

**Fundraising in Action - Tasks**  
Contact: [volunteers@valaspumpkinpatch.com](mailto:volunteers@valaspumpkinpatch.com)



## **FUNdraising in Action Tasks at Vala's**

Here are some possible tasks that your group could be helping with on the days you volunteer. We typically divide volunteer groups into smaller groups of 2 to 3 people who will work alongside Vala's seasonal team members. If certain people have limitations or requests, please let us know ahead of time by emailing [volunteers@valaspumpkinpatch.com](mailto:volunteers@valaspumpkinpatch.com).

### **Food Team Tasks**

**Bagging Kettle Corn:** Help us bag up one of our most popular food items for our guests, Kettle Corn! As a volunteer at one of our three kettle corn making areas, you will help scoop and bag the kettle corn into small or large bags. We go through thousands of bags of kettle corn each season, this is a big help for us!

**Serving and Refilling Drinks:** Most of our locations have drink options available. Meals have an option to be served with a drink or our guests may use the current year souvenir mug to refill. This is where you come in! As a volunteer, you may be asked to refill and serve fountain drinks to our guests as part of their order. This involves scooping ice, filling cups, and handing them to our guests. Don't forget that smile!

**Dishwashing:** Our food locations can be very busy, this is a great thing! Being busy also means the food locations go through a lot of dishes and trays. These trays need to be wiped down using our cleaning and sanitizing cloths and the dishes need to get washed and allowed to air dry. Although this may not be glamorous, you will be the pride and joy of the food location if you are tasked with dishwashing!

**Serving Food:** In a few of our food locations, volunteers may be assigned to help prepare a food order for our guests. This may involve adding fries to an order, serving a side dish to the guest, or grabbing a slice of pie from the case. Food varies across the farm at each location and serving food may look different depending on which location you are assigned.

**Catering:** Our guests and large groups have the opportunity to choose our catering team to provide meals at designated campfires, the Pavilion, or Picnic Shelter sites on the farm. These events can range from 10 to over 500 guests. As a volunteer in the catering department, you will help serve food to our guests through buffet lines, prepare and help deliver food buckets for campfires, clean, and wash dishes.

**Staff Kitchen:** On busy October weekends, we offer our employees the option to have a meal through our staff kitchen. This meal can be from our catering team or sponsored by an outside vendor. Food is delivered to the staff kitchen and served to our employees. As a volunteer at the

**Fundraising in Action - Tasks**  
**Contact: [volunteers@valaspumpkinpatch.com](mailto:volunteers@valaspumpkinpatch.com)**



staff kitchen, you will help the staff kitchen Team Leader serve the food to employees, box up any food taken back to locations for other employees, clean, set up and take down the area.

## Attractions

Attractions are placed throughout the farm, from pedal carts and jumping pillows to our Prairie Village play area and Egg Scramble. Safety is a top priority at Vala's and as a volunteer you may be assigned to help at one of our attraction locations. The key is to keep our guests and each other safe.

**Pedal Carts:** Our pedal carts are a fun attraction for all ages. Families and friends can race around the tracks, steering through gravel, dirt, and mud. They can also get stuck! Some of our younger guests may have trouble making it all the way around the track or they may get stuck in a patch of mud. As a volunteer, you will help our employees guide guests through the track, pushing the younger guests out of the mud or away from the wall, and helping pull the carts to the front for the next guests to enjoy. This can be hard work on a busy day, but a favorite among our volunteers who have tried it - come prepared!

**Egg Scramble:** The Egg Scramble is a favorite attraction among many of our guests, as you can use air pressure to launch a foam ball across the room. As a volunteer at the Egg Scramble, you will help our employees keep our guests and each other safe, pick up foam balls and bag them for our younger guests, and guide our guests in and out of the building.

**Big Slide Ride:** As a volunteer at the Big Slide Ride, you will help our guests make their way to the top and remind them to grab a burlap sack. You will also hang the burlap sacks along the slide fence for our guests to use. Another task may be line control and guiding guests to either side of the slide.

**Pedal Trykes:** This is typically an area where no employee is stationed. Guests with young children are able to watch their children, age 5 and under, use the trykes around the small path. As a volunteer you will keep the track clear of debris, assist guests when needed around the path, assist with line control, and keep the guests safe by following posted guidelines.

**Apple Blaster Helper:** This is a popular attraction where guests pay for a bucket of apples and use them for target practice with large air guns. As a volunteer, the apple blaster helper will help fill buckets of apples, hand buckets to guests after they have made a purchase, and assist in line control and keeping the area clear of debris.

**Fundraising in Action - Tasks**  
**Contact: [volunteers@valaspumpkinpatch.com](mailto:volunteers@valaspumpkinpatch.com)**



**Barnyard Challenge Course Observer:** As a volunteer at the Barnyard Challenge Course, you will assist in line control, guest safety, and observing the course for any safety concerns. You will also keep the area clear of debris and assist guests with following the posted guidelines.

## **Special Events**

During the season we will host special events such as the Honeycrisp Apple Festival in September. We may have space open for volunteer groups to help at these special events. Tasks could include set up and tear down, or assisting guests with crafts or projects.

## **Apple Picking**

Our orchard is now open and ready for harvest! As a volunteer at the orchard, you and your group will be helping our orchard crew by harvesting apples for production. These apples will be placed into large baskets and brought to our Cider Mill for processing into sweet cider and hard cider.