



**volunteering sa&nt**

*Leading volunteering in South Australia  
and the Northern Territory*

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **VOLUNTEERING REQUIRES INVESTMENT - IT JUST DOESN'T HAPPEN**

As the volunteer sector fights severe federal funding changes through a strong advocacy campaign - it is important to know that we have opposition and cross-bench support in Canberra after a motion was passed last night in the Senate calling on government to recognise the importance of funding volunteer management services.

It was only on Tuesday that Volunteering SA&NT CEO, Evelyn O'Loughlin joined her counterparts in Canberra to brief politicians including the Minister for Social Services, Christian Porter MP and Shadow Assistant Minister for Social Services Louise Pratt on the ramifications of the funding changes.

Volunteering SA&NT CEO, Evelyn O'Loughlin thanks Senators Louise Pratt and Jacqui Lambie who raised the motion calling on the government to retain funding for volunteer management as part of the Federal Budget.

“Without dedicated funding the proposed changes have the potential to rip the heart out of place-based volunteering services.

“It will undo all the tremendous amount of work undertaken over the last three decades in building strong and resilient local communities, economic participation and social inclusion in the volunteering sector, Ms O'Loughlin said.

In SA & NT alone, Volunteering SA&NT have assisted over 2000 volunteer-involving organisations and hundreds of volunteer managers in providing effective, safe, productive and efficient services and resources to volunteers and the volunteering sector.

“To take away the support that communities rely on for their volunteering programs and effective volunteer management would be devastating – not only to those involved but to the economy which is SA alone is worth \$4.89 billion annually, said Ms O'Loughlin.

#### **Media enquiries and interviews**

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