



VOLUNTEER PARTNERSHIP CONSULTATION April/May 2010





Advancing the Community Together

*A Partnership between the
Volunteer Sector and the
South Australian Government
May 2003*



Partnership Achievements

- Volunteer Partnership - Accessing Resources Project
- Volunteering: A Gateway to Communities Project
- Volunteer Resource Centre initiative
- Free police checks
- Simplification of Grant Applications and Acquittals
- Changes to the Associations Incorporation Act 1985



Partnership Achievements

Related programs

- Corporates4Communities
- Community Voices
- Sustainable On-line Community Engagement
- Volunteer Support Fund
- Free training programs
- Awards for volunteers



Partnership Achievements

Resources designed for volunteers

- Office for Volunteers website: www.ofv.sa.gov.au
- The State of Volunteering Online newsletter
- Special certificates of recognition
- Fact sheets on key issues tailored for volunteer organisations



AIMS of ACT Partnership

- Acknowledge the value of volunteering in our community
- Develop a vision for the future of volunteering
- Establish a framework for an ongoing partnership
- Promote and facilitate volunteering in a manner that benefits the community



- **Government's vision:**

A thriving and caring community in South Australia where volunteering is recognised as integral to community well-being.

- **Key Drivers**

- International Year for Volunteers 2001
- Recognition of the “Third” or Volunteer Sector
- Community Building



Government's response

- Established a Minister for Volunteers and the Office for Volunteers
- Premier - the first Minister for Volunteers
- In 2002 Premier requested the development of a “Compact” and a consultation process commenced
- In 2003 – *Advancing the Community Together Partnership* signed
- March 2004 released the *SA Strategic Plan*
Objective 5: Building Communities – Target 5.6
Level of Volunteering from 38% to 50% by 2010
- In 2006/7 *Advancing the Community Together Partnership* reviewed and continued



Government of South Australia

Office for Volunteers

RESEARCH INDICATOR

The meaningful valuing of volunteers involves three organisational practices in particular:

- (a) soliciting and listening to their opinions and views;
- (b) providing opportunities for their personal and professional development; and,
- (c) publicly recognising their contributions.



- ACT Partnership Review 2010:

Looked at the history of the ACT Partnership and achievements to date

How does the partnership work?



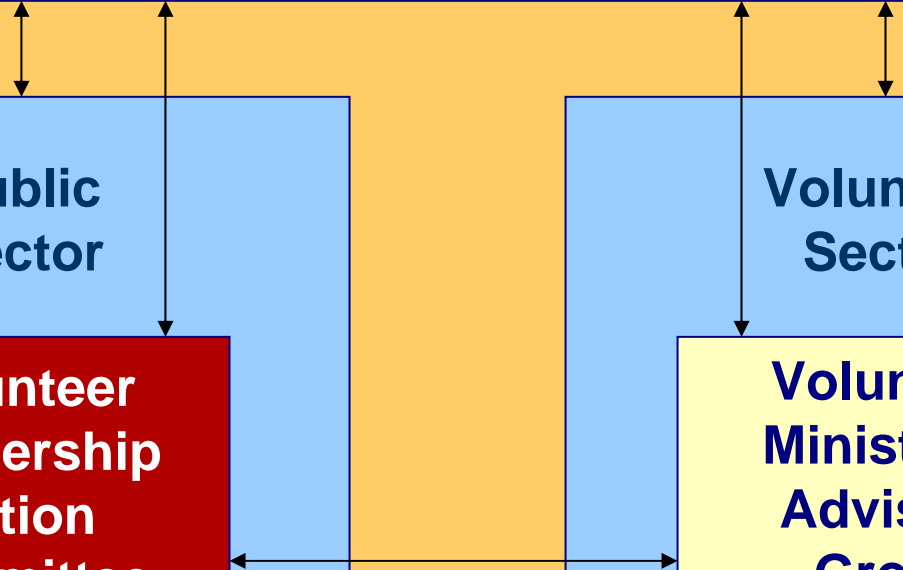
Commitments to Action

- Accountability
- Communication
- Equity and Inclusiveness
- Policy and Legislation Development
- Recruitment and Retention
- Resources
- Risk Management
- Training



Government of South Australia
Office for Volunteers

Minister for Volunteers





Volunteer Ministerial Advisory Group

- Chaired by Tony Piccolo Member for Light
- 19 representatives from the sectors within the volunteer community:
 - eg. Sport SA - sport; RSL - veterans;
 - Lifeline SA, Volunteering SA &NT;
 - Service Clubs, Lions, Zonta, Rotary etc

Example of VMAG process:

Accessing Government Resources Project



Volunteer Partnership Action Committee (VPAC)

VPAC comprised of senior Government officers able to initiate change.

