

Position

Kitchen Lead – Part-Time, Hourly
Estimated 20–30 hours weekly

Reports to

Hospitality Manager

Summary

The Kitchen Lead plays a vital role in ensuring that Neighbor Nights fulfill For The Love's mission to feed the hungry, cultivate community, and fight poverty. This position provides hands-on leadership in the kitchen, guiding volunteer teams with excellence, hospitality, and care. The Kitchen Lead is responsible for food preparation, quality control, and efficient kitchen operations while fostering a welcoming and encouraging environment for volunteers.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead meal preparation by following recipes and guiding volunteers to do the same. Usual working hours are weekdays between 10:00 and 4:00 but subject to change.
- Use creativity and resourcefulness to incorporate donated goods into meals.
- Ensure food quality and consistency by sampling and monitoring throughout preparation.
- Manage costs and minimize food waste.
- Oversee and engage the Neighbor Night kitchen prep team with positivity, gratitude, and clear direction.
- Keep the commissary and event kitchens clean, organized, and efficient; ensure dishes are completed.
- Safely lift and transport items up to 50 lbs regularly.
- Drive the truck for food delivery or pick-up, if needed, occasionally.
- Provide support or leadership for Neighbor Night serve teams when needed, ensuring smooth food service and maintaining quality standards.

Requirements

The Kitchen Lead must be ServSafe Manager Certified and have at least 2 years of food service experience, preferably with prior kitchen leadership. This role requires someone with a positive, approachable, and servant-hearted leadership style who can communicate effectively and work well with diverse groups of people. Experience managing projects or volunteers is preferred, along with the ability to inspire, motivate, and support others. The ideal candidate will be creative, adaptable, and solutions-oriented, with strong interpersonal skills and empathy for volunteers. The ability to regularly lift up to 50 lbs. A teachable spirit and team-focused attitude are essential. Ministry experience is a plus but not required.