

## Volunteer Support Policy

### Purpose

The Outback Communities Authority (OCA) has an obligation<sup>1</sup> to promote participation of outback communities in their administration and management. In meeting that obligation, the OCA recognises the contribution from volunteers across the outback.

**Many outback communities survive and thrive through the efforts of volunteers.**

The purpose of this policy is to communicate the principles of how the OCA will support volunteers as they support their respective communities.

### Policy Statement

The OCA supports volunteers in outback communities by promoting training and employment opportunities in the areas of governance, financial management, youth development and grant writing. The OCA will also encourage community associations to support their volunteers' training especially where that training enhances economic development, employment and training opportunities within the region.

In its support for volunteers, the OCA also recognises the burden volunteering places on the individual. The OCA equally supports the right of an individual to withdraw services to the community without fear or malice. The OCA will, in such a circumstance, work closely with the community to preserve community unity and explore alternative service delivery models.

### Implementation

The implementation of this Policy will be delivered primarily through a close working relationship with the community association, its volunteers and the OCA's community development staff.

### Evaluation and Review

This Policy will be evaluated by OCA staff prior to the commencement of each funding cycle. The Policy will be reviewed by the OCA Board on recommendation of OCA staff or within three months of the appointment or renewal of tenure of a Presiding Member, whichever shall occur first.

### Definitions

**Community Association** is an incorporated association established to provide community representation and support.

**Volunteer** is a person who gives freely of their time and or resources, save for the payment of an honorarium, for the benefit of the community albeit the local or wider community.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 4 (b) of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009*

## References

[Volunteering Strategy for South Australia 2014 – 2020](#)

*This policy was adopted by the OCA on 19 September 2018*

