

# Project Based Grants 2022-23 Recipients

## Volunteer Management Activity program

Volunteering WA is pleased to announce there have been seven (7) successful project-based grants provided in Western Australia for the 2022-23 year. These projects aim to demonstrate and provide learnings for new ways of engaging with a diverse and inclusive range of volunteers.

This grant is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services and administered by Volunteering WA.

### Details of the successful projects are outlined:

#### **Befriend Inc**

**Project location: Metro**

**Project focus: Disability**

'Strengthen Your Community, Your Way' will develop an innovative approach to creating person-centred, culturally sensitive pathways into community contribution (volunteering). This approach will create an inclusive way for new migrants, First Nations people and people with a disability to design their own volunteer role and experience as an expression of their own unique way of contributing to their community. The approach will simultaneously reposition Volunteer Managers as 'Journey Partners,' who provide personalised navigational support to the individual to connect into an organisational context and contribute in a personally-meaningful way.

The approach will be co-designed, developed and tested initially in the context of Befriend's community groups program, before further co-learning and testing with 3 additional organisational contexts. The refined approach will be documented and shared with the volunteering sector to inspire and inform inclusive new ways of honouring the diverse gifts and contributions of our diverse communities.

#### **Peel Volunteer Resource Centre**

**Project location: Regional**

**Project focus: Disability**

Socialability is focused on concepts such as community participation and inclusion, relationships/friendships, valued roles and lifelong learning. The purpose of Socialability is to offer all participants the opportunity to undertake volunteer roles and learn skills that would be transferrable to the workplace or other volunteer positions. As part of Socialability, people who wish to volunteer will be provided with an opportunity to build their skills, knowledge and confidence through working with Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIOs). The participating VIOs provided the opportunity to build volunteer capacity and improve/develop inclusive practices. A key principle of this project is to assist in dispelling myths and misconceptions around people who wear the label of 'disability' and society's historical tendency to focus on deficits.

**Volunteer South West Inc**  
**Project location: Regional**  
**Project focus: New Migrants**

ENGAGE is a project created by migrants to engage New Migrants in volunteering. It supports and trains Volunteer Involving Organisations to build an inclusive and welcoming workplace culture and create meaningful volunteer positions in order to engage valuable people power within this cohort of New Migrants, assisting the VIO in delivering an improved service while embracing the National Standards for best practice in volunteer management. ENGAGE gives New Migrants the opportunity to experience the social, economic and cultural life of an Australian workplace. It will build confidence, improve their English, grow networks and develop employability skills, which will improve their prospects of employment and further education. It will also go a long way in meeting their need of being a useful part of the community and to find their sense of place and belonging by building new connections and friendships.

**Multicultural Services Centre of WA Inc**  
**Project location: Metro/Regional**  
**Project focus: New Migrants**

The aim of the DIVWA project is to empower new and emerging CaLD communities in WA by breaking down barriers through awareness raising activities, encourage active community engagement in volunteering activities by getting more people interested/involved in volunteering. The key activities of the projects will include developing language specific and culturally appropriate information sessions, online tools and podcasts to encourage new and emerging communities to participate in volunteering and to acknowledge outstanding CaLD volunteers as positive role models. The priority target communities will be Burmese, Arabic, Afghani, Nepalese and Ukrainian language groups and a total of five face to face information sessions will be conducted involving 20 people each. MSCWA has a pool of 28 trained Multicultural Connectors who will assist to promote the project activities, organise the community members to attend the events and encourage them to participate actively in the workshops and seminars.

**Fair Game**  
**Project location: Regional**  
**Project focus: First Nations**

This project has a three-pronged approach; to strengthen and maintain our cultural responsiveness as an organisation, create a safe and supportive environment for First Nations Volunteers, and to facilitate a co-designed internship program with tertiary students in Perth through Dandjoo Darbalung to create exposure to our volunteering program.

### **Teach Learn Grow**

**Project location: Regional**

**Project focus: First Nations**

This project is focused on building the capacity of Volunteer Managers and VIOs to engage with First Nations volunteers. In particular this project would focus on how to engage First Nations young people and university students at the WA tertiary institutions in volunteering generally as well as with our specific programs in rural and remote communities of WA. As a leader in our field, TLG is well-placed to plan, develop and implement a research project into First Nations tertiary volunteers and their motivations for volunteering.

This project will review existing literature, collect data through surveys, and collaborate with relevant stakeholders, while partnering with other not-for-profits in the same field so that we can cast a wide net and have an extensive data set to analyse. Cultural awareness training with First Nations leaders would be incorporated into the project at different stages. The findings will be shared with other organisations so that we can all find better ways to engage this particular subset of priority group volunteers in our activities.

### **Town Team Movement**

**Project location: Regional**

**Project focus: First Nations**

The grant funding will be used to document the entire 'youth changemaking' process through a written report, video documentary (including outcomes and testimonials) and a one-page engagement guide for all West Australians to use as a tool for supporting future youth Aboriginal volunteering. We will also document the benefits expressed by the young people in becoming a volunteering champion, youth changemaking and the positive contributions they are making to improving their community.