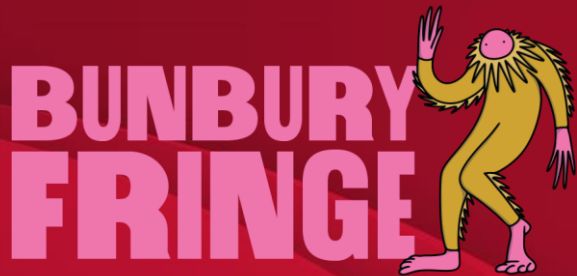


Bunbury Fringe Family

Volunteer Management Activity

Breaking down barriers to volunteering



Who is Bunbury Fringe?

Bunbury Fringe began in 2017 and Bunbury Fringe Inc. was formed in 2019 as an incorporated NFP. We are an arts organisation that presents an 8-day multi arts festival, and various small activities throughout the year with a strong focus on the support and development of regional arts.

Like many NFP organisations we are strongly reliant on volunteers to assist in the delivery of our program.

The volunteer database has grown significantly in those years, and now boasts over 50 active participants.

It has been recognised that volunteering is an activity that can be inclusive and in 2024 BF has striven to ensure access to the priority groups, those with disabilities and youth under 25.



How do we target these groups?

By developing a communication strategy that includes a database of the following:

- Disability organisations such as Enable and Active
- Identify key NDIS providers
- Identify local support network (carers) to motivate them to engage their clients
- Youth focused organisations such as TAFE and local schools
- NFP's such as PCYC and Headspace



Things to note.

Every region is different, so it is important to identify who are the best conduits in your area.

Communications could include:

- Always start with a phone call
- Email Direct marketing EDM
- Email to past volunteers
- Social media posts
- Face to face meetings



What have we learnt?

People in our identified priority areas need to feel safe, comfortable and welcome.

Hold an informal gathering

Building a sense of community, ensuring a safe space for volunteers is paramount to success, and increased engagement. This gathering also has to have purpose and utilise strategies where people can engage in a collaborative task, where everyone can contribute equally.

We held a craft workshop that involved all volunteers prior to the festival. The activity had to be tailored to all abilities while offering a chance to mingle and meet people.



What have we learnt?

Everyone communicates differently

People with Disabilities:

Communicate directly with them and also ask, if relevant, if they would like their support worker involved in communication.

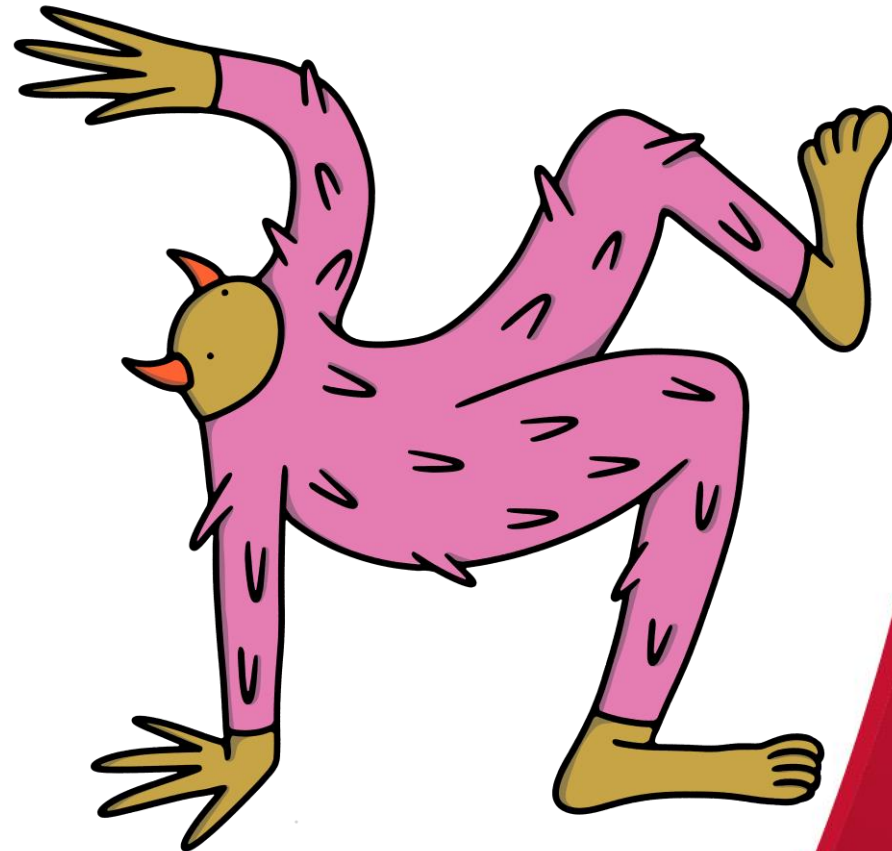
Experience has shown that all people registered with NDIS have an email address and this is the best point of contact to begin with. Once this has been clarified, speak to each volunteer individually and confirm best form of communication. We have found the following but remember, all disabilities are different, and you may discover better ways to communicate with your volunteers.

- Include guardian or support worker into email (with client permission)
- Email followed by a text message to advise it has been sent
- Screen shot of information such as shifts

Youth under 26:

Youth use very different forms of communication, rarely emails. This is why it is important to develop relationships with suitable organisations. We are still working on best practice for communication including the following

- Text message or WhatsApp message is best way to communicate
- In the instance of an underage youth, include guardian into the message.



What have we learnt?

Engage a volunteer manager or coordinator that has the skills to communicate with people from diverse backgrounds.

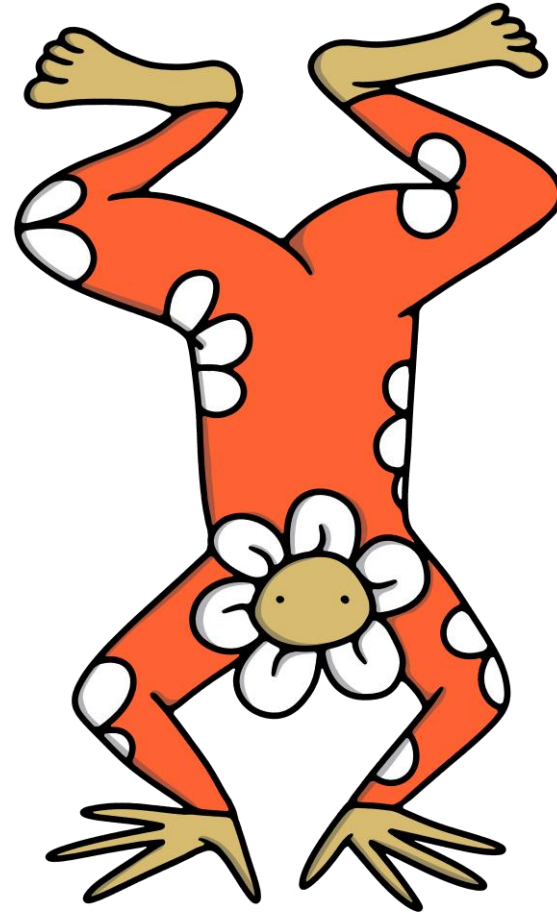
THIS IS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS



Like all families, it is a journey spread over time

Engaging volunteers, especially in priority areas, takes time and investment. Don't measure quantity of volunteers as success, but rather focus on ensuring each individual has a positive experience, that benefits both parties.

Building relationships with relevant organisations is essential to ongoing engagement and return volunteers.



Bunbury Fringe

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