



Catholic Social Services Victoria - Celebrating Volunteers

[National Volunteer Week](#), from 8 -14 May 2017, is an annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our nation's volunteers. According to [Volunteering Australia](#), 5.8 million Australians or 31% of the population volunteer, making an estimated annual contribution of \$290 billion to our economic and social good.

More than 17,000 people volunteer with the [50 member organisations of Catholic Social Services Victoria](#) – a critical contribution to our work of service and work for justice. This newsletter highlights and reflects on the contribution that our volunteers make: we all benefit from volunteering - both in the giving and the receiving.



Volunteering - Nurturing a Precious Resource

Volunteering is giving one's time and talents in the service of others. It is a precious resource, and is love of neighbour in action. Are we making the most of this resource? Can we do better? Click [here](#) for Adrian Foley's reflections.



Volunteers vital to John Pierce Centre's deaf community

[Click here](#) for direct links to volunteering info for all of our members. To focus on one: the [John Pierce Centre](#) promotes education, family, and spiritual support to the Victorian deaf community. Volunteers are crucial to group this work. [Read more...](#)



Thank you to one of our volunteers!

Adrian Foley, a grandfather of seven, a keen farmer, photographer and explorer, has been volunteering in the community since 2005. He's volunteered with [Catholic Prison Ministry](#), the [Horn of Africa Community Network](#) and [Welcome the Asylum Seeker Parish Support Program](#) just to name a few. [Read more...](#)

This is what God asks of you, only this, to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)



MacKillop Family Services

Seeking Foster Carers to Help Improve Lives

Catholic Social Services Victoria is working with [MacKillop Family Services](#) to share information about the need for foster carers around the Catholic community. Call 1300 791 677 or click [here](#) for more information on how you might be able to assist.



Volunteers make the wheels turn faster at Catholic Social Services Victoria - can you assist us?

In addition to the 17,000+ volunteers that contribute to the work of our member organisations, Catholic Social Services Victoria, as a peak body, relies on volunteers for some of our advocacy and organisational work. We would be much less productive, and less effective, without volunteer input. We currently have a vacancy for a volunteer to assist with our parish support work.

[Read more...](#)



Upcoming Parish Services Expo - volunteering possibilities

Following the success of our [inaugural Parish Services Expo held last year in Cheltenham](#), Catholic Social Services Victoria invites you to participate in, and attend its second expo at St Francis Xavier parish in Montmorency **this Saturday, 6 May**. The expo provides an opportunity for all gathered to showcase their services and to interact with each other. Perhaps you'll find a volunteering opportunity there?

[Read more...](#)



Looking for somewhere to volunteer?

There are plenty of ways to volunteer and get involved with our member organisations, whether by working in the many Op shops, serving meals, visiting the elderly or participating in social activities with them. And whether it be for just 30 minutes, or a few hours, once a week, or once a month, every bit helps!

[Click here](#) for direct links to our member organisations' volunteering info.



St Mary's Dandenong parish & volunteers providing language support to migrants and refugees

St Mary's Parish in Dandenong has hosted the *Too Low in English Program* for the past 13 years, which assist asylum seekers, refugees and migrants. One of its volunteers, Celine Tauro, received the Volunteer of the Year award in the Greater Dandenong Australia Day honours this year.

[Read more...](#)

CONTACTS



If you're interested in volunteering, require volunteers, or have any related questions, please email office@css.org.au or call 03 9287 5566.

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