many peoples life. I would like to volunteer and improve my skills more.”

Akira Joshi
Volunteer in Project 19 –
Karaoke and Gardening with
Aged Care Residents



V4U Day overview

Purpose

V4U Day is designed to assist you with a project that you have been planning, but may need extra resources to complete.

The purpose of V4U Day is to:

- ◆ Engage VU students to get involved in volunteering and provide them with the opportunity to get a taste of what it is like to make a difference in the west and beyond.
- ◆ Provide VU students with the opportunity to develop skills and extend their network whilst giving back to the community
- ◆ Positively impact the student experience and create a sense of belonging
- ◆ Strengthen VU's relationship with Melbourne's Western suburbs community.

What happens on a V4U Day?

We will recruit volunteers, provide them with their lunch and transport them to and from your project. They will spend approximately 4 hours volunteering as a team to complete your project.

V4U Day is a free community volunteering event. We can also supply tools and equipment to complete your project.

Event overview

- ◆ **Date:** Friday 25 October 2024
- ◆ **Event time:** 8.15am–4.30pm
- ◆ **On-site project time:** 10.30am–2.30pm
- ◆ **Number of projects expected:** 20
- ◆ **Project registration closes:** 11:59pm, Sunday 11 August 2024
- ◆ **Project registration form:**

How to participate in V4U Day

Before you register

1. Think about what project you would like our volunteers to assist you with.

Here are some ideas to help you brainstorm:

- ◆ Assisting with English classes.
- ◆ Art and craft projects.
- ◆ Gardening and other working bee tasks.
- ◆ 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? (a minimum of 10 volunteers are recommended)
- ◆ 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 a V4U Day t-shirt, hat and lunch (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 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.

Costs and Fees

V4U Day is a free community volunteering event. VU covers the volunteer's expenses including their V4U Day T-shirt and hat, lunch pack and transportation to and from project locations. We can also supply tools and equipment to complete your project.

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:**
On-site Project time – 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

Enjoy the outcomes that our volunteers have made to your project.

Also, please complete a short feedback survey to let us know your experience with the event and what we can do improve V4U Day 2025!

Contact us

Phone: +61 3 9919 5084

Email: v4u@vu.edu.au



From the organisations

“Our residents and their families are so grateful in all the time the V4U Volunteers spent with them. The interaction was great. The smiles on their faces brighten up our residents afternoon. Our courtyard looked stunning again.”

Carina Hollenkamp
Doutta Galla Woornack – Sunshine

“It was great to see so many people keen to make a difference and advocate for sustainable practice by participating in the Plastic Solutions Project!”

Elijah Cristiano
Enactus VU

Testimonials

From the volunteers

“It was a great experience and I always had the thought why I missed it last year. Thank you Victoria University for arranging such an amazing event.”

Jayani Ruwanjala Abeykoon
Volunteered at Clean Up Australia

“I was happy with the opportunity to do something meaningful to the community.”

Duc Anh Vu Le
Volunteered at Uncle Bobs

“It’s actually a wonderful feeling as we can make a difference and contribute in some way. This also helpful in building connections and learning from this experience.”

Duc Anh Vu Le
Volunteered at Uncle Bobs



We look forward to working with you.

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