

Tuesday Dinner Volunteers - Commitments and Contributions

THE HEARTBEAT OF COMMUNITY LIFE

If we think of the Kinbrace Community as a living organism, our weekly meal is very much the heartbeat. This weekly gathering is a stable and steady rhythm of sharing life together; it brings life, keeps us connected, and helps maintain the health of our community.

Each week, residents have an opportunity to build relationships, practice English, celebrate together, and enjoy a delicious meal cooked by friends. It is also a space that welcomes back residents who have moved out of Kinbrace.

HOSPITALITY

Since the creation of Tuesday Dinners, in 1998, we have operated from our core value of hospitality. Hospitality flows from the heart - it is first and foremost an act of love.

"It is always a feast where love is. And, where love is, God is" - Dorothy Day

Our goal on Tuesday evenings has always been to "welcome the newest among us", and this remains our current goal. When you become a volunteer on Tuesday nights, you are committing to actively welcome the newest Kinbrace residents and build relationships with them.

While Tuesday nights are also a gathering place for past residents who have come back to visit, our focus remains on those who have most recently moved into Kinbrace. Please do spend time catching up with past residents, while also having an eye towards current residents.

We have an incredible group of volunteers and staff on Tuesday nights, who often become friends. While community dinners are an opportunity to see these friends, please remember that your core purpose on Tuesday is to extend hospitality and friendship to Kinbrace residents.

TIME COMMITMENT

People living at Kinbrace face a lot of unpredictability. The refugee claim process is incredibly stressful, exhausting, and filled with many unknowns. Our goal with volunteer engagement is to provide as much stability as we possibly can. This means that Kinbrace Volunteers must be able to commit to a regular presence in the community.

Tuesday Dinner Volunteers are required to come at least 3 Tuesdays per month

(you are, of course, welcome to come every Tuesday if you would like!). The meal begins at 6:00pm and finishes between 8:00-9:00pm

Tuesday Dinner Volunteers are required to commit to a 6-month term (At the end of this time you will meet with the Community Dinner Coordinator to review and reassess your role)

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

It takes many hands each week to make the community dinner run smoothly. As a Tuesday Dinner Volunteer, you are committing to the following:

1. Food

Tuesday Dinner Volunteers are required to prepare, and serve, a dessert or salad twice a month OR to cook the main dish once a month.

*Note: Volunteers are not required to pay for their ingredients - Kinbrace will reimburse any grocery costs. Some volunteers choose to "donate" their food expenses, which is an individual choice; there is no expectation.

Volunteers can choose to cook in their own homes or in the Kinbrace kitchen. We encourage you to consider cooking at Kinbrace and inviting residents to help you whenever possible. Cooking together is a great way to build relationships!

2. Cleanup

On the weeks that you are not preparing food, all Tuesday Dinner Volunteers are required to assist with cleanup of the meal.

This includes: washing and drying dishes, putting away tables and chairs, tidying any messes from the evening (art supplies, toys, etc), vacuuming, and washing the floors.

Please check in with the K2 Host (Anika) before you leave, to see if there are any other cleaning jobs left.

Volunteer Agreement

I have read through this document, "Tuesday Dinner Volunteers- Commitments and Contributions" and agree to abide by its contents.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____