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PRESS RELEASE

Inclusive Volunteering Awards & Conference 2025 - KNOX

Volunteers come in all shapes, sizes and ages with differing abilities and from many different cultures.

These differences will all be celebrated at the Inclusive Volunteering Awards on April 29 at the Knox Community arts centre.

EV Strengthening Communities is hosting the event with the aim of rewarding and acknowledging community and other organisations In the Eastern Metropolitan region of Melbourne that have embraced inclusion and diversity through providing volunteering opportunities for people living with a disability, from newly arrived migrant communities, our first nations people, young people, people who are unemployed and vulnerable women.

EV Strengthening Communities seeks a community in which everyone can participate and belong and as such this vision drives our services. We have traditionally operated in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne however in 2023 have become a national body with the mission to strengthen as many communities as possible across the nation.

"We know that organisations and people out there are doing great work in being inclusive in their volunteer roles and opportunities," CEO Viv Cunningham-Smith said.

"We want to recognise them and have them tell their story to others who are also interested in coming along on an inclusion journey.

"We don't want to only hear from those who are at the end of their journey and doing great work, but also from people who are starting that journey.

"We are inviting organisations and community groups to nominate for an award and the process is not onerous.

"We are also offering the free conference in April for everyone interested in learning from others about how to start being inclusive and embracing diversity."

Nominations for the awards close on Monday 31 March 2025. Attendance for this event Is free, with morning tea and lunch provided.

Venue: Knox Community Arts Centre - Corner of Mountain Hwy & Bayswater Road, Bayswater

Date & Time: Tuesday 29 April 2025 - 8.30am - 2.30pm

For more information please contact Adele Braun - adele.braun@ev.org.au or 0409 993 048