Volunteering and COVID-19

Due to the evolving COVID-19 situation ECU is postponing all physical volunteering events and programs for the foreseeable future. This is to assist with carrying out social distancing recommendations in order to safeguard the health and wellbeing of our staff and students.

The health and wellbeing of both the ECU community and external parties are at the forefront of our thoughts in these times.

It is however crucial that we as a community stay connected with those in need and actively participate in safe volunteering opportunities.

If you are already engaged in volunteering activities outside of the ECU volunteer program please ensure you are aware of your rights and responsibilities as a volunteer by visiting Volunteering Australia website.

How to get involved this month

We have sourced a range of fantastic volunteer opportunities that you can do during this crisis from the safety of your own lounge room:

- Emergency Support Volunteering
- Senior Pen Pal Program
- Foodbank Australia
- Neighbour to Neighbour

Send us a photo/video of how you are volunteering to careers@ecu.edu.au. You could feature in the next newsletter or ECU's social media, and will go in the running to win a $25 Uber Eats Voucher!

Neighbour to Neighbour

The Neighbour to Neighbour project aims to support communities at high risk of being impacted by the threats of COVID-19, including seniors, people with a disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds and Indigenous people.

Through the Neighbour to Neighbour initiative, we can all look out for each other and show a little kindness

Neighbour to Neighbour are looking for volunteers to help seniors and vulnerable people who are socially isolated in our local community.

Whether it's helping someone with their grocery shopping and dog walking or other errands – any little assistance you can offer will go a long way for someone in need. Even a quick phone call to check in!

Please fill out this short online form to register as a volunteer and we will put you in direct contact with residents in your area requesting assistance

When volunteering your time, please remember that COVID-19 is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance) and wash your hands regularly.

Volunteer Organisation of the Fortnight: Senior Pen-Pal Program

ECU is teaming up with Bethanie Aged Care to start up the Senior Pen-Pal Program!

During this strange time, it is important to think of those who might not have family or friends living with them to keep them company. We are asking our ECU volunteers to send a letter to some seniors who might need a friend.

Check CareerHub or contact careers@ecu.edu.au to get on board!

Meet ECU's Vol Squad Staff

Colleen is a Student Transitions & Employability Officer at ECU and has been working with the team for just over a year.

Colleen has volunteered for the Cambridge Coastal Conservation Volunteer Project and for Bethanie Aged Care, which is very close to her heart. She believes in giving time to the elderly and helping to put a smile on their faces.

You'll normally find Colleen spending time with family and friends. Lately you will find her playing Animal Crossings and Mario Kart or day-dreaming about being back in Disney World!

Happy Volunteering 😊

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