

# Youth Volunteering Nominee

## Example Application

**Name:** Jane Smith

**Organisation:** Animal Shelter

**Age:** 18

### **What is outstanding about the nominee's volunteering commitment?**

Jane's commitment to volunteering, for someone so young, is truly an inspiration for others to follow. Since she was 15, Jane has been a regular face at the Animal Shelter as well as participating as a volunteer for other groups around Brisbane. Jane has dedicated countless volunteering hours in between her high school and now university studies, extracurricular activities and part time job.

When Jane first started she was very shy and it has been a pleasure to watch her grow in confidence and build her strength of character through volunteering. During her time at the Animal Shelter she has helped facilitate matching a number of abandoned animals with their new families, committing to extra shifts when needed and individually helping fundraise for the shelter through organising bake sales at her school. She has singlehandedly raised over \$15,000 for the shelter over the 4 years that she has volunteered here. Her love and care for animals of all shapes and sizes is undeniable and can be seen through the work that she does to ensure their quality of life and happiness.

Beyond volunteering at the Animal Shelter, Jane also regularly helps out at her local op shop and netball club. Jane uses her customer service skills from working at Woolworths to ensure the success of the op shop as a retail assistant once a week and also helps them with regular stocktake; donation drives and helping them recruit and train more volunteers. Her role at the netball club involves coaching the under 10s team and also providing administration support each season such as game rostering, uniform orders and court bookings.

Jane is a motivated all-rounder who seeks out opportunities to help others without asking for anything in return and we believe she deserves to be recognised for her consistent efforts.

### **What positive impact has the nominee had on the Queensland community?**

The impact of Jane's volunteering work can be realised in a number of areas. The hours she has dedicated to caring for the animals and making sure they are matched with the right families has had an impact on all involved. Families who have added a new member, thanks to Jane, return with such overwhelming praise speaking of the time and care that Jane took and also the follow up calls that she made to ensure the transition was going smoothly.

Jane also works tremendously hard at the shelter to guarantee that all animals are accounted for and looked after with a clean living environment, enough food or water and also plenty of exercise and play. The dedication that Jane has shown to these animals has seen an increase in the adoption rate. Since she began, adoptions have increased by 25%. This can be attributed to her work on the Animal Shelter website and social media channels. She actively uses her skills in



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these areas to promote and update the public on new additions to the shelter and encourage them to adopt.

### Where and how long has the nominee been a volunteer?

- Animal Shelter – 4 years
- Op Shop – 2 years
- Netball Club – 4 years

### How is the nominee an inspiration?

Jane's nomination is a result of her kind and caring nature which fuels her actions and volunteerism. Jane's efforts are so effective because she cares a great deal about the work she is doing. Nothing is ever done unwilling or with half effort. Every task is completed to the highest of standard. This is highlighted in the praise she has received from visitors to the shelters, the other workers here and also local members of parliament.

It is always impressive when a young person puts up their hand for volunteering amongst the many busy aspects of their lives. It is even more impressive when said young person is as dedicated and committed to the work as Jane is. The presence of this at such a young age serves as an inspiration for us here at the shelter to meet the high standards that she has set.

### Main emphasis:

- Highlight the volunteer's contributions with clear examples in the past year
- Show their ongoing dedication to volunteering
- Demonstrate the effects and impact of their volunteering work at a personal, operational and strategic level





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