VPAC Targets for 2010/11:

- Public Sector - Communication
- Sector Resourcing
- Training for Volunteer Organisations
- Responding to VMAG issues



5 Top Issues

- In June 2009, The Minister for Volunteers wrote to the members of Volunteer Ministerial Advisory Group (VMAG) and Volunteer Partnership Action Committee (VPAC) to seek their views on the top five issues facing their sector.
 1. The costs of volunteering
 2. Support for youth
 3. Funding for volunteer organisations
 4. Training
 5. Regional volunteering



Questions for Discussion

- Is this model/structure good for communication between the not for profit sector and government?
- Is the ACT Partnership document still relevant?
- What do you see as issues/barriers to the development of volunteering currently?



Government of South Australia Office for Volunteers

This charter has been developed by the Town of Gawler (Council) in conjunction with the Government of South Australia and representative of volunteer organisations within the Town of Gawler.

Volunteers contribute to and support the fundamental values of a healthy community. Volunteering encourages individuals of diverse backgrounds and cultures to serve the community in a variety of ways. This involvement is a practical expression of the willingness of the community to be responsible for itself.

The Charter acknowledges volunteering and outlines strategies to promote and facilitate its growth. This Charter defines a framework for partnerships between organisations involved, or capable of being involved in volunteering.

We will ...

- publicly recognise the efforts and successes of volunteers and those who support them;
- encourage volunteer participation across age groups, cultures and abilities;
- create partnerships between government, community groups, business and individuals to support volunteers;
- retain and enhance services to support volunteers, including facilities, support, advice, information and training.



TOWN OF GAWLER Volunteer Charter

Roles and Responsibilities

The Town of Gawler

Role
The Town of Gawler (Council) recognises its role as a community leader with a responsibility to support and encourage local volunteering. This is demonstrated by the establishment of the Gawler Volunteering Advisory Committee (GVAC) and the Gawler Volunteer Resource Centre (GVRC). The Town of Gawler will facilitate the implementation of the strategies contained within the Charter and continue to foster a culture of trust and open communication between Council and volunteers.

Responsibilities
The Town of Gawler will ...

- provide community leadership that supports, encourages and values volunteering;
- continue to build and maintain its own volunteer program for the benefit of the community;
- promote the positive and positive impact of volunteering within the community;
- provide for the management of the Gawler Volunteer Resource Centre;
- provide support for the Gawler Volunteering Advisory Committee;
- provide resources for the implementation of the Volunteering Strategy;
- develop and maintain strong communication links with volunteers and relevant bodies including State Government Department and Parliament;
- identify needs and trends within the volunteer sector; and
- develop partnerships that support volunteering.

The Gawler Volunteering Advisory Committee

Role
The Gawler Volunteering Advisory Committee (GVAC) has been established by the Town of Gawler to provide advice and feedback to the Council on matters relating to volunteering in the area. Officers, employees, GVAC and other Council staff in the management of the Gawler Volunteer Resource Centre (GVRC) and in the implementation of the Charter.

Responsibilities
The GVAC will ...

- understand the role of a local representative body for volunteering;
- develop and encourage volunteering in Gawler;
- assist volunteers in their own and other spheres; and
- advise and maintain good management practices.

Local Community Organisations

Role
Community organisations are encouraged to function effectively and to manage their volunteer resources well. They should be active in the promotion of volunteer success and in providing opportunities for further volunteering.

Responsibilities
Local community organisations will be encouraged to ...

- provide volunteering in their own and other spheres; and
- develop and encourage volunteering in Gawler;
- assist volunteers in their own and other spheres; and
- advise and maintain good management practices.



Signatories

We the undersigned, support the Gawler Volunteer Charter following it to be an appropriate basis for the further development of volunteering in Gawler.

Signer	Position/organisation	Date
	Mayor Brian Eastwell Town of Gawler	May 17 th 2007
	Miss Jennifer Rankins MP Minister for Volunteers	May 17 th 2007
	Mr. Les Kemp - Chairperson Gawler Volunteering Advisory Committee	May 17 th 2007
	Mr. Matthew Sanders - Chairperson Gawler Business Development Board	May 17 th 2007

The Gawler Business Community

Role
The Gawler business community is encouraged to give support for volunteering and its outcomes, and be responsible in its use of volunteers.

