

# Implementing the Volunteer Management Activity (VMA) in WA 2022-2026



## Project-Based Strategy

Volunteering WA has decided on a project-based funding strategy as the preferred approach for the key area of reducing barriers for priority group volunteers (including First Nations people, Newly Arrived Migrants, People with Disabilities, Vulnerable Women, Youth and the Unemployed), under the national Department of Social Services [VMA Program](#).

Volunteering WA is responsible for the successful implementation of projects that support the VMA Framework, and therefore is committed to delivering projects that will fulfil the VMA requirements.

The delivery of a project-based funding strategy has been identified, as important for meeting the VMA priority group requirements and to ensure the volunteering sector builds its capacity and reach, which may include through online and in person engagement.

Volunteering WA will provide leadership and support to work effectively under the VMA until 2026.



### Benefits of the project-based strategy ?

- Flexibility to fund new opportunities
- Greater strategic oversight
- Utilise data to plan & prioritise
- Identify, facilitate & utilise specialist expertise
- Encourage & support new ideas & innovation
- Encourage proactive engagement with diverse communities



### Positive Impact on the Volunteering Sector

- Promote best practice & innovation
- Reach regional & rural areas
- Build partnerships & relationships
- Collaborate & curate expertise
- Ensure compliance with VMA
- Build the big picture for the volunteering sector
- Enhance the breadth & depth of the sector
- Extend access through the development of user-friendly processes and resources



### Acknowledging the challenges

- Change for volunteering activities
- Building capacity to meet VMA requirements
- Creating efficiencies & manage competing priorities to get the most from available funds
- Embedding monitoring & evaluation to demonstrate outcomes
- Working across wide geographic areas & diverse communities with specific needs
- Responding to different online capacity and capabilities



## A Sector Driven Approach

Volunteering WA will:

- Invite the sector to propose suitable projects
- Provide a transparent system to guide & assess funding proposals & project achievements
- Support volunteering organisations to achieve their goals through management & capacity building activities

## Next Steps

The design and delivery of projects that specifically address the VMA requirements in relation to the six priority groups. This will generate opportunities for a range of organisations to express their interest, commitment, experience, knowledge, expertise, and capacities in specific areas while working to their strengths. The project grants process will tap into a wider range of skills, expanding those currently available in the volunteering sector.



### Project Development

Volunteering WA will develop & distribute relevant materials to initiate the development and application for project grants.



### Information

Volunteering WA will provide information to a wide range of organisations that can have a role in implementing the VMA Program.



### Fund Projects

Volunteering WA along with an independent panel will assess project applications and fund projects that meet the VMA requirements.



### Monitor & Evaluate

Volunteering WA will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the project-based strategy.

## Proposed Key Dates

Date - Week Ending	Activity
7 March 2023	Project Based Grants applications opened
16 March & 4 April 2023	Information Session 16/03 at 10am (register <a href="mailto:desiree@volunteeringwa.org.au">desiree@volunteeringwa.org.au</a> )  VWA Grant Writing Workshop (register training - <a href="http://www.volunteeringwa.org.au">www.volunteeringwa.org.au</a> ).
18 April 2023	Project Based Grant applications close 4pm (WST)
10 June 2023	Successful Project Based funding applications advised
17 June 2023	Final documentation and contracts issued to successful applicants
1 July 2023	Projects commence.

For further information and to submit a grant application contact: Desiree Walsh 0418 957 701 and/or [desiree@volunteeringwa.org.au](mailto:desiree@volunteeringwa.org.au)