

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Tuesday, 21 May 2024

RECOGNISING VICTORIA'S VOLUNTEER SUPERSTARS

The Allan Labor Government is supporting Victoria's volunteers and recognising their hard work and the contribution they make to the state.

Minister for Carers and Volunteers Ros Spence today announced a \$150,000 funding boost to support our volunteers and opened nominations for the Victorian Volunteering Awards.

Funding will deliver a refreshed State of Victoria's Volunteering Report, which will capture the latest data on the impact of volunteers and prepare for the future of volunteering in the state.

Nominations are now open for the Victorian Volunteer Awards 2024, and can be submitted for inspiring individuals or organisations, who are helping make Victoria an even better place to live through their volunteering. Award categories for individuals include:

- Volunteer of the Year (Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Award)
- Young Volunteer Award
- Volunteer Commitment Award
- Volunteer Leadership Award
- Volunteer Impact Award.

Additionally, organisations may be nominated under five categories, ranging from Inclusive Volunteering Award to the Grassroots Volunteering Award.

Finalists and winners will be selected by an expert panel, including members of the volunteering community, and invited to celebrate at a ceremony in early 2025.

Last year's Award winners include Caitlin Grigsby, a volunteer connecting LGBTIQ+ Gippslanders to essential information, services and support, and Woor-Dungin Inc., an organisation supporting partnerships between Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and philanthropic and pro bono partners.

The Awards are delivered by Volunteering Victoria in partnership with the Allan Labor Government.

Nominations for the 2024 Awards close on Monday 22 July. For more information, and to nominate a Victorian making a difference, visit volunteeringvictoria.org.au/awards.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Carers and Volunteers Ros Spence

"Volunteers play a vital role in Victorian communities, and these awards celebrate their incredible achievements."

"If you know an inspiring volunteer or community organisation, nominate them for the Victorian Volunteering Awards. You'll help to make sure Victoria's incredible volunteers are recognised and celebrated."

Quote attributable to Volunteering Victoria Chief Executive Officer Geoff Sharp

"Volunteers often avoid the spotlight, but this is our chance to celebrate their dedication to our communities. Please consider nominating the quiet heroes around you who deserve recognition. Let's honour their contributions and inspire others with their example of our community at its best."

Media contact: Georgina King 0419 001 409 | georgina.king@minstaff.vic.gov.au