

## **Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland**

**Submission No:** 173  
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**Submitter Comments:**

The media and television in particular, appears to me to be the best form of educating the public.

Advertising by the Government to illustrate people volunteering and the benefits that result from volunteering, may assist in gaining young people to participate. As the volunteering opportunities are almost endless, advertising the volunteer opportunities for families would seem a great place to start. People who volunteer and can include their whole family - partner and children, gain through the social interaction and the family working together. Volunteering often requires time away from families and certainly takes personal commitment. I believe this is why we see older people, whose children are adults, volunteering much more frequently than young people. Sometimes volunteering is quite physical which precludes some senior members of the community participating in this way eg. clearing trees, cleaning out flood water etc. from homes after natural disasters. However there is always something that all ages can do and should be encouraged to do so. Organizations need to be careful to limit the volunteer time or ensure that "burn out" does not occur. The State and Local Governments can assist by establishing and publishing a contact list of Volunteer organizations with a brief description of what they do and the advantages of helping.