

GREAT THANKSGIVING BANQUET

Serving Opportunities 2026

Event Date is Wednesday, November 25, 2026

*** All opportunities are located at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds ***

VOLUNTEERS UNDER 18 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Go to <https://www.rgm.org/gtb> to sign up

Please contact Tina at volunteer@rgm.org or 707-578-1830 if you need help signing up or would like to volunteer with a minor

PRE-EVENT TASKS

Position	People	Shifts	Description
Pre-Event Tasks: Food Inventory in preparation of Food Packing	6 people Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Please call 707-578-1830 if bringing minors. Able to count and record food quantities. Able to lift up to 30 pounds.	Wednesday, November 18th 9:00am-1:00pm Thursday, November 19th 9:00am-1:00pm (if needed)	Inventory donated food items in preparation for Saturday's food packing day. Move and organize food to expedite food packing assembly line. Other duties as needed.
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Pre-Event Tasks: Turkey Smoke: Kitchen Assistant	10 people per shift Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Please call 707-578-1830 if bringing minors. Able to stand throughout shift. No culinary skills required. Please wear close-toed shoes.	Wednesday, November 18th 9:00am-1:00pm 1:00pm-5:00pm Thursday, November 19th 9:00am-1:00pm 1:00pm-5:00pm Friday, November 20th 9:00am-1:00pm 1:00pm-5:00pm Saturday, November 21st 8:00am-Noon Noon-4:00pm	We are partnering with the Guy Fieri Foundation to smoke 600 turkeys over the course of 4 days. Volunteers will work with RGM and the Guy Fieri Foundation. Assist in the kitchen as needed. Prepare turkeys for brining, clean and chop veggies, make stock and/or gravy, pull meat off the smoked turkeys. Wrap turkey meat for the Great Thanksgiving Banquet.
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Pre-Event Tasks: Food Packing	30 people Minimum age is 7 (minors must be with an adult). Please call 707-578-1830 if bringing minors.	Saturday, November 21st 9:00am-Noon	Pack food bags in a fast-moving assembly line. Possible lifting of up to 30 pounds for adults. Other duties as requested by Manager. Clean-up area before end of shift.
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Pre-Event Tasks: Coat Distribution Set-Up	3 STRONG people Able to lift 50 pounds	Tuesday, November 24th 10:00am-Noon	Help unload heavy bags of coats from boxes.
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Pre-Event Tasks: Coat Distribution Set-Up	5 people All ages welcome (minors must be with an adult). Great group and family opportunity.	Tuesday, November 24th 10:00am-Noon	Hang coats on racks. Write encouraging notes on coat tags to tuck in pocket of each coat. Suggestions for what to write will be provided.
Position	People	Date	Description
Pre-Event Tasks: Muffin/Brownie/Cookie Baker	Anyone can participate. May qualify for school community service hours. Great opportunities for families or groups to serve together.	Drop off Tuesday, Nov. 24th or Wednesday, Nov. 25th * See Drop-off options in Description	Homemade items preferred. Bake (at home) 2 dozen brownies, lemon bars, muffins, scones, cookies, banana/zucchini bread slices or other cafe-style goodies that don't require utensils. Please pre-cut your items in serving size portions and bring in a disposable (recyclable helpful) container. These items go in our free cafe for guests in our hospitality area and in the Grace Pavilion for guests and volunteers. Drop-off Options: Tuesday, November 24th *RGM Office, 2447 Summerfield Road 8am - 5pm (closed from 1-2pm) *Fairgrounds (Grace Pavilion) - 10am - 2pm Wednesday, November 25th * Fairgrounds (Garrett Hall) - before 10am or bring with you if volunteering

