

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

## NSW VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2024

Volunteers are a gift to our nation. With your words, you provide comfort. With your actions, you lift burdens. With your compassion, you offer dignity and inspire hope.

The NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards celebrate all that volunteers do to uplift their communities and make our nation a better, kinder, safer place.

To everyone nominated this year, I offer my thanks on behalf of a grateful nation.

Whether you help people in your community, respond during crises, or care for our environment – you are living out the very best of what it means to be Australian.

I also pay tribute to The Centre for Volunteering for making this important annual event possible.

While our volunteers don't give their time and energy for recognition or reward, in honouring them today we uphold the value of community service and the ideals that enrich us all.

So let me commend all this year's nominees, finalists and winners – for your determination, kindness and generosity, and your willingness to get involved, dig deep and make a difference.

Congratulations and enjoy the celebrations!

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The Hon Anthony Albanese MP Prime Minister of Australia

December 2024