

VOLUNTEERING *and* CONTACT ACT



July - Message from our Interim CEO

July has been an incredibly busy and exciting time for us at VCA. Earlier in the month we held our Symposium on Volunteering in the Digital World, which was a resounding success. So much so that we have decided to hold a Round Table in lieu of our Quarterly Forum next month to further workshop the challenges and opportunities around digital volunteering. We have also opened registrations for our [2017 Volunteering Expo!](#) The Expo is an excellent volunteer recruitment tool for your organisation, and a unique opportunity to showcase your organisation to the general public.

In mid-August we are running our annual [Director Connections](#) event. If your organisation is seeking new board members and looking to network with potential directors, then this event is for you. We only have a few spots left so if you are interested, please register now!

Planning is now underway for the [2018 National Volunteering Conference](#) to be held in Sydney next June, and will again be delivered by VCA in partnership with Volunteering Australia. And for our final event of the year we will be hosting a Volunteer and Business breakfast on International Volunteer Day! Save the date (5th Dec) in your calendars as this is a special volunteer recognition event not to be missed.

[Volunteering Australia](#) is currently undertaking a nationwide survey on the value of Volunteer Support Services (VSS) to Australia. VCA is the VSS for the Canberra Region and we are calling on all our members to complete the survey. Your input will be invaluable and will allow us to continue to advocate for the sector to receive the support it requires to deliver safe, sustainable, and supported volunteering. We would also be grateful if you could disseminate the volunteer survey to your own wonderful volunteers.

This week we are finalising our membership renewals for the 2016-17 year. Please get in [contact](#) if you have not renewed for the coming year. We look forward to seeing many of you at one of our upcoming events or training sessions. All the information you need to know follows in this email, or you can contact our wonderful events team with any questions.

Yours in volunteering and community information,
Jean.

2017 Surveys for the Value of Volunteering Support Services



Volunteering Australia have launched three Surveys to capture the value that Volunteering Support Services make to the Australian community. Volunteering Support Services are place-based organisations who provide the critical infrastructure required for safe, effective, and sustainable volunteering.

VCA is your friendly VSS in the Canberra Region! We would appreciate five minutes of your time to take the [2017 Survey of Volunteer Involving Organisations](#).

The findings will provide the basis for a first ever national picture of the value that organisations like VCA deliver to their members and the to the community.

Further, there is also a [2017 Survey of Volunteers](#). We would be grateful if you could disseminate this to your volunteers to ensure we encapsulate the views of our whole Region.

The evidence we gather through this process will be invaluable to our work and the work of Volunteering Australia going forward in advocating for the necessary funding and support to enable volunteering to thrive in our community.

Volunteering EXPO 2017

**Tuesday 19 September | 12h00-18h30 |
Canberra Southern Cross Club, Woden**

Registrations are now open for our biennial Volunteering Expo! The Volunteering Expo is a one-stop shop for individuals to find out about volunteering opportunities across the Canberra Region.

In 2015 over 1000 people came through the doors to see over 60 organisations who were showcasing their volunteer programs.

All are invited to attend to find out more about volunteering and what roles are available in the Region.

For Exhibitors..

Download the registration form [here](#).
Members: \$110
Non-members: \$220

All exhibitors must pay for the exhibit by 5 September in order to secure their spot.

For Attendees..

If you are a member of the community and would like to attend, join our Facebook event [here](#) for updates.

Admission for the public is free.

For all queries email us at events@vc-act.org.au or call us on 02 6251 4060.



NFP Director Connections

**Wednesday 16 August | 17h30-20h00
ANU Commons Function Centre |
events@vc-act.org.au**

Held in partnership with the [Australian Institute of Company Directors](#).

Does your organisation need new board members?

Then our annual Director Connections event is for you! Exclusive to ten volunteer involving organisations, the event provides you with the opportunity to network with potential directors. Register for one of our exclusive spots today by [completing this form](#) and [emailing](#) it back to us.

Organisations and directors alike can get to know one another in a relaxed setting, allowing for a natural meeting of the minds over passion for a common cause. Register to attend the event as a Director [here](#).

For all queries email us at events@vc-act.org.au or call us on 02 6251 4060.

Volunteering in a Digital World - 2017 Symposium Wrap up



[Click here](#) to see some of the photos from the day.

Thank you to everyone that attended our Symposium. It was a great day with some wonderful speakers and insights into the digital world of volunteering.

In light of the Symposium's success, VCA has decided to hold a Volunteering in a Digital World Round Table, where we will further discuss and workshop this content for volunteer managers. To RSVP to attend the Round Table email us [here](#).

Volunteering in a Digital World Round Table - Save the Date!

**Wednesday 23 August | 09h00-11h30 | Venue
TBC**

#NVC2018 - Save the date!



The 17th National Volunteering Conference (**20-22 June 2018, International Convention Centre, Sydney**) is Australia's key volunteering leadership event uniting the sector to ignite, invigorate and inspire volunteering.

NVC18 will provide a forum for not for profit leaders, managers of volunteers, researchers and policy contributors to advance and strengthen the volunteering sector through knowledge sharing and discussion.

