

# Knowing your volunteers'

*value when applying for grants.....*

## Knowing the value:

Knowing the value of your volunteers and their work can be important when it comes to applying for grants, as many grant makers want to know what your level of volunteer commitment is.

## Crunching the numbers:

Using ABS 6302.0 Average Weekly Earnings you can work out the value that volunteers add to your organisation. For example:

- ▶ Original full time adult average weekly total earnings of \$1,668.10 divided by a 40 hour week = \$41.72 per hour.

So, to work out the value of volunteer work you need:

- ▶ Number of volunteers;
- ▶ Number of days worked;
- ▶ Eight hours per day; and
- ▶ Hourly rate as per ABS.

Therefore, if 1 volunteer worked 4 x 8 hour days, the value would be— $1 \times 4 \times 8 \times \$41.72 = \$1,335.04$ .

Further to that, many groups will cost pro-bono support from professional volunteers at a rate closer to the market rate. For example if a public relations company was offering to volunteer it's time, the value would be much higher than that calculated on the general per hour rate.

This sort of exercise gives you an idea of what sort of value these volunteers add to your organisation, and how it is worth ensuring they feel valued.



Source: Institute of Community Directors Australia, 2019, *Valuing Volunteers*, viewed 21 July 2019, <[www.communitydirectors.com.au/icds/tools/?articleId=1622](http://www.communitydirectors.com.au/icds/tools/?articleId=1622)>