



## GREATER SHEPPARTON

# VOLUNTEER ACTION PLAN 2025-2029

The Greater Shepparton Volunteer Managers Network, in partnership with Greater Shepparton City Council, developed this Volunteer Action Plan. The Volunteer Action Plan outlines key goals and initiatives to support volunteering across Greater Shepparton.

The Greater Shepparton Volunteer Managers Network is a group of Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIOs) who provide services across the Greater Shepparton local government area. The Network promotes and advocates for volunteers and volunteer services, and also shares resources and information relating to volunteering. In addition to being a VIO, Greater Shepparton City Council provides leadership and administrative support to the Greater Shepparton Volunteer Manager’s Network.

	We aspire to	By doing	The impact
Promotion	Promote the benefits of volunteering	Sharing volunteer experiences and the difference they have made	Increased awareness of volunteering Increased attraction of volunteers
	Celebrate volunteers and volunteerism in a public forum	Leading the Greater Shepparton Volunteer Recognition Awards Acknowledging National Volunteer Week	Improved retention of volunteers Volunteers will feel valued
Engaging Young People	Promote volunteering to young people	Partnering with youth focused organisations, groups, and events	Improved volunteerism in young people throughout their life
	Provide welcoming and inclusive spaces for young volunteers	Fostering a positive and respectful culture that promotes inclusivity and diversity	Young people will have opportunities to thrive
	Encourage meaningful volunteer opportunities for young people	Fostering young people’s volunteerism	Young people will be fulfilled by volunteering for organisations/causes they are passionate about Young people will build skills and experience useful for future work
Networking	Encourage collaboration/partnerships between VIOs	Providing opportunities for networking and information sharing	A united and stronger local volunteering sector Efficient use of resources
	Provide opportunities for volunteers to socialise/connect	Exploring opportunities for volunteers to connect and collaborate	Increased sense of belonging, purpose, and community for volunteers
Reward & Recognition	Celebrate, value, and reward volunteers and volunteerism	Identifying and utilising avenues for rewarding and recognising volunteers and volunteerism	A sense of pride. Volunteers will feel valued Improved retention of volunteers



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Skills and Training	Enable volunteers to upskill	Identifying opportunities and incentives for volunteers to upskill	Supports the creation of employment pathways Encourages personal development in volunteers
	Enable knowledge sharing between organisations and their volunteers	Building on existing avenues to network and share knowledge	A stronger volunteering sector Increased efficiencies
	Utilise training opportunities for volunteer managers	Seeking out and sharing training and professional development opportunities	A more skilled and knowledgeable local volunteer sector
Recruitment and Retention	Collaborate on volunteer recruitment	Sharing recruitment and retention ideas and resources	Efficient use of resources Improved retention of volunteers Increased attraction of volunteers
	Attract volunteers	Sharing information about volunteer opportunities with community, volunteers, and volunteer managers Ensuring there are meaningful opportunities for volunteers Providing clear information for volunteers	Increased opportunities for involvement by those who may not already volunteer VIOs will have a broader range of volunteers to recruit to enable continued service/program delivery A more consistent approach to volunteer recruitment
	Retain volunteers	Pursuing best practice in line with the National Standards for Volunteer Involvement Fostering volunteers	Happy and engaged volunteers will volunteer longer Programs and services reliant on volunteers will continue
Cost/ Funding	Explore ways to reduce costs associated with volunteering for those who volunteer	Exploring funding and opportunities to offset costs borne by volunteers	Reducing the cost barrier preventing people from volunteering
Corporate	Encourage corporate volunteering	Showcasing the benefits of corporate volunteering	Programs and services reliant on volunteers will have access to more volunteers
Inclusion	Be an inclusive volunteer sector	Encouraging and enabling participation for everyone	Fosters a more diverse and engaged volunteer cohort VIOs and the programs/services they provide will better reflect our community