

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I am and have been a Member of many organizations for many years. I see Volunteer numbers reducing as the pressure on young Families increases. Gone are the days when one member of the Household worked and the other had time to support a Volunteer role in the Community. After School hours and weekends are spent attempting to have Family time - sport etc. The increasing demand on the completion of red-tape also deters people from becoming involved. For example, the compulsion for a Blue Card in order to become a Volunteer Fire-fighter has lost us many current Members and is deterring others. People do not necessarily have anything to hide but are opposed to the control mechanism put in place. Our aging population is taking its toll on Volunteer numbers. Many of us are attempting to Volunteer across numerous Organizations thus causing burn-out. The need to be involved with Community via Volunteering is not explained to our Students during their School years, thus not preparing them for the future. The sometimes very complicated application process for Grant Funding often deters Organizations from applying. The lack of funding then disappoints Members when projects are not seen to be completed. Members become disheartened and leave.