



volunteering sa&nt

*Leading volunteering in South Australia
and the Northern Territory*

MEDIA RELEASE 24 January 2022

A Plea for Volunteers

Two years on and the pandemic has had a devastating effect on volunteering in South Australia.

With a shortage of volunteers, organisations are desperate for people to step up right now to help in the community.

Marco Staltari, General Manager of Nonna's Cucina, one of Volunteering SA&NT's member organisations, said that volunteer numbers have fluctuated since the pandemic.

"With the current restrictions we can't get enough drivers to deliver much needed meals," said Mr Staltari.

"We need drivers and driver assistants to ensure none of our clients, many who are vulnerable, go without a home-cooked and nutritious meal."

CEO Hamilton Calder said his team is working closely with hundreds of organisations around the State, like Nonna's Cucina, to ascertain the most urgent areas of need, offer support with volunteer safety, as well as advertising positions and importantly, matching them with volunteers.

"We know organisations are doing it tough during this critical time and are desperate for volunteers," said Mr Calder.

"Our message is simple, we need more volunteers and we need them right now.

"If you are already a volunteer and can spare some extra time, if your volunteering position has been put on hold temporarily or you are new to volunteering, we urge you to come forward.

"There are over 500 positions currently available on our state-wide database, from community visitors and helpers to drivers and retail assistants, which are increasing by the day.

"Our State fundamentally relies on volunteers to drive every sector of our economy, which is worth around \$5 billion annually.

"And just as important, volunteering provides the opportunity for people to interact and engage, which is essential during these times of lockdown and separation and critical for our mental health and wellbeing."

It's easy to find volunteering positions by downloading the FREE WeDo app, visiting the Volunteering SA&NT website or calling the friendly Volunteer ASSIST team on 08 8221 7177.

Volunteering SA&NT has led the volunteering sector in South Australia and the Northern Territory since 1982. They continue to work with individuals, organisations, businesses and communities to lead, advance, grow, promote and celebrate volunteering.

Media enquiries and interviews

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