



Volunteering Auckland
Where Volunteering Begins

Promoting and Supporting Volunteering

Volunteer Trends

Volume 1, Issue 3

Spring Edition

Research shows our Sector is significant!

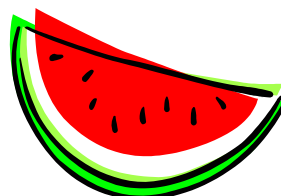
Important comparative research has recently been completed and published by the Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector (administered by the Ministry of Social Development), in conjunction with Massey University and the John Hopkins University.

The research findings suggest that while the civil society sector of NZ is both significant and growing, it remains largely invisible in our country. This document is an eye opener!

The research data identifies that not only is the sector very diverse, but that 67% of our Not for Profit (NFP) organisation workforce consists of volunteers. This is significantly higher than found anywhere else. In Australia for example, it is only

40%. New Zealand volunteers work within and alongside widespread NFP organisations, involving cultural, sports and recreation, health education and social services, welfare and community support services, environmental protection and conservation, civic activism, unions and professional associations, and religious worship activities.

The NFP Sector currently contributes more than \$10 billion to the NZ economy in operation expenditure, employing approx 201,000 full time equivalent jobs, equating to 9.6% of the economically active population, and 4.9% of the GDP. The sector engages a workforce that is larger than the Construction and Transport industries combined, and is a similar size to



Caption describing picture or graphic.

the Manufacturing sector of NZ, an economic presence worthy of recognition in New Zealand, in addition to their social and political importance.

These figures are significant. In fact, our society could not function without the services provided by NFP organisations. And yet few if any would survive without volunteers.

(Continued on page 2)

Volunteering Auckland OPEN DAY

VA held an Open Day in September called **"Getting to Know Volunteering Auckland"**, for new and existing member organisations as well as anyone interested in registering with us.

28 people from 24 organisations joined us for refreshments and finger food, the opportunity to put faces to names and actually ask questions face to face, discover where we actually are, find out what we actually do from enquiry to interview to database to volunteering fit, as well as have the opportunity to talk with personnel and view our library. The day was beneficial for member organisations because it heightened awareness of

the services we provide, and helped clarify what we need from you, enabling the process when filling out job descriptions for volunteers needed. The benefit for Volunteering Auckland was learning more about you and how best we can try and help meet your needs for volunteers.

Feedback received from the Open Day was really helpful for VA. Comments from visitors included mention that VA is a "social connection for volunteers", that we add value to existing networks and that we provide pathways for community groups to access support, filling needs for unfunded services.

The opportunity to network was well received, as was discovery of our resources and ideas, administrative assistance and support, education and training opportunities with regard to volunteering, how we go about locating corporate volunteer groups for annual events, and the ways we try to meet the varying needs of different organisations. The greatest response from attendees' feedback was "we want more, more, more" especially information, and training in the many areas of volunteering.

We at Volunteering Auckland would like to get to know more of you better also!

Inside this issue:

NFP Sector Comparative	1
Inside Story	1
Inside Story	2
Inside Story	3
Inside Story	5
Inside Story	6

Special points of interest:

- 1st November: International Volunteer Manager's Day
- December 5: International Volunteer Day
- Ma

Volunteering Auckland

PO Box 8814
Symonds St
Auckland 1150

Phone: 09-377-7887
Fax: 09-377-9915

www.volunteeringauckland.org.nz

Contact Details

Chairperson

Dianne Denny

Vice Chair

Robert Limb

Treasurer

Pete Yates

Trustees

Kit Howden, Paul Hutchinson, Tim Antric, Jon Brewerton

Regional Manager

Cheryll Martin

ceo@volunteeringauckland.org.nz

Services Coordinator

Marja van Straaten

admin@volunteeringauckland.org.nz



Volunteering Auckland
Where Volunteering Begins

Research shows our Sector is significant continued

Our NFP organisations have to rely greatly on goodwill, a high level of volunteer engagement as well as ongoing philanthropic contributions, in order to survive. They receive 75% of their income from fees and philanthropy and only 25% from government support, comparatively low compared with other countries. The Australian government provides 32% of NFP organisation income.

Major demographic and workforce changes such as our aging population, increasing numbers of paid working parents, increased regulation, all impact on the ability of NFP organisations to engage and retain volunteer staff.

The time for the Not for Profit Sector of NZ to be recognised widely as an important contributor to the economy as a whole is long overdue, especially by the commercial sector groups of this country, as well as the government.

Biannual Open Days planned

Volunteering Auckland has held regular CO-VAK FORUMS in the past for member organisations as well as other interested groups, but this year's **Open Day** has proven to be so beneficial for everyone, that we are planning to hold similar events biannually (twice yearly) from now on, so if you missed our September gathering, all you need to do is look out for upcoming dates!

At the Open Days, you will meet CEO Cheryll Martin and have opportunities to discuss Volunteer management Training, or how to respond to our requests for input into submissions; talk to one of our Volunteer Interviewers on how the interview and referral of potential volunteers to your organisation works; you can find out how to involve a group of volunteers to complete that painting or planting project you have;

and speak with Marja van Straaten (Internal Services Co-ordinator) about membership, listing your voluntary roles with us, and also the Volunteer Now website. You can also check out our library which specialises in books, research, manuals etc on volunteering and volunteer management from NZ, Australia, USA and the UK.

Our Open Days are an excellent way to find out more about who we are, where we are, what we do, and how Volunteering Auckland services can be of benefit to your organisation. We encourage people to come along, in order to benefit from the best out of our services. It's also a great time to update information about you, so don't forget to look out for our next Open Day which will be early 2009.



Caption describing picture or graphic.