## GROW Volunteer Resilience and Capacity Program

## Information and EOI Form

We are pleased to announce the 2024 intake of the GROW Volunteer Resilience and Capacity Program, made possible by the financial support of Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) and Foundation for Rural & Regional Recovery (FRRR), delivered by Into Our Hands Community Foundation in partnership with Alpine Valleys Community Leadership.

The program is aimed at volunteer run groups and critical service clubs located in the fire affected LGAs of Rural City of Wangaratta, Alpine, Indigo and Mansfield Shires. In 2023 the program supported volunteer groups within the LGAs of Alpine Shire and Rural City of Wangaratta, and in 2024 will support groups in Indigo and Mansfield Shires. Note that applications for groups in other LGAs will be accepted, with Mansfield and Indigo Shire groups taking priority.

**EOIs for volunteer groups for the 2024 program are now open via the website:** [https://bit.ly/grow2024](https://bit.ly/grow2024?fbclid=IwAR2dMUPE2B2CJoob9RxyYTc7H4OkoCfmICvZ3uYWDNSGyz2NbgwSO68Kw9A)

The goal of the program is to provide groups with advice and support that builds resilient, strong, and adaptive organisations who are able to sustain their operations and contribute to community recovery efforts.

The program is available to directly support up to 15 community groups in each LGA, with free training and support in areas such as organisational governance and strategic planning, volunteer engagement, grant writing, and project management.

The program will be delivered to Indigo and Mansfield Shire volunteer groups from February – June 2024, and participating groups can expect:

**One on one sessions with the GROW Resource Officer**  
Up to a total of 6 hours over the 6-month program period. These sessions will focus on how your group can attract and retain a strong membership base, developing a vision for what your group wants to achieve in the next 3 years, and creating a plan to achieve your vision.

**Access to five online and interactive skills sessions:**

* Vision and Purpose – Tuesday 13 February
* Digital 101 for Community Groups – Tuesday 12 March
* Attracting and Retaining Volunteers – Tuesday 16 April
* Governance and Compliance – Tuesday 14 May
* Grant Writing – Tuesday 11 June

**Cost to participate:** Free

**All enquiries:** AVCL Interim Executive Officer E: [eo@avclp.org.au](mailto:eo@avclp.org.au)

## EOI Form

**Please submit to** [data@avclp.org.au](mailto:data@avclp.org.au)

**F**irst intake of EOIs will be for EOIs submitted by 4pm, Sunday 14 January.Further intake for extended EOIs will run through through to early February.Groups located in Indigo and Mansfield Shires will receive priority to participate.

* Name of group:
* Which LGA (s) is your group based in/ services?
* Nominated key contact person for group:
* Email:
* Phone number:
* How does your group support the community in recovery through building social connectedness and wellbeing, or directly providing recovery support?
* What are the aims of your group, through participating in the GROW program?

**Please submit the EOI form to** [data@avclp.org.au](mailto:data@avclp.org.au)

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**Please read before submitting the EOI:**

* “Supporting the community in recovery” can look like many different things, community groups operate across a range of different focal points, enabling individuals to reconnect, build social networks and undertake important community and capacity building work. This does not mean your group needs to be providing a service or support of a “front line” or “emergency service nature.” If you are unsure if your group supports your community in recovery, please contact AVCL Executive Officer to discuss - [eo@avclp.org.au](mailto:eo@avclp.org.au)
* Your group will work with the GROW Resource Officer on a 1:1 basis, up to a total of 6 hours over the 6-month program period. The number of sessions / duration of sessions will be tailored to each group, and can be carried out during normal/regular group meetings. In applying for this program, please consider if the group has the resource/time capacity to support these sessions.
* Five online sessions will be delivered as a part of the program, the group must be able to commit at least one member to participate in each session.
* The group must be able to complete a pre and post-program survey, as this enables us to evaluate the impact and success of the program.

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