



DIMITRI HOUSE

VOLUNTEERING OVERVIEW

Dimitri House is a non-profit organization built upon the belief that every human being has immeasurable value. We serve those in need in the Rochester community by offering a range of programs including food, shelter, and services that help them on their journey toward self-sufficiency.

Dimitri House is operated by a team of two staff, a board of directors, and over 60 volunteers. Below is a description of our programs and volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, fill out and return our brief volunteer application and a staff member will be in touch with you to arrange an interview. Volunteers must be 18 years or older to work independently - special considerations may be made for minors with adequate supervision.

DROP-IN LUNCH PROGRAM

Drop-In serves adults (18 years and older) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 1:15-4:30 pm each week. Drop-In is closed for one week in December.

Cooks (10:00 am – 1:00 pm)

Cooks at Dimitri House have the opportunity to prepare healthy, hot meals for approximately 25-40 people. Cooks have flexible hours as long as the meal is prepped for serving no later than 1:30 pm. We encourage our cooks to use their creative culinary skills since menus will vary and are dependent upon the food available.

Servers (1:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

Servers should arrive no later than 1:00 pm in order to serve the meal prepared by the cooks. Servers are responsible for ensuring that the meal is served on-time, dishes are washed, and that the dining room is stocked with clean mugs, water, and coffee. Volunteers are encouraged to sit and chat with our guests and engage in activities such as card and board games.

EMERGENCY FOOD CUPBOARD (EFC)

Volunteers are needed Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:15 am-12:00 pm. The food cupboard is closed on Tuesdays.

Our food cupboard provides a three-day supply of groceries to eligible clients in zip codes 14604, 14605, 14607, 14609 once every 30 days by appointment only. Volunteers answer the door, welcome clients, check identification, verify addresses, and record appointments in the client's file and the food distribution report. Volunteers prepare food bags to hand out to clients by using our "Client Choice" Program, where clients have the opportunity to customize their food bags by choosing foods they like from our pantry via a checklist. Food cupboard volunteers also help to keep a well-stocked and neat pantry, assist with deliveries, and rotate fresh food items.

MEN'S WINTER SHELTER

Our seven-bed shelter is open from November through April and provides the comforts of home including beds, clean linens, showers, laundry facilities, a light meal in the evening, and a hearty breakfast in the morning. There are two types of volunteer roles for the shelter: Overnight Shelter Volunteers (OSV) and Greeters. The shelter doors open at 9:00 p.m. each night and guests must leave for the day by 7:00 a.m. the next morning.

Greeters: The Greeter arrives at 8:30 p.m. and preps for the night, puts out food, welcomes guests into the shelter, checks identification, and fills out Intake Forms. Greeters leave around 11:00 pm.

Overnight Shelter Volunteers (OSV): The OSV arrives by 9:00 p.m. and helps the Greeter, engages in conversation with guests, enforce shelter policies, and sees to it that all men are in bed by 11:00 p.m. with lights out. The OSV stays overnight in the shelter, rises early to make breakfast for guests, clean up from the meal, and ensure guests leave by 7:00 a.m.

OFFICE

The office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am-1:00 pm and 1:00 pm-5:00pm.

Office volunteers work in the upstairs office to provide administrative support to full-time staff. They help with filing, answering phones, scheduling appointments for clients, and doing laundry during the shelter season. Office volunteers are occasionally asked to assist in the food cupboard, prepare mailings, and help with special events.

SUNDRY SERVICES

There are often a variety of other miscellaneous and one-time volunteer opportunities that do not fall under one of our established programs. For example, deep cleaning the kitchen and all appliances, painting projects, putting together care packages, organizing the linen closet, assisting with special events or fundraisers, etc. On your Volunteer Application be sure to specify any special skills, talents, or interests you may have so we can better match you up with a volunteer opportunity.

TO BECOME A DIMITRI HOUSE VOLUNTEER

- Contact Laurie at ljprizel@dimitri-house.org to express your interest in volunteering with Dimitri House. A tour and interview will be scheduled at both parties' earliest conveniences.
- Complete the Volunteer Application and return it by email to ggranata@dimitri-house.org (or in person at your interview).
- **After submitting the Volunteer Application, all prospective volunteers are required to meet with either the Executive Director or the Program Coordinator for a brief interview and orientation prior to doing any volunteer work at Dimitri House.**
- Shelter Volunteers: Once approved to start, you will be added to the online schedule list and emailed a link to schedule your own shifts.
- All other volunteers: Once approved to start, you will be scheduled by the Program Coordinator.