

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

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About UsWe are a local community organisation based in the Gladstone Region, dedicated to supporting and strengthening our community. However, we face several challenges, including: Sustainability concerns - Expanding membership - Succession planning - Volunteer retention Volunteer-related challenges - Recruiting new volunteers - Preventing burnout among existing volunteersOperational challenges to secure funding to continue our female equality services and advocacy projects in the region.Support from NFP HouseNFP House has been instrumental in helping us overcome these challenges by equipping us with essential skills and resources. Their support is invaluable because they offer: Ongoing, long-term assistance beyond short-term workshops One-on-one guidance tailored to our needs Local, accessible expertise A wide range of solutions specific to our sector Highly skilled professionals with relevant experience Immediate access to expert advice and problem-solving support A collaborative approach to addressing challenges An objective, external perspective A trusted resource for reliable advice and solutions A free service Helpful ProgramsThe following programs have been particularly beneficial to our organisation: Walk-in, phone, and email support for organisational assistance Undertaking the Health Check on our Club and building an Action Plan Access to advertise to successfully seek volunteers for our activities (EG: identified assembly of birthing kit workshop volunteers, and linked us with a volunteer to create our social media content plan) via their Portal on the website Attending free workshops for how to develop our social media profile, graphic art creation and how to content planFortunately the Zonta Club of Gladstone is scaffolded by the massive national and international Zonta organisation, with all the governance, policy, procedures etc, but the grass-roots community club still relies on volunteers and compliance to a massive list of requirements. Most people join a community club to "fill their cup" personally and they just want to have a happy experience without worrying. Without the support of a peak body like NFP House we would have nowhere else to go to seek support. Our biggest issue is the lack of new, younger volunteers coming through. The majority of our club members are aged over 60 years old. How do we attract and engage the younger people to volunteer?