



Arlington Food Assistance Center

New Volunteer Introduction

Thank you for offering to volunteer with AFAC. Without volunteers such as yourself, it would be impossible to serve the many food insecure members of our community.

The next few slides will help orient new volunteers and prepare you for your first time at AFAC.

There is no need to memorize the content. There will be a supervisor on site to show you the ropes plus we try to team first timers with experienced volunteers.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask!



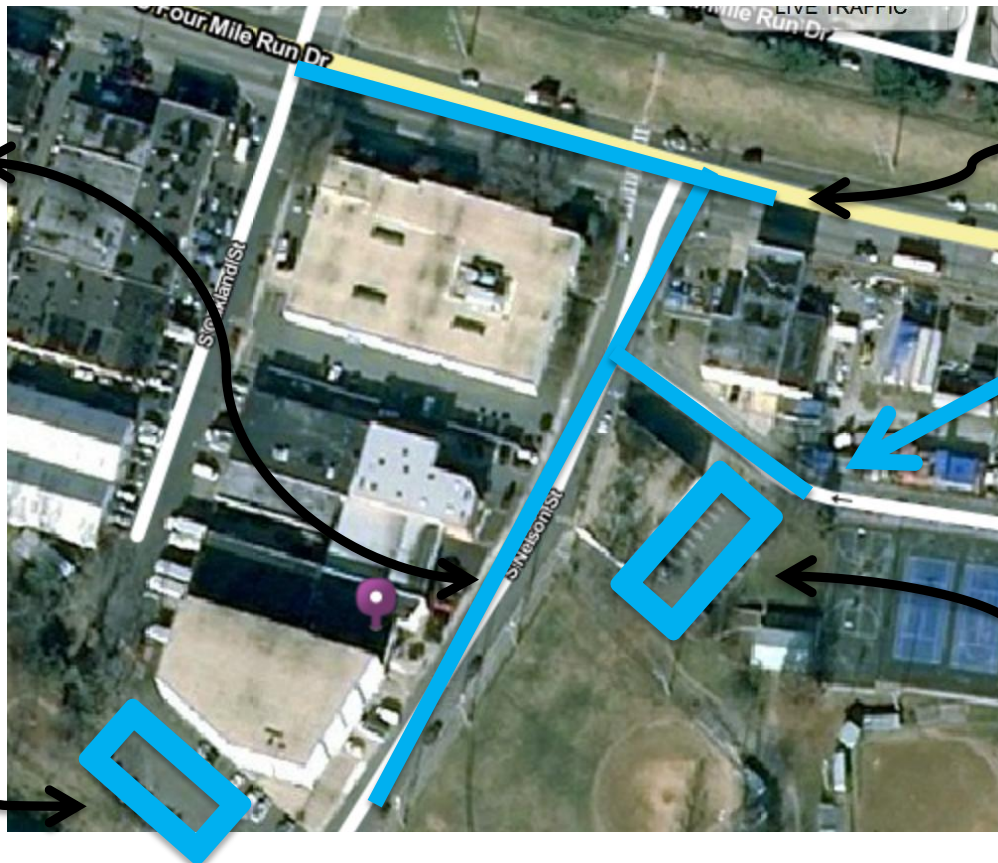
Parking at AFAC

2708 South Nelson Street Arlington, VA 22206

Parking is limited, mostly on the street. Blue indicates typical parking options. We have information on getting to AFAC by bus on our website, www.afac.org.

S Nelson St
(Street
Parking
In Front Of
AFAC)

**Dog park
lot**
At end of
Nelson St.



**S Four Mile
Run Dr**
(Meter Parking
On the Street,
restrictions after 7pm)

27th Street S
(One Way, but
Can Enter Parking
Lot From
S Nelson St)

Small Parking
Lot Behind
Building
Across From
AFAC



More Parking at AFAC

Village at Shirlington

On evenings and weekends when the weather is pleasant, parking can be difficult around AFAC due to the neighboring dog park and Jennie Dean ballfields.

You can park at the parking garage by the Harris Teeter at the Village at Shirlington on the 3rd floor. You can walk to AFAC in less than 5 minutes (0.2 miles).

