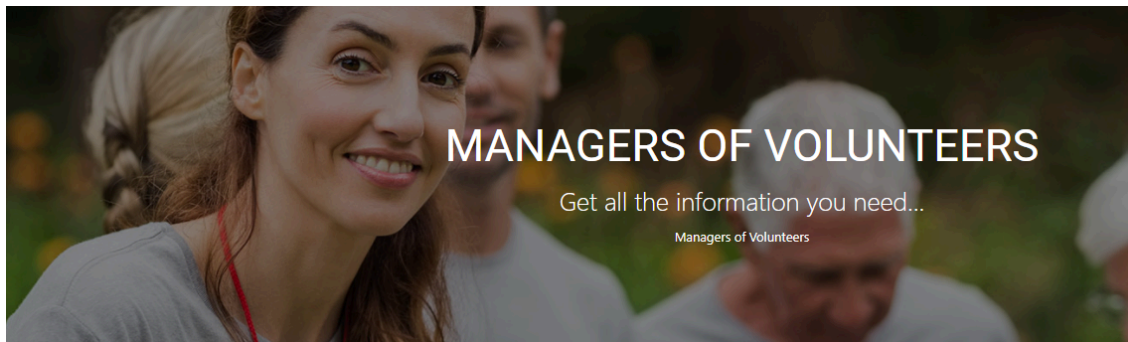




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Kia ora <<First Name>>

Welcome to 2026! We hope you are having a great start to the year, and trust you've had a relaxing break over the holiday season.

This edition features important updates from Volunteering NZ, including some excellent training opportunities!

Dates for your diary

- 2026 UN International Year of Volunteers (IVY)
- 28th January - FREE! Best Practice Guidelines 3: Volunteer support leadership & management
- 18th February & 4th March - Rob Jackson webinars for volunteer managers



Support the Global Call to Action for the future of volunteering



Volunteering New Zealand supports the global [Call to Action](#) for the future of volunteering, launched on International Volunteer Day, 5 December. Volunteers and volunteer managers in New Zealand were among those who responded to the global consultation which led to the Call To Action.

This Call to Action outlines three action areas:

Recognition, Support and Safeguarding. Each has an underlying principle and key actions addressed to specific stakeholders.

1 Call to Action: Recognition

Volunteers should be systematically recognised, valued, and celebrated, shifting from symbolic appreciation to systemic recognition through policies, funding, and integration of volunteering into relevant strategies.

2 Call to Action: Support

Volunteering is not always cost free, nor does it always happen automatically. It requires an enabling environment to support participation and maximize its impact, while adapting to evolving social and ecological conditions.

3 Call to Action: Safeguarding

Together, we can build a future where volunteering is recognized, supported, and protected everywhere, for everyone.

[More information](#)

[Resources for IYV 2026](#)

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Apply to be mentored in 2026



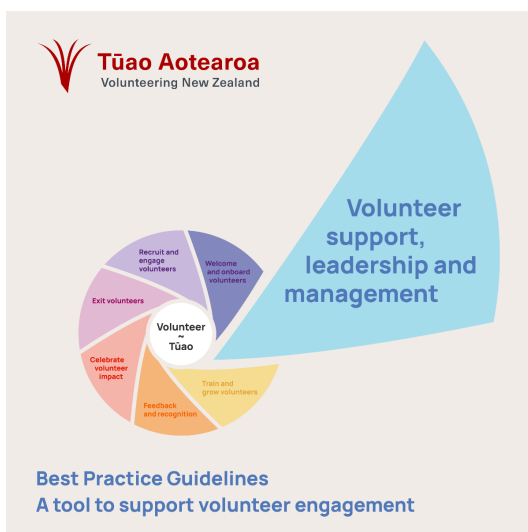
Would you like more support for your volunteer manager role? Apply now to join our 2026 national online mentoring programme.

100% of 2025 mentees saw growth or improvement during the programme for Volunteering New Zealand members.

The programme will run from April to September 2026. Mentees meet online with their mentor once a month, for one hour, for six months. Apply now by completing the online form; you will meet with the Programme Coordinator who will facilitate matching you with a mentor.

[Find out more and apply](#)

Best Practice Guidelines 3: Volunteer support leadership & management



Webinar

Wednesday, 28 January

10 - 11am

Free

The Volunteer Best Practice [Guidelines](#) provide a framework to consider and review your own volunteer management practice. In this interactive session, you'll hear more about the Best Practice Guidelines Practice Area 3 - Volunteer support, leadership and management.

We will share useful ideas and resources, and you will have the

opportunity to meet and learn from each other.

[Book Now](#)

Rob Jackson webinars for volunteer managers



Join us for two live webinars with Rob Jackson - a world-renowned expert in all things voluntary sector. Rob has over 30 years experience working in the voluntary and community sector, holding a variety of strategic development and senior management roles that have focused on leading and engaging volunteers.

Each session is 1.5 hours of volunteering gold! Discounted pricing for members of Volunteering New Zealand and/ or members of a Volunteer Centre.



From the top down for Volunteer Managers

A Rob Jackson webinar on getting senior leadership buy-in for effective volunteer involvement

Wednesday 18 February
10-11.30am, online

From the top down for volunteer managers (influencing)

Wednesday 18 February
10 - 11.30am

In this session we'll help you to help your senior leadership gain a new perspective on volunteering today, how their philosophy and daily actions lay the foundation for effective volunteer involvement. We'll explore how to develop and articulate a vision for volunteering as well as some handy tips for how to influence for the change you want to see.

[Register](#)



Measuring volunteering

A Rob Jackson webinar on methods for measuring volunteer contributions

Wednesday 4 March
10-11.30am, online

Measuring volunteering

Wednesday 4 March
10 - 11.30am

This session explores the development of methods for measuring the contribution volunteers make to an organisation and society.

From counting hours and volunteers, to looking at the economic, personal and societal benefits of volunteering, we will briefly explore a number of different approaches as well as their pros and cons. We will then consider how best you can use the data you collect to influence change in your organisation.

[Register](#)

**Are you a community group in
Nelson Tasman looking for volunteers?**



has partnered with



Join us now!

www.volunteernelson.org.nz

Many people are looking for new volunteer opportunities in January!
Do you have your opportunities listed with us on SEEK Volunteer for 2026?

TIP: No specific opportunities? List a general call-out for volunteers!

Connect now

Find or share training for the sector

Volunteering New Zealand maintains a curated list of [training and development](#) events

– many are free and often online.

Find training and events

Access [Past newsletters](#)



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