

Memorandum

To:	All SLSNSW Clubs
From:	SLSNSW
Date:	10 November 2015
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Subject:	Grant Opportunity – Volunteer Grants 2015

The Department of Social Services **Volunteer Grant 2015 Program** is now open. This initiative forms part of the Australian Government's ongoing commitment to help community organisations meet the needs of new and ongoing volunteers. The purpose of the grant is to:

- provide support and recognition for volunteers
- maximise and promote volunteering participation, including opportunities to increase the diversity of volunteers and the ways in which people volunteer
- maximise opportunities for volunteering to provide pathways to other forms of social and economic participation
- support the development of a volunteering sector that is responsive to emerging trends and issues
- encourage/maximise leadership, mentoring and volunteering activity
- provide on-the-ground support and information for volunteers and volunteer using organisations in locations where there is identified need
- provide access to the resources and support volunteers and volunteer using organisations need to operate effectively and efficiently, and
- build effective volunteering practices and opportunities within organisations and communities.

Eligible not-for-profit community organisations can apply for grants between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to:

- Purchase portable, tangible, small equipment items to help their volunteers Contribute to the reimbursement of fuel costs for their volunteers who use their own car to transport others to activities, to deliver food, assist with medical appointments or help people in need
- Contribute to the reimbursement of transport costs incurred by volunteers with a disability, who are unable to drive
- Contribute to the costs of training courses and/or undertake background screening checks for their volunteers.

See link below – *Item Categories* on the Department's website – to use a guide when deciding what your Club would like to apply for.

The closing date for applications is **2:00 pm AEDT 9 December 2015**. The application and guidelines can be accessed from the following website: <https://www.dss.gov.au/grants/grants/funding-open-for-application/volunteer-grants-2015>

Please note – if your club would like the GSU to assist with an application or if you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact:

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