When you get to ground level, walk north and cross Arlington Mill Rd. Walk across the foot bridge and you will be at the end of Nelson St.

Parking Garage

*use 3rd floor and above





Volunteer Entrance

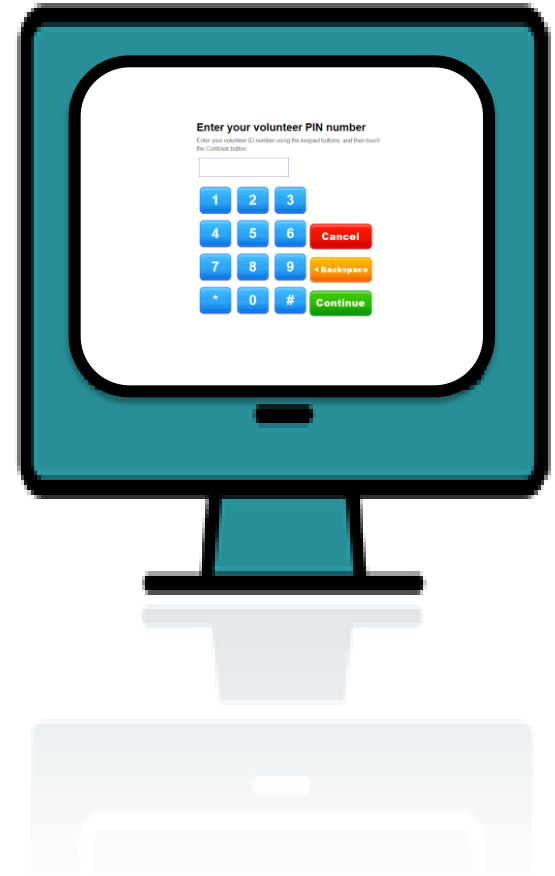
Volunteers should enter through the gray door by the loading dock.





When You Arrive

- Identify yourself to the supervisor. If it is your first time, let him/her know.
- Use the touch screen computer at the sign-in station and sign in with your PIN.
 - If you don't know your PIN number, check the PIN book.
 - If you are not in the PIN book, please sign in using the blue volunteer log book.
- Please wear a name tag (first name only).
- If you'd like an AFAC t-shirt, you'll find them in the sign-in area.
- Be sure to sign out when you leave.





When You Arrive

- Anyone under 18 must have a [Minor Holds Harmless form](#) signed when they volunteer for the first time. There are copies on a clipboard at the sign in area.
- Children ages 12 & 13 must be accompanied by an adult when volunteering at produce or chicken bagging. Children under age 12 can volunteer in the warehouse with their parents at Family Bagging Night once a month.
- If you have a form to be signed, please let the supervisor know. She/he will sign it at the end of your volunteer session.
- For court/lawyer ordered hours, you must contact the volunteer department, otherwise your hours will not be verified.
- If you have a physical condition that may restrict you such as lifting food crates, PLEASE tell the supervisor. We DO NOT want you to hurt yourself.
- Please wash your hands and put on gloves if you'll be handling food. You will also need to bring a hat from home or use one of our disposable hairnets.
- Once you're ready, the supervisor will let you know what needs to be done and get you started.



Volunteer Safety

- Pay attention to your surroundings at all times to avoid injuries. Do not be on your cell phones or listen to personal music devices while you are volunteering. If you must make a phone call, please step outside to make your call.
- Wear closed toed shoes. Do not wear flip flops, heels, shoes with slippery soles, etc. Jeans and shorts are acceptable, shirts are required.
- Weapons of any kind are prohibited at AFAC.
- Any volunteer under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be sent away.
- If you are sick, please do not come in. Contact the [volunteer department](#) to cancel.





