



NATIONAL YOUTH VOLUNTEER WEEK

YOUR YEAR TO LEAD

Supporter Toolkit

Your guide to supporting
National Youth Volunteer Week

10–16 August

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- Show Your Support



About National Youth Volunteer Week

National Youth Volunteering Week (NYVW) is a national celebration of the contribution, leadership and potential of young volunteers across Australia.

Held from **10–16 August 2026**, the week recognises the many ways young people strengthen their communities through volunteering, while encouraging the next generation to discover meaningful opportunities to get involved.

A new chapter

Previously known as **National Student Volunteer Week**, the campaign has evolved to reflect the many pathways into youth volunteering today.

While students remain an important part of the campaign, National Youth Volunteering Week recognises that volunteering extends beyond classrooms and campuses. Young people also contribute through **sporting clubs, emergency services, environmental groups, arts organisations, neighbourhood initiatives, community groups and many other settings.**

By broadening the campaign, we aim to celebrate the diversity of youth volunteering and create more opportunities for organisations, educators, families and communities to recognise and support young volunteers.



Why the change?

*National Student Volunteer Week has become **National Youth Volunteering Week** to reflect the many ways young people volunteer today.*

Who is NYVW for?

National Youth Volunteering Week celebrates all young people, recognising that volunteering often begins well before adulthood and continues through school, further education, work and community life.

The campaign invites participation from:

- young volunteers
- schools and education providers
- volunteer involving organisations
- youth organisations
- community and faith groups
- sporting, arts and environmental organisations
- employers supporting youth volunteering
- Volunteering Peak Bodies
- governments and local councils.

2026 Theme: **#YourYearToLead**

In 2026, **NYVW** aligns with the **International Volunteer Year for Sustainable Development**, joining a global movement that celebrates the power of volunteering to strengthen communities and create positive change.

This year's theme, **Your Year to Lead**, recognises that leadership isn't defined by age or title.

It begins with taking action, supporting others and making a difference.

Your Year to Lead

celebrates young people as leaders of today. Through volunteering, they are shaping stronger communities, building connections and driving positive change in ways that matter to them and those around them.

Leadership isn't defined by age or title. It begins with taking action, contributing your ideas, supporting others and making a difference.

National Youth Volunteer Week campaign resources are available to help you take part in **National Youth Volunteer Week**, including:

- ☐ **Official Logos** to customise your assets
- ☐ **Social media tiles** for Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn
- ☐ **Banners** for newsletters and social media channels
- ☐ **Email signature** to include in your communications
- ☐ **Teams Background** to promote National Youth Volunteer Week
- ☐ **Certificates of Appreciation** - **Canva templates**



Click to Download Now

Campaign Resources

The National Youth Volunteering Week campaign includes a suite of ready-to-use resources to help you celebrate, recognise and inspire young volunteers.

Social media graphics

Share the campaign across your social channels using our collection of ready-made graphics.

The resource library includes:

- **Your Year to Lead** campaign tiles
- **Sector spotlight graphics** (e.g. Lead with Care, Lead the Change, Lead the Team)
- **Meet a Young Leader** spotlight templates
- **Campaign logo and profile graphics**

Download the graphics and pair them with your own message, or use the suggested social media copy included in this toolkit.



Key Messages

These messages can be used throughout National Youth Volunteering Week to celebrate young volunteers, raise awareness and encourage participation.

Celebrate young volunteers

Young volunteers are making a difference every day, strengthening communities through kindness, creativity, leadership and action.

This National Youth Volunteering Week, join us in recognising the contributions of young volunteers and the positive impact they have across Australia.

Volunteering builds more than communities

Volunteering gives young people the opportunity to develop skills, build confidence, form meaningful connections and contribute to causes they care about.

Every act of volunteering helps create stronger, more inclusive communities.

Get involved this National Youth Volunteering Week

National Youth Volunteering Week is an opportunity for everyone to celebrate the leadership, contribution and impact of young volunteers.

Join us from 10–16 August and show that this is *Your Year to Lead*

Creating opportunities for young people to lead

Young people are ready to make a difference, but meaningful volunteering starts with communities that welcome, trust and empower them.

By creating opportunities where young people are heard, valued and able to contribute, we build stronger, more connected communities for everyone.

Your Year to Lead

The Your Year to Lead theme celebrates the many ways young people demonstrate leadership through volunteering.

Leadership starts with action

Young people don't need permission to lead. Through volunteering, they're creating change, building connections and shaping the future of their communities today.

This could be *Your Year to Lead*.

Young people are leaders today

Young people aren't just the leaders of tomorrow. Through volunteering, they are leading change, strengthening communities and inspiring others today.

Make this Your Year to Lead.

Every volunteer can lead

Leading can mean mentoring a teammate, protecting the environment, organising an event, welcoming a new volunteer or simply lending a helping hand.

However you volunteer, this is Your Year to Lead.

Lead your way

There is no single path to leadership. Whether you volunteer in sport, the arts, emergency services, environmental conservation, education or your local community, every contribution matters.

Volunteer your way. Lead your way.

Show Your Support



Social Media takeover

Invite a young volunteer to take over your social media for a day or share content from their perspective.



Pass the mic

Rather than talking about young people, create opportunities for them to speak for themselves. Invite them to present at an event, host a Q&A or share what volunteering means to them.



Create Opportunities for Young People

Promote volunteer roles that are designed with young people in mind. Use welcoming, inclusive language that focuses on skills, growth, flexibility and the impact they'll make



Recognition

Recognise the contribution of a young volunteer with an award, certificate, social media post, or a thank you. Let them know how they have contributed to your organisation's impact.



Listen to youth leaders

Join our **National Youth Volunteering Week webinar** to hear young volunteers share what volunteering means to them



Share Your Story

Share the story of a young volunteer or someone whose life has been positively impacted by youth volunteering.



Host an Event

Organise a morning tea, networking event, volunteering activity or celebration to recognise young volunteers and connect your community.

Share Your Story

Every young volunteer has a story worth telling.

During **National Youth Volunteering Week**, we invite organisations, schools and young volunteers to share stories that celebrate the impact of youth volunteering and inspire others to get involved.

What stories can you share?

There are many ways to get involved:

- Feature a **Young Leader** from your organisation.
- Share a short video or interview about their volunteering journey.
- Post a photo and tell the story behind it.
- Ask a young volunteer what volunteering means to them.
- Highlight the impact young volunteers have made in your community.

Tips for sharing

- Let young people tell their stories in their own words.
- Focus on authentic experiences and real impact.
- Always seek permission before sharing photos, videos or personal stories.
- Tag **AusNYVW** and use the campaign hashtag so we can celebrate your stories throughout the week.

[Click to Share a Story](#)



Thank you for supporting National Youth Volunteering Week

Every young person deserves the opportunity to discover the power of volunteering, develop their leadership potential and make a positive impact in their community.

Thank you for helping celebrate, recognise and inspire the next generation of volunteers.

Join us 10-16 August 2026

National Youth Volunteering Week is brought to you in partnership with the state and territory Volunteering Peak Bodies



Please email media@volunteeringaustralia.org if you are unable to access the resources on the Google Drive..



Don't forget to tag us and use

#YourYearToLead

Facebook @AusNYVW

Instagram @ausnyvw

LinkedIn @nationalyouthvolunteerweek