



Education Development Centre  
4 Milner Street, Hindmarsh

# CURRICULUM OF GIVING STUDENT VOLUNTEERING WORKSHOP

30 MAY 2019, 9:00am to 3:00pm

**GIVE.**  
**GROW.**  
**EVOLVE.**

**School students volunteering**

STUDENT LEARNING &  
WELLBEING THROUGH  
VOLUNTEERING -  
PROGRAM

Event Partners

This workshop is proudly supported by the Government of SA (Department for Education and Department of Human Services), the Volunteering Strategy for SA (2014-2020) and Volunteering SA&NT.

Thank you for joining us at the Curriculum of Giving – student volunteer workshop 2019. The day is going to be packed with inspiring speakers, game-changing conversations, and unforgettable moments. We have a range of phenomenal, brilliant speakers. Breakout sessions will give you the opportunity to engage with these speakers in a more intimate setting.

The workshop aims to deepen your understanding that through volunteering (or service learning), students are provided with opportunities to develop knowledge and skills to think and work critically and creatively, and develop empathy, and personal and social skills that will support them to lead meaningful and purposeful lives.

*‘Volunteering can promote social inclusion, enhance future employability and help develop values of generosity and civic responsibility.’ Gonski 2.0*

In this workshop you will:

- learn how to implement safe and meaningful opportunities for school students to volunteer
- hear from experts in the field of student volunteering and service learning, wellbeing, social justice and values education
- explore resources developed to support the application of student volunteering programs
- develop relationships, networks and partnerships to foster opportunities for students to learn about and to embrace a culture of giving.



We are excited to launch resources that are free for use in any school or by volunteer-involving organisations.

Student Volunteer – teacher tools is a suite of webpages, templates and lesson plans to help incorporate student volunteering concepts and experiences in the school curriculum.

[www.education.sa.gov.au/student-volunteers](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/student-volunteers)

Webpages for organisations who are involving school students as part of their curriculum

- [About school students as volunteers – information for volunteer-involving organisations](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/volunteers/student-volunteers/about-school-students-volunteers-information-volunteer-involving-organisations)

[www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/volunteers/student-volunteers/about-school-students-volunteers-information-volunteer-involving-organisations](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/volunteers/student-volunteers/about-school-students-volunteers-information-volunteer-involving-organisations)

- [Getting ready for student volunteers – information for host organisations](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/volunteers/student-volunteers/getting-ready-student-volunteers-information-host-organisations)

[www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/volunteers/student-volunteers/getting-ready-student-volunteers-information-host-organisations](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/volunteers/student-volunteers/getting-ready-student-volunteers-information-host-organisations)

Generic fact sheet to support volunteer-involving organisations to involve young volunteers

- [Involving young volunteers](http://www.volunteeringsa-nt.org.au/assets/vios/volunteer-strategy-flyer-digital.pdf)

[www.volunteeringsa-nt.org.au/assets/vios/volunteer-strategy-flyer-digital.pdf](http://www.volunteeringsa-nt.org.au/assets/vios/volunteer-strategy-flyer-digital.pdf)

Other resources shared on the day:

[Fostering a culture of giving – Volunteering and the Australian curriculum](#)

Contact:

Heidi Unferdorben, Engagement and Wellbeing directorate, Department for Education on [education.volunteers@sa.gov.au](mailto:education.volunteers@sa.gov.au) or 8226 3795.

## Presenters and speakers



**Hon John Gardner MP**  
Minister for Education

John Gardner was appointed Minister for Education after the March 2018 state election, having previously served as Shadow Minister in this portfolio since January 2016. He is also the Leader of Government Business in the South Australian House of Assembly.

John has represented the seat of Morialta, in Adelaide's north eastern suburbs and near hills townships, since 2010. He is a member, sponsor or patron of a wide range of local community, sporting and service organisations in his electorate.



**Hon Michelle Lensink MLC**  
Minister for Human Services

Michelle Lensink was elected to the Legislative Council in the South Australian Parliament in 2003 and appointed as the Minister for Human Services in the Marshall Government in March 2018.

Michelle has been Shadow Minister for various portfolios including Human Services, Early Childhood Development, Environment and Conservation and the Status of Women.