Position	People	Date	Description
Pre Event Tasks: Donate Bananas, Cuties and String Cheese	See Description	Drop off Tuesday, Nov. 24th or Wednesday, Nov. 25th * See Drop-off options in Description	Donate either: * One bunch of bananas * One bag of cuties * One 24-count bag of string cheese These items go in our free cafe for guests in our hospitality area and in the Grace Pavilion for guests and volunteers. Drop-off Options: Tuesday, November 24th *RGM Office, 2447 Summerfield Road 8am - 5pm (closed from 1-2pm) *Fairgrounds (Grace Pavilion) - 10am - 2pm Wednesday, November 25th * Fairgrounds (Garrett Hall) - before 10am or bring with you if volunteering
DAY OF EVENT - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2026			
Event is from Noon to 7pm			
VOLUNTEER CHECK-IN			
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Volunteer Check-in	5 people per shift Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Friendly and welcoming.	10:00 - 1:00	Greet and check in volunteers.
		12:45 - 3:45	
		3:30 - 6:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Computer Support for Volunteer Check-In	1 person per shift Minimum Age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Friendly and welcoming. Basic computer skills. Comfortable assisting folks with a computer.	10:00 - 1:00	Assist volunteers on a laptop computer to complete an online application. Assist with volunteer check-in as time permits.
		12:45 - 3:45	
		3:30 - 6:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Volunteer Check-in Photographer	2 people per shift Minimum Age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Friendly and welcoming. Comfortable with a camera.	10:00 - 1:00	Take head-shot pictures of our volunteers as they check in so that we can upload into the volunteer database. We will provide the camera.
		12:45 - 3:45	
		3:30 - 6:00 includes clean-up	
CHAPEL			
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Buck Stamper	4 per shift Minimum Age is 12 (minors must be with an adult). No children under 5 years old. Friendly and helpful. Able to communicate clearly.	11:15 -2:00 includes set-up	Validate "Banquet Bucks" (vouchers for family food boxes) for guests as they leave the chapel service. First shift helps set up area. Last shift helps clean up area.
		1:45 - 4:15	
		4:00 - 6:30 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Chapel Line Leader	2 people per shift Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Warm, approachable and comfortable interacting with guests. Able to stand throughout the shift.	10:45 - 1:45 includes set-up	Greet and welcome guests. Assist guests lining up in preparation for chapel. First shift helps set up area. Last shift helps clean up area.
		1:30 - 4:30	
		4:15 - 6:15 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Chapel Guest Check-In and Information (Spanish/English Bilingual)	2 people per shift Must be at least 18. Friendly and welcoming. Spanish/English bilingual.	10:45 - 1:15	Greet and check-in guests, answer questions, direct into the chapel at appropriate service time. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		1:00 - 3:45	
		3:30 - 6:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Chapel Usher	4 people per shift Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Warm, approachable and comfortable interacting with guests. Able to stand throughout the shift.	10:45 - 1:45 includes set-up	Direct guests to their seats, distribute booklets, answer questions about the event and direct guests to other venues. At end of each service, direct guests to buck stamper area. First shift helps set up area. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		1:30 - 4:30	
		4:15 - 6:30 includes clean-up	

