

Volunteering with Lava Mae



Volunteers are the heart and soul of our programs and operations and we deeply appreciate our individual and group volunteers from corporations, professional associations, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, K-12 schools, universities, and countless other organizations. We simply couldn't do what we do without you!

**OUR MISSION:
TAKING RADICAL HOSPITALITY
TO THE STREET**

Lava Mae is a San Francisco-based nonprofit that is disrupting the way communities see and serve people moving through homelessness. We do this by bringing critical services — delivered with an unexpected level of care that we call “radical hospitality” — to the street through programs including our mobile hygiene service and our new Pop-Up Care Villages. Volunteers are the face of our radical hospitality, and we welcome you to join our community!.

1. Volunteering with Lava Mae's Mobile Hygiene Service

~ Ideal for individuals and groups of six or less ~



Lava Mae began by converting public transportation buses into showers and toilets on wheels to deliver hygiene and dignity to people experiencing homelessness.

Since our first volunteer in 2014, we are now a community of 1000+ volunteers and growing. Along with your smiles and support, we have touched the lives of 2500 people who have taken 14,000+ showers on our units!

READY TO JOIN US?

SEE OUR FULL SCHEDULE AND LIST
OF SAN FRANCISCO SITES HERE.

Getting started. When you arrive on site, please ask for our Ambassador or Mobile Services Coordinator. You'll put on your new Lava Mae t-shirt and place your personal belongings in the cabinets on the bus.

Greet and welcome our guests warmly. Always ask their name, and introduce yourself with a smile. Take time to connect with each and every guest; your authentic and compassionate attention represents the unexpected level of care that defines radical hospitality.

Help tidy up. During your shift, you'll be keeping our showers cleaned and stocked with hygiene kits and towels for our guests. We will provide you with gloves and masks during the sanitation process, as we work hard to ensure hygiene and safety for all.

Share your thoughts and photos from your volunteer experiences on social media!

Last, but not least. Relax, be yourself, and have fun!

SIGN UP FOR A VOLUNTEER SHIFT HERE.



2. Volunteering with Lava Mae's Pop-Up Care Villages

~ Ideal for individuals and groups of six or more ~

Our Pop-Up Care Villages are designed to bring vital services to the street so that individuals experiencing homelessness can get many of their basic needs met all at one time, and all in one place.

Think: Off the Grid food trucks, but instead with a myriad of human services provided by different service providers and entrepreneurs: Lava Mae showers, clothing tents, haircuts, mobile medical clinics, hot meals and more.

At our last Pop-Up Care Village alone, we partnered with 17 organizations, served 400 guests, and were powered by 70 volunteers!

If you're ready to help make the next one a success, please [SIGN UP HERE](#) and we will follow up with more information!



3. Organizing a Lava Mae Hygiene Kit Donation Drive

~ Ideal for individuals and groups of all sizes ~

At Lava Mae Service locations we provide every guest with their own hygiene kit equipped with the essentials they need for a relaxing and revitalizing shower. You can help us by organizing your own hygiene kits donation drive! This activity is easy, enjoyable and extremely valuable!

Simply bring together a group of any size (friends, family, colleagues), ask everyone to bring one or more items from the hygiene kit supply list, and assemble your hygiene kits for our appreciative guests. Feel free to add a personalized note!

HYGIENE KIT SUPPLY LIST:

[ZIPLOC BAG](#)

[TOOTHBRUSH](#)

[TOOTHPASTE](#)

[SHAMPOO](#)

[SOAP BAR](#)

[DEODORANT](#)

[SOCKS](#)

After you've assembled your hygiene kits in Ziploc bags, please drop them off or send them to:

Lava Mae
3543 18th Street, #24
San Francisco, CA 94110



4. Organizing a Party with Purpose To Benefit Lava Mae

If you love to throw parties, we'd lava you
to throw one for us!



Lava Mae volunteers have spearheaded and organized a wide variety of creative fundraisers and special events to introduce their networks to Lava Mae's work and raise funds to support our efforts from their friends, family, colleagues and others.

Examples of recent volunteer-hosted Lava Mae fundraisers include donation-based yoga classes, artwork sales of student-created works of art, dance parties, happy hours, and more!

5. Spreading the Lava Evangelizing & Enlisting New Lava Mae Volunteers

Most new Lava Mae volunteers come to us through our current volunteers, so we love when our supporters tell their friends, family, colleagues and others about our work!

- Encouraging your networks to follow us on our social media channels, and sign up for our newsletter.
- Letting your networks know when you'll be volunteering with Lava Mae, and inviting them to join you.
- Telling your company, professional association, faith-based organization, sports league, etc. about Lava Mae volunteer opportunities.

Ready to Get Started? Have More Ideas for Ways to Help?

Great, we'd love to hear from you! Please email us with your interests and ideas, and we'll welcome your participation!

[EMAIL US: VOLUNTEER@LAVAMAE.ORG](mailto:VOLUNTEER@LAVAMAE.ORG)