**Katerina Eleutheriou**

Director, Engagement and Wellbeing directorate, Early Years and Child Development, Department for Education

Katerina is a values-driven Executive with over 10 years' experience in providing visionary leadership across multiple agencies.

Appointed as Director, Engagement and Wellbeing in 2015 within the Department for Education, Katerina has channelled her knowledge to influence systems and public policy to provide children and young people with equity of outcomes and the best life opportunities. In 2017, supported by a departmental scholarship, Katerina attend Leadership for the 21st Century at the Harvard Kennedy School in Boston.



**Evelyn O'Loughlin**

Chief Executive Officer, Volunteering SA&NT

Evelyn is a respected leader with 25 years' executive experience across corporate, not-for-profit and government sectors. Since 2008, she has been CEO for one of the State's largest not-for-profit peak bodies, leading the volunteering sector in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

A passion for community and culture has led Evelyn to the not-for-profit sector after a career spanning many sectors and industries, including working overseas in the United Kingdom and Greece.

## Presenters and speakers - continued

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### Associate Professor Thomas Nielsen

A member of the 2010 National Values Education Project Advisory Committee, Associate Professor Thomas Nielsen has served in several of the Australian Government's values and wellbeing education projects across Australia (see final reports at [www.valueseducation.edu.au](http://www.valueseducation.edu.au)).

He is invited regularly to provide workshops in schools for both staff and students, and many Australian schools have adopted his 'Curriculum of Giving' model (see [www.thomaswnielsen.net](http://www.thomaswnielsen.net)) as a framework for their whole school pedagogy.



### Ruth Tofler-Riesel

Ruth Tofler-Riesel is Co-founder and Director of Kids Giving Back, Australia's leading not for profit organisation for student volunteering for young people age 6-18. Kids Giving Back's mission is to forge real connections between kids and community, creating the 'Next Generation of Generosity'.

Ruth is passionate about guiding young people toward leading a purposeful life, and providing opportunities to nurture civic responsibility and develop our next generation of leaders. Prior to founding Kids Giving Back, Ruth spent 20 years making documentary films in the USA and Australia. Ruth is a trained teacher and previously taught ESL to refugees at UNSW.



### Robyn Monro Miller

Robyn's earliest memory of volunteering was at age 7 organising a clean-up of the neglected school garden. From those early beginnings she has remained a passionate advocate for supporting and empowering children to participate in their local community.

Robyn has 30 years' experience working with children and families across education, children's services and government. She has held representative leadership roles in children's services at a state, national and international level for the past 25 years. As CEO of Kids Giving Back, Robyn is committed to ensuring that more children and families experience the transformative power of civic engagement.



### Tracey Wallace

Having designed and driven service-learning programs in public and private schools across three continents, Tracey has witnessed first-hand the invaluable contribution volunteering makes to a young person's holistic education. In 2015 Tracey developed the uBuntu student volunteering program, including a range of resources for teachers.

Working with champion teachers, Tracey mentors schools across the trisector helping them to develop their own student volunteering programs that support students to authentically become active citizens within their communities. As an educator, Tracey acknowledges the unique position we are in, to empower young Australians to be change-makers in communities – locally and globally.



### Dr Fiona Kerr

Dr Fiona Kerr is the founder of The NeuroTech Institute, an independent body investigating how humans shape each other, how technology shapes us and how we should shape technology. Fiona explores the neurophysiology of connection and it's amazing impact on neural changes and synchronization, complex problem solving, empathy and positive contagion.

With qualifications in cognitive neuroscience, systems engineering, anthropology and psychology, and thirty years in industry, Fiona consults globally to organisations and governments from US Defense to Cirque du Soleil and Finland's AI steering committee. She is an international speaker, a research fellow with SAHMRI and an adjunct at Adelaide University.



## Presenters and speakers - continued

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### NRM Education

NRM Education program uses a whole-school approach when working with school or preschool communities to plan and manage ongoing sustainability initiatives. The team helps provide students with opportunities to take action to improve our local environment and live more sustainable lifestyles. This is leading to improved educational and environmental outcomes linked to the Australian Curriculum and the Early Years Learning Framework.

