

As we are all set to kick off the New Year, Valesta wants to wish you and your families a happy New Year! We are looking forward to building a successful 2019 with you.

Before we fully dive into 2019, I would like reflect on some of our heart-warming end of year activities. In 2018, we decided to donate our full Valesta New Year's gift budget to charity and I'm very proud to say that we didn't just donate much needed funds. Several of our colleagues also got the opportunity to perform a half a day of volunteer work for one of our selected charity causes:

1. **Hachiko vzw** is an organisation that focuses on the training, matching and further guidance of assistance dogs, which improves the quality of life for people with a physical disability or epilepsy.
2. **Poverello vzw** provides nutritious food with understanding, respect and love for individuals in desperate need of decent food, warm and clean clothing, accommodation and sometimes medical care.

On 29th November, our colleagues Isabelle Lux, Elke Vanderbeken and Delphine Daveloose volunteered at Poverello vzw to help out with several kitchen activities. As pictures say more than words, please enjoy some nice memories:



On December 3th 2018, Hilde Wolput, Renilde Baudemprez and Nathalie Marcassoli went to Hachiko vzw to help out with some garden duties.



On 20th December our Valesta team of enthusiastic runners joined the Warmathon Race in Antwerp, thus supporting Alzheimer research.

Our Valesta team did in total 19 rounds of 3.1 km.



An important part of our Valesta culture, is to be a company with a warm heart and to create an environment where people can grow, succeed and help others. We see charity, volunteer work & support as an essential part of everyday life. Standing by those in need is a real virtue and charity should be a constant endeavour.

Also in 2019 Valesta will continue this practice and hopefully not alone: giving is not about making a donation; it's about making a difference. Closing with my New Year's wishes for all of you:

"May you discover all your hidden potentials this New Year and turn them into new opportunities bringing you joy and fulfilment for the rest of your life."

Warm regards,
Els Stout
Country Manager, Valesta Benelux