

# Volunteering Queensland

## 2024 State Election Priorities

A range of research, including the State of Volunteering in Queensland 2024 Report, has found a decline of around 10% in the rate of volunteering since 2020, both within Queensland and nationally. This has coincided with significantly increased costs to volunteers to undertake their valuable work. Despite these trends, our research showed that 64% of Queenslanders (or 2.8 million people) still volunteer, providing an estimated value to the Queensland community of \$117.8 billion.

Volunteering doesn't just organically happen. To be fully safe, effective and valuable - for the community, the organisations who rely on volunteers, and for volunteers themselves - volunteering needs to be properly invested in. There are a number of things that we believe need significant new investment in order to better grow and connect volunteering across our local communities:

- 1. Improving the statewide volunteer network**

Fund additional training and resources to make it easier for Queenslanders to volunteer, and for volunteer involving organisations to recruit and retain the volunteers they need by funding an integrated statewide network of 8 placebased regional Volunteer Resource Centre partners and growing the capacity of the peak body Volunteering Queensland to manage this. This would include \$200k increase to Volunteering Qld annual budget to implement and manage the VRC network and \$2.8M annually to provide recurrent funding to the current 4 VRC partners and to 4 new regional/rural partners to expand their services to become a VRC.

**\$3M annually**

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- 2. Better training and deployment of spontaneous volunteers**

Make an ongoing annual investment in Queensland's Emergency Volunteering CREW (EV CREW)/ Care Army capabilities to help better inform and coordinate volunteers who want to assist with natural disasters and their aftermath. This would provide a dedicated emergency volunteer officer, development and maintenance of online spontaneous volunteer training modules and investment in IT to support emergency volunteering response and integration with local council systems.

**\$280,000 annually**

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- 3. Protecting Queensland Volunteers**

Ensure Queensland's local volunteers are protected when they give of their time by committing to a joint in-kind project between Volunteering Queensland and Queensland Treasury to scope the feasibility and cost of a government supported state-wide community volunteer insurance program.

**in-kind**

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- 4. Continuing evidence-based research**

Contribute to ongoing volunteering research by funding another State of Volunteering in Queensland Report in 2027/28. (This would build on the State of Volunteering in Queensland 2024 and 2021 Reports. See more at [volunteeringqld.org.au/state-of-volunteering-in-queensland](http://volunteeringqld.org.au/state-of-volunteering-in-queensland))

**\$175,000**

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- 5. Helping volunteers meet the rising costs of volunteering**

Support some of the 2.8 million Queenslanders who volunteer by making an annual pool of funding available to Volunteering-Involving Organisations to assist them with a nominal volunteer payment to help cover volunteering costs such as transport and food for volunteers who volunteer regularly.

**\$330,000 annually**

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**volunteering**  
queensland

# Volunteering in Queensland



OR



State of Volunteering Report 2024