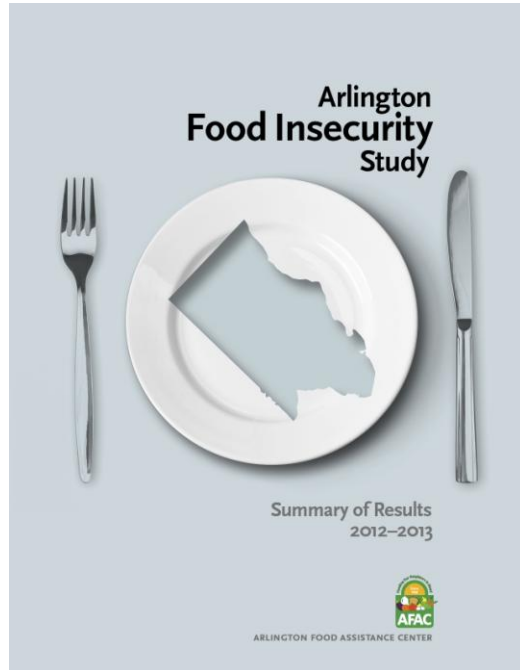
About AFAC

- AFAC is a community based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides supplemental groceries to our Arlington neighbors in need.
- AFAC is not a government organization. We do not receive funds from the federal and state governments. Arlington County contributes some funds towards our food purchases. AFAC depends on the donations of food, volunteer time and money to meet its annual operating budget.
- AFAC is not intended to supplant other food assistance services such as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program – aka food stamps). Our objective is to provide additional assistance to ensure everyone has access to adequate food.
- We distribute food at our main Arlington facility, to a number of off-site locations (such as retirement centers) and through the Backpack Buddies Program (supporting qualified school children on the weekend).



About Our Clients

- [According to a recent study conducted by Virginia Tech](#), more than 31,500 Arlington residents describe themselves as being food insecure
- *Food insecurity* is defined as the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.
- When money runs short, one of the first things that suffers is food – it's far easier to skip a few meals than to skip a monthly rent payment.





About Our Clients

- **Who are our clients?**
 - Adults that have lost their jobs or cannot work because of a physical/mental disorder, or have been injured (often while working at a job that has no or limited benefits).
 - Working adults who don't earn enough to buy food after paying for other expenses.
 - 30% of our clients are children.
 - 30% of our clients are elderly.
- AFAC serves more than 2,200 families a week (40% increase from July 2013).
- **How often can clients come?** Once a week.



About Our Clients

- **What do we provide?** Every family receives all of the following:
 - Choice of fresh produce – 1 serving of fresh fruit and 2 servings of fresh vegetables
 - ½ gallon of 1% milk
 - 1 dozen eggs
 - Choice of protein – 1 serving chicken, fish, or hot dogs
 - Cereal or oatmeal
 - Rice or pasta
 - Canned goods
 - Bread
 - Pastries
- To receive food from AFAC, a client must be referred by a social worker, school counselor or other partner organizations.
- **Client Privacy** - We respect the privacy of our clients. Volunteers may not take photos of clients.



Where Do We Get The Food?

- 40% of the food we distribute comes from donations from local supermarkets and food drives, big and small.
- During summer and fall months, we also receive produce from local farmers markets, local gardens and gleaning efforts.
- Financial donations are used to purchase items such as milk, eggs, fish, chicken, rice and beans, as well as other food items when donations are inadequate.



Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC)

2708 South Nelson Street Arlington, VA 22206

703.845.8486 <http://www.afac.org>

General volunteer inquiries –
volunteer4afac@afac.org

Laura Jackson
Director of Volunteer Services
laura.jackson@afac.org
703-845-8486

Jocalyn Lombardi
Volunteer Coordinator
Jocalyn.lombardi@afac.org
703-845-8486

Danielle Rampton
Volunteer Coordinator
danielle.rampton@afac.org
703-845-8486



United Way #8354
CFC #19265
CVC #8004



Thank you

AFAC volunteers are a friendly group with varied backgrounds and a common concern for our neighbors. As such, we are sure that you will meet interesting people while with us. Above all we want you to enjoy your volunteering.

We absolutely cannot serve 2,200 client families each week without you. Whether you are bagging food, sorting donations, or working in our distributions, our staff and clients appreciate your dedication and effort.

THANK You for volunteering with AFAC!

