



BUILDING STRENGTH AGAIN

**Volunteers
Don't get paid
Because they are
PRICELESS !**



After sometime at the end of the 'octopus arms of life', we are proud to issue our first volunteer and community newsletter for 2014. Welcome to all those community

organisations that are either still with us or have become new members and to those volunteers who have joined the ranks. We are hoping to issue these newsletters quarterly to provide interesting and informative leads for the networks and volunteers.

Last year we conducted a small number of agency visits and we will endeavour to visit many more members this year. Our objective with these visits, is to encourage a more fruitful partnership with the community organisation and a better

understanding of their needs. This is also designed to assist volunteers with community placements through better networking opportunities. Essentially, FNQ Volunteers is a screening organisation between community organisations and the community volunteers. We assist the community to obtain the most appropriate people for their volunteering positions through our knowledge of positions available and what the community needs are.

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Service Co-ordinator Profile

Oni Vuniyaro

As a former civil servant with the Fiji Government, Oni was a political and security analyst with the Prime Minister's Office, Director of Fiji's Immigration Department, and a diplomat with the Foreign Ministry. He served as a diplomat in London for five years and was acting Fiji High Commissioner for more than a year. He has travelled widely and has experienced different cultures, lifestyles and diversities of customs and traditions. In the last two years, Oni has steered FNQ Volunteers through a period of downsizing, but the organisation is alive and working well and has future community commitments.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK MAY 2014

Each year FNQ Volunteers participates in this National Program to assist in recognising the marvellous work done by Cairns community volunteers.

Event: National Volunteers Week
Location: Rydges Esplanade Cairns, Abbott St Entrance
Date: Wednesday 14th May 2014
Time: 9.30am – 11.30am




CELEBRATE
THE POWER OF
VOLUNTEERING

25 YEARS OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
12-18 MAY 2014



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER STANDARDS



1. **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:** An organisation that involves volunteers shall define and document its policies and procedures for volunteer involvement and ensure that these are understood, implemented and maintained at all levels of the organisation where volunteers are involved.
2. **MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES:** An organisation that involves volunteers shall ensure that volunteers are managed within a defined system and by capable personnel with the authority and resources to achieve the organisation's policy goals.
3. **RECRUITMENT, SELECTION & ORIENTATION:** An organisation that involves volunteers shall plan and have clearly documented volunteer recruitment, selection, and orientation policies and procedures that are consistent with non-discriminatory practices and guidelines.
4. **WORK AND THE WORKPLACE:** An organisation that involves volunteers shall clearly specify and control the work of volunteers and ensure that their place of work is conducive to preserving their health, safety and general well-being.
5. **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:** An organisation that involves volunteers shall ensure that volunteers obtain the knowledge, skills, feedback on work, and the recognition needed to effectively carry out their responsibilities.
6. **SERVICE DELIVERY:** An organisation that involves volunteers shall ensure that appropriate processes and procedures are established and followed for the effective planning, control, and review of all activities relating to the delivery of services by volunteers.
7. **DOCUMENTATION AND RECORDS:** An organisation that involves volunteers shall establish a system and have defined procedures to control all documentation and personnel records that relate to the management of volunteers.
8. **CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT:** An organisation that involves volunteers shall plan and continually review its volunteer management system to ensure that opportunities to improve the quality of the system are identified and actively pursued.

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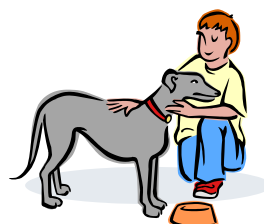
We have many members who have been with us for many years, and we thank them sincerely for their continued support to offer the benefits of volunteering to the community.

We would also like to encourage volunteers to let us know if there are other organizations in your part of the Cairns environs that might benefit from being with us. Volunteers deserve a huge thank-you for their effort and time regardless of whether they are with the community because of free-time and wanting to give back, or whether they are part of a referral program.

Service Co-ordinator - Oni

For your awareness...Volunteer Benefits

- #1 Volunteering connects you with other people - making new friends and increasing your network, social and relationship skills.
- #2 Volunteering has mind and body benefits - increasing self-confidence, combats depression and helps keep you physically active.
- #3 Volunteering increases happiness - because of being active and having people interaction.
- #4 Volunteering can advance your career - through new networks and learning new skills in positions and places that activate your passion for your community, hobby or work.
- #5 Volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to your life by increasing your goals and interests.



FNQ Volunteers Mission Statement

To develop and strengthen volunteering in Far North Queensland for the mutual benefit of the individual and the community

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We're on Facebook: FNQ Volunteers

Some volunteer positions currently available:

Ticket Seller	Tropical	Reader For
Resource Library Assistant	Volunteer Teachers Aide	Meals On Wheels Drivers
Truck Offsiders	Gardner / Nursery	Cleaners
Shop Assistants	Rag Cutters	Lifestyle Support
Child Care	General Hospital	Emergency Relief
Referral Officer	Telemarketerplus many others

COORDINATORS NETWORK MEETING

On 26 March, several organisations attended the first Coordinators Network Meeting for 2014.

Represented were ARC Disability Services, Cairns Lions Club, The Salvation Army, Centacare Migrant Services, Cairns Early Years Centre, Indigenous Community Volunteers and the Mission Beach Creative Arts Centre, as well as staff from FNQ Volunteers.

The aim of the meeting was to update volunteer programs with the organisations who attended and to cover values and objectives. Special attention was to given to OH&S matters.

The next meeting will held on 28th May 2014

Important Community Events

Lions Club Cairns Iron Man Competition

7 & 8 June

Makala Ukulele

3, 4, 5 & 6 July

Want Your Event Listed here...email us...
 Attn: Newsletter - info@fnqvolunteers.org



GRADUATION & BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Receptionist Tamara graduated on the 19th March from James Cook University with a Bachelor of Anthropology & Literature and now hopes to gain employment in the field of Social Sciences. She celebrated her birthday at the office with other staff members and also a visit from Dr George Skeene, Yirrigaydji elder and local historian, enhanced the occasion. Dr Skeene, who for many years has been researching local historical facts in conjunction with the Cairns Historical Society, has received an honorary Doctorate of Letters from JCU for his "outstanding service and contribution to the northern Queensland community" and services to JCU's academic excellence.



Left to right: Service Coordinator Oni, Referral Officer Carol, Receptionist Tamara, and Dr George Skeene

Volunteering Australia - Mission

To lead, strengthen, promote and celebrate
 volunteering in Australia

FNQ Volunteers Inc. wishes to express thanks to the Australian Government's Department of Social Services through the Volunteer Management Program.