

Media Release

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Volunteering Victoria Calls for Better Support for Victoria's Volunteer Workforce

Volunteering Victoria recently made its annual budget submission to the State Government, urging the Andrews Government to expand on their current commitment to volunteering by increasing their financial contribution to the sector.

1.51 million people in Victoria contribute 203 million hours of work to the community providing vital services across all sectors including aged care, disability services, sport and recreation, the environment, the arts, emergency services and much more.

The State Government has already shown it is committed to volunteering with the establishment of the Ministerial Council for Volunteers, however ongoing funding and resources to support volunteer management across the state is essential to ensure the longevity of the sector.

Says CEO Sue Noble;

“The value of volunteering in Victoria is well documented and widely acknowledged, but this has not translated into any serious Budget investment. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the funding for Volunteering Victoria, the State peak for volunteering, which is the lowest in the nation at \$0.03 per head of population.”

Volunteering Victoria has also sought support to continue operating its innovative spontaneous emergency volunteer services program, HelpOUT. Under its current 3-year project-based funding arrangement, HelpOUT will lose half of its funding in July 2017 and the remainder in July 2018. The important contribution of HelpOUT in supporting relief and recovery following major emergencies is widely recognized by the emergency management sector, yet it has failed to attract recurrent funding.

Volunteering Victoria's State Budget Submission is available for viewing on the Volunteering Victoria website [here](#) (.PDF 2MB).

For all enquiries please contact



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About Volunteering Victoria

Volunteering Victoria is the state peak body for volunteering. Our vision is for resilient communities and empowered and active citizens through volunteering.

Through our dynamic and transformative leadership, we work to promote and build a vibrant, prosperous and strong volunteering community that is inclusive, respected and sustainable.

Volunteering Victoria is a member-based organisation, supported by a dedicated and highly professional team of staff and volunteers. From broad sectors such as social services, health, sport, culture, emergency services and local government, our membership reflects the diversity of people and organisations that work with and support volunteers in our community.