



Gavin Pearce MP
Federal Member for Braddon

3 August 2023

Popular volunteer grants program now open

More than eight million Australians volunteer each year, freely giving their time, energy and skills to support others. Australian volunteers are the backbone of their communities and are made up of all ages, ethnicities, and backgrounds.

To recognise the commitment of our volunteers, expressions of interest are now being accepted for the federal government's popular Volunteer Grants program.

Federal Member for Braddon, Gavin Pearce MP, said that to date over 80 community groups across the North-West, West Coast and King Island have received in excess of \$250,000 as part of the Volunteer Grants program. During the 2023-24 round, another \$66,225 will be available.

"I'm calling for eligible, not-for-profit community organisations in Braddon to submit their expression of interest to my office before close of business on Friday 8 September 2023," Mr Pearce said.

"I especially encourage community groups who are yet to receive a grant to consider applying."

"Volunteers across the region freely give their time to support local organisations in a variety of ways and make an extraordinary contribution to our community. Their contributions might go unpaid, but they certainly don't go unrecognised."

Tania Blake from Roseberry Neighbourhood House, a 2022-23 Volunteer Grant recipient, said the funding was a significant help.

"We used our funding to put our volunteers through first-aid training, allowing them to stay in-house instead of travelling to receive the same training... it really meant a lot," Mrs Blake said.

Volunteer Grants of \$1,000 to \$5,000 are available for items that directly benefit the work of the volunteers. This could be to buy small equipment or the reimbursement of volunteer fuel, transport or training costs. The grants can also be used to promote awareness and increase participation in volunteering opportunities.

Organisations are nominated by their Federal Member of Parliament and must meet the eligibility criteria.

More information is available by contacting the Office of Gavin Pearce on 6431 1333 or via email at braddon@aph.gov.au.

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Media contacts: Denise Fletcher | Gavin Pearce MP | 0438 022 726
Tania Blake | Roseberry Neighbourhood House | 6473 1497