

STATEMENT

Title		BELIEFS AND VALUES
Section		Governance
Version Number		3
Approval		Board
Signature		
Date	20/10/23	
Review date	2 years from date of approval	

1. INTENT OF STATEMENT

Volunteering SA&NT (VSA&NT) is committed to embracing, maintaining and sharing a set of beliefs and values that underpin the work of the organisation and the requirements for all VSA&NT workforce and Members, as referred to in the Standards Policy, in line with National Standards for Volunteer Involvement ('National Standards').

2. STATEMENT OF BELIEFS AND VALUES

We believe:

- Volunteering is time willingly given for the common good and without financial gain (Volunteering Australia Definition);
- All organisations can strive for best practice in their volunteering work and agree in principle to do so, according to the National Standards for Volunteer Involvement (National Standards);
- One of our roles as the peak body for volunteering in South Australia and the Northern Territory, is to support organisations to attain best practice in volunteer involvement, and that our Members will embrace the National Standards in principle, and where possible in practice;
- Volunteering brings social, economic, emotional, spiritual, physical, psychological and environmental benefits to individuals, organisations and the community, and is integral to our society today;
- There is a continuing need for our organisation to raise government, business, non-government and community awareness about the long term benefits of volunteering, and recognition of the value, status and reputation of volunteering;
- In giving and receiving constructive feedback to help achieve a positive, harmonious and productive environment;
- In the rights and responsibilities of our workforce, to work with fairness and equity, compassion, collaboration, cooperation and efficiency;

- In the rights of volunteers to be treated fairly and equally, individually and collectively, and we will support, protect, and uphold those rights by means of advocacy and monitoring of the legal, political, economic, environmental and social issues that affect them;
- All organisations and individuals who join us as Members must be positive in raising awareness and promoting the benefits of volunteering, its value, status and reputation both internally and externally;
- Taking up membership with VSA&NT indicates your agreement with these beliefs, and agreement to work with us to consistently strive for standards in excellence in volunteering and volunteer management; and
- Engaging as a workforce participant with VSA&NT indicates adherence to the beliefs and values of our organisation.

Given these beliefs, we value:

- The Constitution on which our organisation is based;
- The cultural and social diversity of our jurisdictions of South Australia and the Northern Territory;
- The Australian legal system
- The significance of the National Standards as these underpin the basis for all our work with volunteers, volunteer-involving organisations and the volunteer sector as a whole;
- The contributions and views of our membership and the wider volunteering community, and will reflect these in our service planning, direction and evaluation;
- The policies and procedures that underpin our work and protect our workforce; and
- The principles of fairness, equity and respect for all our workforce, Members, volunteers, volunteer supporters and others working in the volunteer sector.

3. DEFINITIONS

Workforce - Employees and volunteers who undertake work within, and at the direction of, Volunteering SA&NT, including Board and Committee members.

Member - a member as defined in the VSA&NT Constitution who is financial and has full voting rights at any general meeting of VSA&NT.

4. REFERENCES

National Standards for Volunteer Involvement - Volunteering Australia
 Volunteering SA&NT Constitution
 Volunteering SA&NT Standards policy

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