



Community people



Throughout Queensland thousands of young people volunteer their time, skills and enthusiasm in activities as diverse as chatting online to people who need help, to planting trees for regeneration projects. Young people represent the fastest growing group of volunteers in Australia.

Research shows that young people volunteer to reach out and make a difference to others, acquire new skills, have fun and meet people.

The young people profiled in this edition demonstrate the benefits of volunteering not only for the individual but the organisation and the broader community.

Each year the Department of Communities presents the Queensland Young Volunteer Awards to recognise outstanding volunteers, some of whom are featured in the following pages. Nominations open during Youth Week in April and following this year's award presentations a

speaking tour will kick off six award winners visiting state high schools to promote the benefits of volunteering.

We will continue to encourage young people to volunteer. People who start volunteering early in life tend to continue to do so for the rest of their lives.

Linda A. Apelt
Director-General