Keep an eye out on the [website](#) for updates.

#NSVW17 - National Student Volunteer Week 14-20 Aug



National Student Volunteer Week aspires to challenge and celebrate young people who are striving to make change through volunteering.

During this week a wide variety of events, activities, forums and awareness-raising campaigns led by higher education providers and schools will take place nationwide.

Have a look through the NVCW [website](#) to get ideas on how your organisation can engage students during the week.

Some ideas include:

- [Learn how to engage young people](#)
- [Share your events during this week to engage with students](#)
- [Find out what other events are taking place within this space](#)
- [Recognise your student volunteers](#)
- [Some great last minute ideas to get involved](#)

On Wednesday 16 August, VCA will be at the

[University of Canberra's Mega Market Day](#)

and will be talking at their

[Canberra Award Information Session.](#)

This Award acknowledges students' professional development over their University career. We will be encouraging volunteering as a means of professional development.

VCA August Events

8 August - [Volunteering Open Day](#)

- On the second Tuesday of every month, the Volunteering Open Day provides a great opportunity for anyone to find out more about volunteering!

15 August - [Volunteering Essentials](#)

- Learn more about what is involved in volunteering for volunteer involving organisation and gain insight into your rights and responsibilities as a volunteer.

16 August - [ACT Community Directory Essentials](#)

- A free 90-minute talk focusing on how to find everything you need in the ACT Community Directory and Diary.

25 August - Meet Your Community: Feros Care

- Feros Care is the NDIA's partner in the community, delivering the Local Area Coordination service in ACT. Feros Care Local Area Coordinators will assist with participant planning and implementation of NDIS plans and build greater community inclusion for individuals with a disability in Canberra. Come in and talk with them between 10am and 2pm!

Have you renewed your membership?

We have updated our membership offerings to give you an easier and more streamlined experience, enabling you to get more value from our comprehensive suite of products and services.

By now you should have spoken with Jessica Harris about our new offerings. If you have not please contact us via [email](#) or call 6251 4060. All memberships not renewed by 4 August will be cancelled. Visit our [website](#) for more information.

Community Directory & Diary - Update

It's been another busy month for the [ACT Community Directory](#) and [Diary](#) with 3 new organisations, 15 new locations and 17 new services listed.

- Some new Directory listings:

[Cooking Circles](#) A social group for women to cook and eat together.

[Canberra Irish Language Association](#) Offers Irish language classes and aims to spread awareness of Irish culture.

[Edible Garden Group](#) Learn and practice planting, growing and eating organic fruit and vegetables.

[Playgroup in the Park](#) Children can join in painting, art and craft activities, music, games, stories, and play on the swings.

[Mothers' Voice](#) A free singing and music group for mothers accompanied by babies and pre-school aged children.

- Some Diary events for August:

[Gugan Gulwan National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day Event.](#)

[Family Law 101](#) with Legal Aid ACT.

[Thinking and Feeling Good](#) with Arthritis & Osteoporosis ACT.

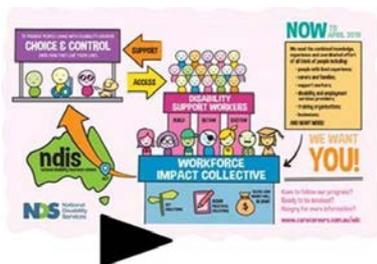
[Investment Logic - communicate to potential funders](#) with ACTCOSS.

[Cooking workshops for people with MS.](#)

If your organisation would like to learn more about how to better use the Community Directory and Diary please contact [Chris Mettam](#).

ACT Workforce Impact Collective - WE WANT YOU!

Click on the link below to watch the video and then click YES to get more information or to register.



If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact us at wic@nds.org.au

WE WANT to bring together key people from different parts of our community to explore, design and trial new ways to achieve this and to widely share the learnings.

WE NEED: people with lived experience; carers and families; support workers; disability and employment service providers; training organisations; businesses; and many others.

OUR AIM is to ensure our community has the disability sector workforce with the quality, capacity and sustainability required to enable people with disability to have greater choice and control to meet their lifestyle and choices.

From now until April 2019, no matter who or where you are, or how much time you have available, we want you to be part of the Workforce Impact Collective.

It's easy to get involved! Choose from 4 different levels to be involved with the Workforce Impact Collective.

1. CORE

Be actively involved in the decision making, functioning and development of the project.

2. INVOLVED

Have opportunities to provide in-depth feedback and attend relevant discussions/workshops/meetings

3. SUPPORTIVE

Provide occasional support and input through e.g. forums, surveys and by sharing your stories.

4. INTERESTED

Be informed about progress, insights and learnings. May be asked for occasional feedback.

You can change your level of involvement during the project according to your interests and availability

Watch the video and click YES to get more information or to register

OR go to our webpage carecareers.com.au/WIC

OR Email your *preferred involvement level, *name, *email address, *contact number and *organisation (if any) to: WIC@nds.org.au

This initiative is funded by the ACT Government through the Commonwealth NDIS Sector Development Fund and coordinated by National Disability Services



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If you'd like to access our previous newsletters, find them [here](#)

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