Responsibilities
The Gawler business community will be encouraged to ...

- be active in the positive impact volunteering has within the community;
- support volunteer organisations through involvement in programs and sponsorship; and
- encourage and assist employee involvement in voluntary activities for community benefit.

The Government of South Australia

Role
Through South Australia's Strategic Plan 2002, the South Australian Government commits to building better communities and maintaining the current high level of volunteering at about 10% participation rate or higher.

Responsibilities
The Advancing the Community Together Partnership (ACT Partnership) between the Volunteer Sector and the South Australian Government provides a framework to help achieve these goals. The Volunteer Resource Advisory Group (VRAG) was formed by the South Australian Government in 2003 to provide the volunteer sector with a direct voice to government. The South Australian Government will support volunteering in Gawler as outlined in the partnership framework document, 'Advancing the Community Together'.

Responsibilities
The aims of the ACT Partnership, on behalf of the State Government, are to ...

- acknowledge the value of volunteering in our community;
- plan for the future of volunteering in South Australia;
- establish a framework for ongoing partnerships; and
- promote and facilitate volunteering in a manner that benefits the community.

Adelaide Hills Volunteer Charter

Development of the Adelaide Hills Volunteer Charter has been supported by a regional partnership in consultation with volunteers and volunteer agencies. This Charter outlines a commitment to build strong relationships between all organisations involved in volunteering and identifies the roles and responsibilities of each party.

Vision

Together, we recognise that volunteering provides a strong social and community networks that build the capacity and resilience of our community. We acknowledge that a successful and flourishing volunteering community will have a direct, positive impact upon the future prosperity of the Adelaide Hills.

Role

As the Volunteer Resource Centre for the region, Hills Volunteering aims to build the capacity of volunteer organisations and volunteer involving organisations to attract, train and retain volunteers and to provide volunteers with enhanced pathways to further education, employment and community service outcomes.

Hills Volunteering is a regional partnership between:

- Adelaide Hills Council
- Mount Barker Family House
- District Council of Mount Barker
- Torrens Valley Community Centre
- Adelaide Hills Regional Development Board (South Australia Works in the Regions)
- Learning Pathways Project
- The Hill Community Centre
- IAH-SA - Mount Barker Campus

Responsibilities

Through South Australia's Strategic Plan, the South Australian Government commits to building better communities and maintaining current volunteering levels. The Advancing the Community Together Partnership (ACT Partnership) between the Volunteer Sector and the South Australian Government provides a framework to help achieve these goals.

The South Australian Government will:

- Acknowledge the value of volunteering in our community
- Plan for the future of volunteering in South Australia
- Promote and facilitate volunteering in a manner that benefits the community

Hills Volunteering and partners will:

- Provide community leadership that supports and encourages volunteering
- Value and promote volunteering across our communities
- Actively acknowledge the endeavours and successes of volunteers and those who assist them
- Identify needs and trends within the volunteer sector
- Sustain the Adelaide Hills volunteer community by providing access to necessary resources
- Present opportunities to build the capacity of volunteer organisations and volunteer involving organisations to develop and maintain best practice in volunteer program management
- Provide enhanced pathways to further education, employment and community service outcomes
- Develop partnerships across the levels of government and between organisations that support volunteering

Volunteers will be encouraged and supported to:

- Act in accordance with individual organisation's policies and procedures
- Be reliable and committed to fulfilling their agreed role to the best of their abilities
- Accept responsibility for personal safety and development by undertaking appropriate training

Signatories

We the undersigned, accept the responsibility to ensure the advancement of volunteering in the Adelaide Hills.

This Charter confirmed on the 11th day of May 2008.





What Happens Now

- Survey results received from VMAG and VPAC
- Staff from OFV talking with community around the State about where improvements can be made
- Community invited to “Have your say” via the online survey
- Provide a submission or complete survey on the Partnership
- After consultations are completed the OFV will present a report on the ACT Partnership Review to VMAG and VPAC for endorsement
- Final report will then presented to the Minister for Volunteers



Office for Volunteers Contacts & Information

- Website: www.ofv.sa.gov.au
- Email: OFV@agd.sa.gov.au
- Phone: (08) 8463 4490
- Don't forget to do your survey!