

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

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As a community centre, we rely heavily on volunteers to assist with gardening, cleaning, driving, events, some administration tasks, managing groups like games and senior women, teaching skills, providing Emergency Relief (food pantry), and so much more. Without our volunteers, we could not do what we do! We need more support and training to help us manage our volunteers better. We apply for grants to support volunteers, and try to give them as many incentives as we can manage, but it doesn't feel like enough, most days. We'd love to spend more of our budget on things like name tags, shirts, aprons, hats, tote bags, outings, training, fuel vouchers for them to get here (rural area), birthday or Christmas or Volunteer Week gifts, and more. A fraction of the cost of what it'd be if we paid them, but not affordable for us most of the time!