

## Stecoah Volunteer Opportunities

**Schoolhouse Café** – the Café is staffed primarily by volunteers and is open 10-2, Wednesday – Saturday/Sunday from April through October with some additional event days in November and December. Volunteer responsibilities include: preparing food orders (not cooking); managing the cash register for payment of café items; keeping the café clean and organized; and interacting with the guests. Volunteers get free lunch and get to keep any tips (split if more than one volunteer on shift).

**Building Repairs/Maintenance** – We have an old building and it often needs minor repairs and touch ups like paint. Sometimes we need help with bigger projects like cleaning out the basement or attic. These projects are short term and are tackled when the weather is most favorable for their success. Some of these tasks are best accomplished by a team effort.

**Garden and Grounds Maintenance/Beautification** – On the property we have a beautiful native azalea garden as well as various flower beds. We also have our kitchen crop garden that is planted seasonally to supply produce for the Appalachian Evening dinners and Schoolhouse Café. We plant the flowers beds for seasonal color, and the garden needs seasonal turning and planting and all need weeding throughout the summer. These are also seasonal projects, except for the weeding, and are best accomplished by a team. ***We welcome volunteers to “adopt” a bed to plant and maintain throughout the year.***

**Office Type Tasks** – Like any business we have lots of paperwork that needs to be filed, organized, shredded, scanned, or otherwise managed. This is a great year-round opportunity that can be done individually on a come and go kind of basis.

**Festivals and Events** – Our Harvest Festival is a BIG event that needs LOTS of volunteer help. Volunteer tasks include: help with parking; taking attendance fees; staffing the Café; taking trash; vendor relief; etc. Our other Events include the Easter Egg Hunt which needs volunteers to help with egg stuffing, managing the “Peeps on the Creek” sign up, jelly bean contest, etc. Some of our smaller events also need volunteer assistance, so if you enjoy festivals and events, please sign up to help. Harvest Festival volunteers get free lunch.

**Appalachian Evening and other Concerts** – Appalachian Evening Concerts take place every Saturday night from the last Saturday in June through the last Saturday in August. We have other concerts during the year like our Ramp Concert the last Saturday in April and our Harvest Festival Concert the third Saturday in October. When we have concerts, we need volunteers from 6:00-7:30 pm to: take tickets at the door which includes generally greeting the guests and giving them a program; and to staff the ticket table outside where people pick up and/or buy tickets and rent cushions. We also need volunteers to staff the Schoolhouse Café from 6:00-9:00pm for meals and concessions. Concert Volunteers receive a free meal in the Café and may stay for the show if seating is available.

**Stecoah Afterschool Program** – During the school year we provide an afterschool program for grades K-8 from 3:30-6:00 pm. We give the kids a snack, outdoor recreation time, help with homework, and usually some art/craft projects. Volunteers are needed who have specific expertise with children such as: organized recreation activities, homework help (retired teachers), arts/crafts projects, etc. We are open to new ideas for the kids that broaden their scope of activities and education, please feel free to talk with the Program Director or Afterschool Director about your idea(s).

**Marketing Distribution** – We have posters, brochures and other marketing materials that need to be distributed far and wide to promote the Stecoah events. This task is seasonal and can be done as a person’s schedule permits; however it must be done in a timely manner in order to gain the most benefit of the marketing opportunities. Distribution volunteers will be reimbursed for mileage from Stecoah at the current NC state reimbursement rate.

**Please call us at 828-479-3364 or email Kate at [kate@stecoahvalleycenter.com](mailto:kate@stecoahvalleycenter.com) to let us know how you’d like to be involved.**