### Matthew Taylor

Matthew is the Team Leader Community Prosperity at the City of Tea Tree Gully (TTG) where he has worked for the last 13 years. Matthew's role is to promote greater community connection within the TTG through volunteering and other projects that connect people within the Council area. For the last 25 years Matthew has worked in various roles supporting volunteerism in Local Government and the not for profit sector.

### Ashleigh Brauer

Ashleigh is a case manager/ youth worker working with disengaged young people within the Flexible Learning Options (FLO) Program at Seaton High School.

Ashleigh is currently managing the case management team to develop a range of programs to engage young people in their learning and improve their wellbeing through volunteering.

### Dennis Mason

Dennis has a broad range of experience across the FLO program at Seaton High School, having managed the program for a number of years. He is trained in teaching and using Restorative Practices processes.

Since 2006, Dennis has been involved with Dr Jane Goodall's international Roots & Shoots Program for youth.

### Julie Ferguson

Julie is a passionate public-school educator. She has been a school leader for over 20 years in both country and metropolitan schools. These roles have focused primarily on student wellbeing and advocacy. Julie is currently the Deputy Principal at Marryatville High School, where her role encompasses Curriculum Leadership & Student Agency.

### Kerry Skujins

Kerry has been a teacher for over 30 years and has worked in a variety of schools in the public, private and international sector. She is a passionate crusader for a variety of social justice issues and has run actions both within Australia and in Asia. Kerry is currently Service Learning Coordinator at St Peter's College.

### Caroline Victor

Caroline is a teacher at Ocean View College and a champion of the Ubuntu Student volunteering program. Her passions include Landcare, the environment, and historical causes. Her leadership style comes through in everyday interactions with those around her. She mentors students to achieve the best results they are capable of. With all the support and encouragement, she managed to replicate Ubuntu Volunteering successfully again at Ocean View in 2018 and will be running the program again in 2019.

### Ali Elder

Ali is a research specialist and project designer for the City of Playford Council. She is a co-lead of the Playford 10 project, designed to connect children in Category 1 schools to ongoing activities aimed at supporting the development of life-skills and community connection. Ali has a research background in youth development and advocates for finding positive, interest based opportunities for young people.

## Student Volunteer Ambassadors

- Adelaide, Ocean View College, Year 10
- Amber, Seaton High School, Year 11
- Amy, Scotch College, Year 6
- David, St Peter's College, Year 13
- Dylan, Ocean View College, Year 10
- Jackson, Elizabeth Grove Primary School, Year 6
- Jake, Elizabeth Grove Primary School, Year 6
- Marshall, Seaton High School, Year 11
- Panae, Marryatville High School, Year 10
- Rhyme, Elizabeth Grove Primary School, Year 5
- Storm, Elizabeth Grove Primary School, Year 6

# The day

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9.00am

## Registration

9.30am

## Official opening

### Kaurna welcome

Evelyn O'Loughlin

Katerina Eleutheriou

### Special address

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC

Minister for Human Services

9.50am

## Keynote presentation

### The Giving Curriculum – the missing link in an education for a sustainable future

Dr Thomas Nielsen

Why is it that the world has doubled its spending power since the end of the Second World War, but also seen a significant rise in suicide and depression rates in the same period?

Why is it that countries can raise their PISA scores, but also remain at the top of the lists of countries with the highest rates of mental ill-health?

This talk will connect the dots of research evidence from several disciplines and let the answers to these questions emerge.

10.40am

## Morning tea

### Special performance

Errington Special Education

Centre Choir

11.00am

## Spotlight presentation

### Creating the next 'Generation of Generosity'

Robyn Monro Miller

Ruth Tofler-Riesel

### Kids Giving Back

Ruth and Robyn of Kids Giving Back, will give practical advice on how to create diverse volunteering experiences for school-aged students aged 6-18. Kids Giving Back forges connections between kids and the community, enabling students to develop empathy and resilience and towards leading a more purposeful life.

