

WPE FAQ

What volunteer opportunities are available?

- Food Rescue Program: Sort, pack, and prepare fresh surplus food daily at our location in Concord: 2470 Bates Ave., Suite D.
- Food Rescue Hero App: Use the "Uber for food recovery" and drive your own vehicle to claim and deliver food donations in real time.
- Driver/Navigator: Travel in refrigerated vehicles to pick up food and deliver to nonprofits — drivers must be 21+ with 3+ years of driving experience. Email: volunteer@whiteponyexpress.org to learn more about becoming a volunteer driver or navigator.

What is food rescue?

Recovering safe, high-quality surplus food from retail and kitchens that would otherwise be wasted, helping to eliminate hunger and reduce environmental impact.

Why volunteer at WPE (White Pony Express)?

Beyond community service, volunteering builds health, wellness, and connection — a life-changing experience rooted in neighbors helping neighbors.

Do I need to sign up before volunteering?

Yes, all volunteers must complete our Application and sign up for shifts in advance.

Is there an age requirement for food rescue?

Volunteers must be at least 12. Minors 12-13 need a guardian present. Ages 14-17 can volunteer independently. All volunteers 12-17 must have their waiver signed by their parent/guardian (it will be sent to the parent/guardian's email address).

What should I wear?

Close-toed shoes are required. Comfortable clothes and long pants are recommended.

Can groups volunteer? What is the max group size?

Yes, groups of 5 or more should use our group reservation form or contact: groups@whiteponyexpress.org. The maximum group size is 15.

What will I be doing as a food rescue volunteer?

Food rescue volunteers sort, curate, and pack fresh groceries to ensure high quality before distribution.

How long are the food rescue volunteer shifts?

Shifts typically last 2 hours but may run shorter—1 to 1.5 hours—depending on the amount of food available that day.

What is food insecurity?

Food insecurity refers to the situation where individuals don't have reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. Limited access to nutritious food affects nearly 1 in 5 Californians and 1 in 9 in Contra Costa County.

What are the environmental benefits?

By ensuring no good food is unnecessarily wasted, WPE's Food Rescue Program has prevented over 48,227 tons of CO₂-equivalent emissions, reducing greenhouse gases, providing cleaner air, and fighting climate change.

Who should I contact for questions or documented service hours (for school or work)?

Email: volunteer@whiteponyexpress.org. Please allow 72 hours for service hour documentation requests.

Can court-ordered community service volunteers fulfill their required hours through White Pony Express?

Yes, court-ordered community service volunteers can complete their required hours through White Pony Express, but this option is limited to only those serving for minor traffic violations. If you need to complete hours as part of a court order, please [apply here](#).