

# Media Release

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



Monday, 28 April 2025

## CELEBRATING THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITIES

The Allan Labor Government is calling on Victorians to celebrate the everyday heroes who give their time to make our state stronger, fairer and more connected.

Minister for Carers and Volunteers Ros Spence announced that nominations are now open for the Victorian Volunteer Awards 2025 – recognising the individuals and organisations who go above and beyond to support their communities.

Last year saw a record 499 nominations, and this year's Awards aim to highlight even more of the powerful stories that reflect Victoria's proud culture of volunteering.

Run in partnership with Volunteering Victoria, the Awards honour outstanding volunteers and organisations across eight categories.

Individual categories include the Young Volunteer Award, Volunteer Commitment Award, Volunteer Leadership Award and Volunteer Impact Award. One of the individual winners will also receive the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Award for Volunteer of the Year, including a \$10,000 donation to a not-for-profit of their choice.

Organisation categories include the Inclusive Volunteering Award, Grassroots Volunteering Award, Volunteering Innovation Award and Volunteering Partnerships Award. The Volunteering Excellence Award will be presented to one of the four winning organisations for their outstanding impact and leadership.

For more information and to nominate a Victorian making a difference, visit [volunteerinvictoria.org.au/awards](https://volunteerinvictoria.org.au/awards).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Carers and Volunteers Ros Spence

*"Volunteers are the backbone of our communities – from cooking meals to supporting animal welfare, providing training, and much, much more – our volunteers do it all and they deserve to be recognised for their remarkable efforts."*

*"I encourage Victorians to nominate a volunteer or organisation they've crossed paths with to shine the light on a contribution that's making a real difference."*

### Quote attributable to Volunteering Victoria Chief Executive Geoff Sharp

*"Strong communities don't happen by chance – they're built by people who care, who give their time, and who lift others up. Through these Awards, we invite Victorians to help us recognise those whose efforts – big or small – help better our communities."*