

Volunteering in Australia research: What's next from an organisation perspective?

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The presentation provided an overview of the key issues impacting volunteer involving organisations taken from the Volunteering in Australia research, which underpins the National Volunteering Strategy. The research was completed for Volunteering Australia by a team from Curtin and Griffith Universities, and the University of Western Australia. The survey represents 1,345 organisations across Australia and explores the characteristics of volunteer involving organisations and the challenges they are facing, including volunteer recruitment, management, diversity, technology, and future concerns. There were 383 responses from Western Australia.

Key takeaway #1

- At the time of the survey (mid 2022), organisations were still in COVID-recovery mode.
- There were few differences between WA and the national response.
- A key difference was the impact of COVID-19, which appears less severe for WA organisations.

Key takeaway #2

- There is a disconnect with the level of commitment that volunteers prefer compared to that organisations require.
- Organisations are diversifying their volunteering cohorts but there are barriers to involvement.
- Recruitment and retention remain significant concerns for organisations **for now and into the future**, irrespective of organisational size and geographical location.

Contact details

Please leave your contact details here if you are happy to be contacted.

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Key takeaway #3

For government

- Sector funding and red-tape reduction are priorities.
- Meaningful engagement with the sector is needed.

For practitioners

- The push to tailored, flexible volunteering will continue.
- Strong reliance on “traditional” volunteering model – opportunities to diversify via virtual, episodic and employee volunteering and diversity and inclusion strategies.

The full report can be accessed via this QR code:

