

29 November 2018

**Recruiting Now – Be the Change in Disaster Response Volunteering
VNT–EVER Volunteering NT - Emergency Volunteers for Emergency Response**

Volunteers play an important role natural disasters happen. They provide assistance in emergencies such as cyclones, earthquakes, fires or floods and with so many people wanting to help, volunteering is one way of providing that support.

Spontaneous Emergency Volunteers are often available, but unprepared to be easily deployed into response, relief and recovery agencies and emergency management agencies where help is needed the most.

A new program managed by Volunteering NT allows Darwin residents to pre-register to assist community organisations and agencies in times such as these.

The Volunteering NT Emergency Volunteers for Emergency Response (VNT-EVER) program develops the skills of Emergency Volunteers.

VNT-EVER aims to empower a wide range of people in the community by providing free training and registration for individuals who are available to volunteer in emergencies with registered organisations and agencies in need.

Rachael Bowker, Executive Manager, Volunteering NT said that our role is to help volunteers meet the essential criteria required from organisations working in the field at the time of disasters.

“We can also support organisations that may need extra help during disaster preparedness and recovery providing skilled and certified volunteers that require minimal induction,” said Rachael.

VNT-EVER volunteers will have the capabilities to support the surge of workload within response and recovery organisations by providing additional people power.

The program works with the Northern Territory Department of the Chief Minister, with funding assistance through the NT Disaster Resilience Emergency Volunteer Fund.

For more information, search *VNT-EVER* on the [volunteeringsa-nt](http://volunteeringsa-nt.org.au) website.

Media enquiries and interviews

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