COAT DISTRIBUTION			
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Coat Distributor	16 people per shift Minimum age is 12 (minors must be with an adult). Patient with good customer service skills. Able to be on your feet and walk throughout shift.	11:30 - 2:30	Help guests select a coat. Carry coats from the rack in the back of the booth to guests at the front of the booth. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:00 - 5:00	
		4:30 - 7:30	
		includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Coat Peacemaker	2 people per shift Must be at least 18 years old Patient, gently firm and friendly. Able to be on your feet throughout shift.	11:30 - 2:30	Help keep things orderly at the coat booth. Direct guests to the end of lines when needed. Peaceably resolve conflicts. Assist coat distributors as needed. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:00 - 5:00	
		4:30 - 7:30	
		includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Coat Hanger	8 people per shift Minimum age is 9 (minors must be with an adult). Great opportunity for kids to get involved! Able to reach rack in order to hang a coat.	11:45 - 1:45	Re-hang returned coats. Hang up new coats. Keep coat booth organized. No guest interaction involved. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		1:30 - 3:30	
		3:15 - 5:15	
		5:00 - 7:30	
		includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Coat Hanger Collector	1 child (up to 2 children) and parent per shift Up to 2 children per adult Great for ages 3 - 8, but all ages are welcome! Short shifts to accommodate little ones!	Noon - 12:45	Collect coat hangers from boxes under the coat giveaway tables and bring to the coat hanging area so that they can be used to hang more coats for our guests. Minimal to no guest interaction involved.
		12:45 - 1:30	
		1:30 - 2:15	
		2:15 - 3:00	
		3:00 - 3:45	
		3:45 - 4:30	
		4:30 - 5:15	
		5:15 - 6:00	
		6:00 - 6:45	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Coat Distribution Sign Spinner	2 children with parents per shift Minimum age is 3. Up to 2 children per adult Great for ages 3 - 8, but all ages are welcome! Short shifts to accommodate little ones!	Noon - 12:45	Wave a sign pointing guests to our free coat booth. Smiles and enthusiasm encouraged!
		12:45 - 1:30	
		1:30 - 2:15	
		2:15 - 3:00	
		3:00 - 3:45	
		3:45 - 4:30	
		4:30 - 5:15	
		5:15 - 6:00	
		6:00 - 6:45	

KITCHEN / DINING HALL Meals served from Noon to 6:30pm			
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Kitchen Food Service-Plater	8 people first shift - set-up only (no food service) 12 volunteers per shift thereafter Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Handle and plate food with cleanliness. Able to follow directions and work under timelines. Able to stand throughout shift.	10:30 - Noon (set-up only)	Put food on plates to be served to guests. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		11:45 - 2:45	
		2:30 - 5:30	
		5:15 - 8:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Dining Hall Seating Host/Hostess	4 people per shift Must be at least 18 years old Friendly and welcoming. Able to stand throughout shift.	11:40 - 2:30	Greet and seat guests as they arrive. Monitor dining room for available tables. Expect to serve 300 people per hour. Please be on time for scheduled shift. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:10 - 5:30	
		5:10 - 8:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Dining Hall Table Host/Hostess	2 people per shift Must be at least 18 years old Good listener. Able to exercise discernment in identifying who would welcome the opportunity to connect and feel cared for and heard.	11:30 - 2:30	With the hustle and bustle, guests can feel like no one has time to sit and connect . . . Or answer a question . . . Or pray with them. The Table Host job is to identify, engage and connect with those guests who look like they would like some company. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:10 - 5:30	
		5:10 - 8:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Dining Hall Server	24 people per shift Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Gracious and approachable. Able to stand and walk throughout shift.	11:30 - 2:30	Serve meals, drinks and pie to seated guests. Monitor dining room for guests who need service. Expect to serve 300 people per hour. Please be on time for scheduled shift. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:10 - 5:30	
		5:10 - 8:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Dining Hall Busser	5 people per shift Minimum age is 12 (minors must be with an adult). Gracious and approachable. Able to stand and walk throughout shift.	11:30 - 2:30	Bus tables as needed. Monitor dining room for tables that need to be bussed. Clean up spills and messes. Reset tables after cleaning. Expect to serve 300 people per hour. Please be on time for scheduled shift. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:10 - 5:30	
		5:10 - 8:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Dishwasher/Kitchen Assistant	2 people per shift Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Able to stand and walk throughout shift.	11:30 - 2:30	Help wash dishes and assist in kitchen. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:10 - 5:30	
		5:10 - 8:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Dining Hall Pie Plater	7 people per shift Minimum age is 15 (minors must be with an adult). Able to stand throughout shift.	11:30 - 2:30	Cut and plate pies. Expect to serve 300 people per hour. Please be on time for scheduled shift. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:10 - 5:30	
		5:10 - 8:00 includes clean-up	