11.30am

## Keynote presentation

### Equipping student volunteer champions

Tracey Wallace

Tracey will take you on a service-learning journey, sharing with you practical resources to create volunteer opportunities for students. We should strive to create authentic opportunities to equip our students to make their world a better place. Opening of heart and mind, alongside the development of transferable skills, enables a mindset shift in our youth. To see problems as things they can tackle and improve, not just as things to accept as inevitable and unchangeable. The resulting intention is that Generation Z are inspired and motivated to make a difference through service – locally and globally.

12.00pm

## Fun speed network session

Don't forget your business cards!

12.20pm

## Lunch

12.50pm

## Keynote presentation

### How volunteering can grow a more engaged brain

Dr Fiona Kerr

Fiona will provide insight into the impacts of volunteering on the brain, especially for young, disengaged learners. This includes why such activity re-engages the dynamically changing teenage brain, how it can increase resilience and compassion, improve complex problem solving, reduce risk taking and increase creativity. However, volunteering can also have none of these effects if the activities do not engage empathy or prime a capacity for altruism and compassion. So what is key in structuring volunteering which makes a difference, both at the time and in the long term?

1.30pm

## Breakout sessions

Your selection has been recorded at the time of registration. Please remember that you can only attend a single session as breakouts run concurrently.

## Masterclass session 1

Dr Thomas Nielsen

Dr Nielsen will explore world class education, wellbeing and mental health challenges, advocacy, and global citizenship.

## Masterclass session 2

### Linking volunteering to student learning and the curriculum

NRM Education Coordinators

In this masterclass, NRM Education will provide ideas for how schools have linked into volunteer groups and how they have started exploring it through the Australian Curriculum as well as how volunteering activities can link whole of school focus.

## The day - continued

### Breakout session 3

#### Connecting with schools

Matthew Taylor

Robyn Monro Miller

Ruth Tofler-Riesel

In this lively session, be guided on how volunteer involving organisations can connect with schools. Be prepared to uncover the deeply held assumptions that may be holding your organisation back.

### Breakout session 4

#### Creating a service learning program for disengaged and Flexible Learning Options students

Ashleigh Brauer

Dennis Mason

Many young people have complex education needs requiring a flexible, more individual approach to their learning. In this session, hear from passionate educators who have used their experience to design an alternative learning program for students who require a different learning approach to mainstream school.

### Breakout session 5

#### Igniting a passion for service – running a student volunteer program, primary years focus

Ali Elder

Tracey Wallace

Ali and Tracey believe it is imperative that our young people realise and practice their ability to have a positive impact on the lives of others. Together they will share their stories of how primary school students were involved in identifying and addressing local community needs.

Ali and the students will share the experience of the Elizabeth Grove Primary School and Calvary Central Districts Hospital volunteer project with year 4/5 students.

Working within the House system at Scotch College Junior School, Tracey will share how all Year 3 to Year 6 students were involved in a service-learning project.

### Breakout session 6

#### Building connectedness – running a student volunteer program, secondary years focus

Caroline Victor

Julie Fergusson

Kerry Skujins

Three secondary sites (Ocean View College, Marryatville High School & St Peters College) share insight into how they have embedded volunteering experiences for secondary learners. Hear about how volunteering opportunities have developed the general capabilities and enhanced student connectedness.

2.30pm

#### Closing remarks

Dr Thomas Nielsen

#### Special address

Hon John Gardner MP

Minister for Education

3.00pm

Close

### Take the survey

Please scan the QR (Quick Response) code.

For iPhone – camera mode & hold it over the QR code below. Android phones – download a Quick scanner app.



### Planning committee

Thank you to the hard working team who have put this event on:

- **Ann Mason**, Teacher
- **Daniella Nofi**, Senior Policy and Program Officer, Department of Human Services (DHS)
- **Emily Zesers**, Client Relationships Manager, Volunteering SA&NT
- **Heidi Unferdorben**, Senior Policy and Project Officer – Volunteers, Department for Education
- **Lis Brittan**, Manager, Women's and Children's Health Network Volunteers
- **Marianne Nicholas**, Australian Curriculum Consultant
- **Rod Dolling**, Senior Policy and Program Officer, DHS
- **Tracey Wallace**, Service Learning Coordinator, Scotch College

