

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

Submission No: 312
Submitted by: Debra Ottway
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I love volunteering at my local YMCA community center. The center operates with only 3 staff and relies heavily on volunteers to run programs for the community. For me it was an easy transition to volunteer as my daughter is a staff member at the center. As I entered my senior years the center took upon itself to seek more volunteers under the government job seeker program, where 15 hours of volunteering becomes a paid job. Here is where my trouble commences. I do love volunteering, however, for me the 15 hours is a task. Its a long haul of 2 full days or even 3 x 5 hour days. For me I'm happy to give them one full day. Maybe even a few hours of my time which helps them out immensely. Why cant the government recognise my hours as good enough to suppliment payment. Why cant I receive say half the job seeker dollars. There would be more volunteers come forward to help the center if this was made available.