FOOD BAG DISTRIBUTION			
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Food Bag Distribution	15 adults first shift 8 people per shift thereafter Minimum age is 8 (minors must be with an adult). Able to lift up to 20 lbs. (for adults) Able to work under time pressure.	10:30 - 1:45	Greet and welcome guests. Distribute food bags. Manage line and receive "Banquet Bucks". May include bagging fresh vegetables and lifting turkeys. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		1:30 - 4:45	
		4:30 - 7:30 includes clean-up	
GUEST SERVICES			
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Early Bird Gate Guard	2 people Must be at least 18 years old. Ability to communicate clearly. Friendly and helpful.	7:30 - 10:45	Monitor traffic coming into the Fairground gates. Direct drivers to venue parking. Answer questions as needed.
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Bilingual Gate Greeter Bennett Valley Gate (Spanish/English)	1 person per shift Minimum age is 14 (minors must be with an adult). Ability to communicate clearly. Friendly and helpful.	10:30 - 1:45	Welcome guests and volunteers. Direct them to appropriate starting venue. Answer questions and help translate as needed. Work under Gate Greeter Manager.
		1:30 - 5:00	
		4:45 - 7:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Bilingual Gate Greeter Brookwood Gate (Spanish/English)	1 person per shift Minimum age is 14 (minors must be with an adult). Ability to communicate clearly. Friendly and helpful.	10:30 - 1:45	Welcome guests and volunteers. Direct them to appropriate starting venue. Answer questions and help translate as needed. Work under Gate Greeter Manager.
		1:30 - 5:00	
		4:45 - 7:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Gate Greeter Bennett Valley Gate	2 people per shift Minimum age is 14 (minors must be with an adult). Ability to communicate clearly. Friendly and helpful.	10:30 - 1:45	Welcome guests and volunteers. Direct them to appropriate starting venue. Answer questions as needed. Work under Gate Greeter Manager.
		1:30 - 5:00	
		4:45 - 7:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Gate Greeter Brookwood Gate	2 people per shift Minimum age is 14 (minors must be with an adult). Ability to communicate clearly. Friendly and helpful.	10:30 - 1:45	Welcome guests and volunteers. Direct them to appropriate starting venue. Answer questions as needed. Work under Gate Greeter Manager.
		1:30 - 5:00	
		4:45 - 7:00 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Hospitality Team (Information and Lost and Found Booth)	1 adult or family per shift Okay to bring minors. Great spot for families and extroverts! Friendly and welcoming.	11:30 - 2:30	Initiate engagement with guests. Greet and answer questions for guests and volunteers in the Grace Pavilion. Seek out people who seem to be lost. Manage Lost and Found items for the event. This role is about engagement and connection.
		2:15 - 5:15	
		5:00 - 7:30 includes clean-up	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
First Aid	2 people per shift (1 for dining hall, 1 for Grace Pavilion) EMT, RN, LVN, or MD	10:30 - 1:30	Provide First Aid Services as needed. First Aid supplies provided. May select another volunteer opportunity at the same time to be available for emergencies.
		1:15 - 4:15	
		4:00 - 7:00	
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Photographers	2 people per shift Some experience with photography. Able to navigate throughout the fairgrounds.	1:00 - 3:15	Take photographs of guests and volunteers in all areas of the event <u>using your own camera - not a cell phone.</u> Ask guests to sign photo waivers.
		3:00 - 5:15	
		5:00 - 6:30	
COMFORT MINISTRIES			
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Haircut Reception	1 person per shift Minimum age is 18. Friendly, gently firm and organized.	11:45 - 2:45	Welcome guests, connect guests with stylist, sweep up hair between cuts. This is a busy area with a lot of people waiting for haircuts. Last shift helps with clean-up of area.
		2:30 - 5:30	
		5:15 - 7:30	
CLEAN-UP			
Position	People	Shifts	Description
Stewardship / Clean-Up Team	10 People Able to lift and carry 50 lbs. Includes walking, carrying and loading.	6:00 - 8:00	Be part of our loyal clean-up team and help clean up after the event. Take down tables, help teams pack up their areas, and load trucks. It is our desire to bless the fairgrounds, and leave the facilities in beautiful shape. We appreciate you!