

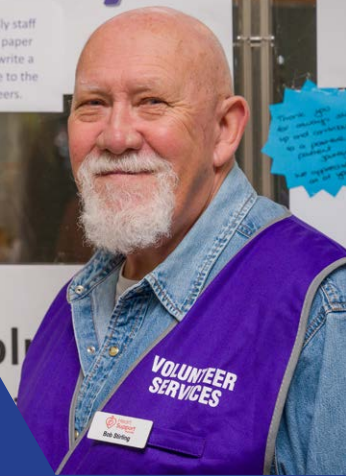


ACT
Government

VolunteeringACT
an inclusive Canberra

2024-2027

ACT Volunteering Strategy Action Plan



| STRATEGIC OUTCOME AREA | WHAT WE WANT TO SEE | THE STEPS WE WILL TAKE | WHO WILL LEAD |
|---|---|---|---|
| Focus Area 1: Individual Potential and Volunteer Experience | | | |
| <p>1.1: More ACT community members are engaged in meaningful and enjoyable volunteering in a way that works for them.</p> | <p>Simplified and increased up take of Volunteering Leave across ACT Government.</p> | <p>1. Review and update any relevant Whole of Government policies that refer to volunteers i.e. Second Jobs and Volunteering.</p> | <p>ACT Government (CMTEDD/OIRWS)</p> |
| | | <p>2. Develop advice and guidelines specifically on Voluntary Community Leave and promote via whole of government communications.</p> | <p>ACT Government (CMTEDD/OIRWS)</p> |
| | <p>Improved public awareness and uptake of opportunities to volunteer at ACT events.</p> | <p>3. Promotion of volunteering opportunities with large scale ACT events – such as Floriade, Enlighten and National Multicultural Festival.</p> | <p>ACT Government (Events ACT, CSD)</p> |
| | <p>People in the ACT understand more about how volunteering can benefit them personally and the benefits it provides to other Canberrans.</p> | <p>4. Investigate more ways we can help people use volunteering to upskill, connect with others and enhance wellbeing.</p> | <p>Volunteering ACT (VACT)</p> |
| | <p>Better understanding of what young people want to get from volunteering, what they need to help them and what is stopping them.</p> | <p>5. Carry out research into youth and student volunteering in the ACT.</p> | <p>VACT</p> |
| | <p>Better understanding of volunteering in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and how to ensure ACT volunteering programs are culturally safe.</p> | <p>6. Establish respectful ongoing connections with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to hear their views on volunteering and what they would like from volunteer programs.</p> | <p>VACT</p> |
| | <p>Improved understanding of the volunteering context in culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities.</p> | <p>7. Expand collaboration with the ACT’s CALD communities to learn from their volunteering practices.</p> | <p>VACT</p> |
| <p>1.2: ACT volunteers are free from exploitation, and their participation in volunteering does not result in direct financial loss.</p> | <p>Strong governance and best practice approaches across the ACT volunteering ecosystem.</p> | <p>8. Develop further tools for volunteers and Volunteer-Involving Organisations (VIOs) to support key governance requirements and standards.</p> | <p>VACT</p> |

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| | How we build capability in others is responsive to changes in volunteering trends and settings. | 9. Develop and adapt volunteer and volunteer management training, resources and toolkits to respond to changing needs, including more informal volunteering. | VACT |
| | ACT volunteers and VIOs have ongoing access to high quality and affordable training. | 10. Expand the roll out of VACT's core training program. | VACT |
| | A more consistent approach to getting volunteers into the roles they want as quickly and easily as possible. | 11. Investigate what volunteers and VIOs might need from a future ACT Volunteer 'Passport' scheme. | VACT |
| 1.3: ACT volunteers feel safe and supported in their roles and volunteering environment. | Improvements to the way the ACT Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) scheme is administered and the quality of support and advice available. | 12. Look into how to improve information sharing and development of resources regarding the WWVP Scheme in partnership with Access Canberra. | ACT Government (CMTEDD) VACT |
| | ACT volunteer programs are inclusive, ethical, safe and well aligned with the National Standards for Volunteer Involvement. | 13. Develop an Ethical Volunteering Framework including induction guidelines and share with the ACT volunteering ecosystem. | VACT |
| Focus Area 2: Community and Social Impact | | | |
| 2.1: The ACT volunteer workforce is seen and heard, valued and fully recognised for the far-reaching positive impacts of volunteering. | More data on volunteering impacts included within relevant ACT data collections. | 14. Investigate ways to connect more volunteering data to other relevant ACT data collections including the ACT Wellbeing Framework. | ACT Government (CMTEDD) VACT |
| | Increased awareness of the size, scale and impact of the ACT volunteering sector. | 15. Coordinate the State of Volunteering Survey in the ACT every three years and share finding with the ACT volunteering ecosystem. | VACT |
| | Greater public recognition for volunteering and the value it delivers. | 16. Continue to recognise volunteering through ACT Government awards. | ACT Government (All Directorates) |
| | People in the ACT understand more about all the different ways volunteering supports communities across the Canberra region. | 17. Develop a communications plan about volunteering and the positive difference it makes to our region. | VACT |
| | | 18. Promote the importance of volunteers during ACT Volunteering Week. | ACT Government (CSD) VACT |

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| <p>2.2: Volunteering stories, experiences and impacts are well-documented and widely shared across communities, to improve how we highlight and celebrate them.</p> | <p>People in the ACT know more about the National Strategy for Volunteering and why it's important.</p> | <p>19. Raise public awareness of the importance of the National Strategy for Volunteering and how this is being progressed in the ACT.</p> | <p>VACT</p> |
| | <p>The ACT has a wider range of meaningful data on volunteering and its impact on our region available in lots of different formats.</p> | <p>20. Build the capability of VIOs to improve their data collection on volunteering and understanding of data governance processes.</p> | <p>VACT</p> |
| <p>Focus Area 3: Conditions for Volunteering to Thrive</p> | | | |
| <p>3.1: The importance of volunteers, volunteer managers and VIOs is considered in relevant ACT government strategic planning, service design and delivery.</p> | <p>Everyone working in the different volunteering settings across the ACT has the chance to share their ideas about the Strategy and what actions we should take.</p> | <p>21. Continue to convene the Volunteering Strategic Advisory Group to guide VACT's ongoing implementation of the Strategy.</p> | <p>VACT</p> |
| | <p>The actions and projects needed to support the ACT Volunteering Strategy have enough funding and staff.</p> | <p>22. Hold an annual roundtable with key stakeholders to guide and review implementation of the ACT Volunteering Strategy.</p> | <p>ACT Government (CSD) VACT</p> |
| <p>3.2: ACT Volunteers and VIOs have strong links with each other, collaborate well and regularly share good practice.</p> | <p>Everyone working in volunteer programs across ACT Government has the chance to meet regularly and share their experiences and good practice.</p> | <p>24. Establish an ACT Government Volunteering Networking Group for ACTPS staff working in ACT Government Volunteer Programs.</p> | <p>ACT Government (CSD) VACT</p> |
| | <p>Support for more diverse participation in volunteering across the ACT community.</p> | <p>25. Engage with Ministerial Councils to promote participation in volunteering.</p> | <p>ACT Government (CSD) VACT</p> |
| | <p>ACT volunteers and VIOs are better connected to one another in the ways that work best for them.</p> | <p>26. Investigate what volunteers and VIOs need to help them connect with each other and work together more.</p> | <p>VACT</p> |

