

I joined Volunteering Canterbury in 2012. Having had experience in the private and government sectors and owned my own business, the community sector was new to me – although it immediately felt like where I should be! Seeing the amazing gifting of time and experience that happens across the community is incredibly fulfilling – and I continue to be excited by the organisations I come across who are making a difference in the lives of the people they work with – and also, their volunteers! A highlight for me is the opportunity to make connections between organisations and individuals and seeing groups working together. What enables my role to stay fresh and challenging is my premise that we, as a community, can always do more/better...



It's great to be part of an organisation and team that is 100% committed to making a difference in our community through the power of volunteers and volunteering. Being reasonably new to Christchurch, working with VolCan has provided me with an excellent opportunity to learn more about, and support, our member organisations who do such important mahi across our region. A highlight each year are our annual volunteer recognition events. These are wonderful occasions to recognise those people, nominated by the groups they work for, who have gone the extra mile and made a real difference – ordinary people who have made an extraordinary contribution. So often this work goes unnoticed, undertaken by people who see a need and just quietly get on doing what needs to be done. Being able to recognise then publicly is one way of being able to say thank you and let them know what a difference they have made in making our community a more positive, caring and special place is truly appreciated.



I joined VolCan as a volunteer when my youngest child started school. I was looking for something meaningful to do with the extra time I had, so it was a perfect fit. After a couple of years, they invited me to come on board as staff and I jumped at the opportunity! Six and a half years down the line, my role has evolved a LOT, from general administration and office support to digital marketing, social media and project support. I'm loving being able to use my creative bent online, to support the mission of this awesome organisation. Being part of a 'for-purpose' organisation gives real meaning to what I do. It feels so good knowing that I am contributing positively to our community.



I was excited to join the team at VolCan earlier this year, in the newly established Selwyn Outreach role. Selwyn is one of NZ's fastest growing districts – and it's also the place I live, work, and am raising my children. I also actively volunteer in the Selwyn District, as a founding member of Rolleston Rotary and a frontline EMT at Leeston Ambulance Service. I am passionate about improving outcomes and experiences for volunteers and have had significant experience as a volunteer leader, manager, and advisor for a number of organizations. I love my work, growing Selwyn's volunteer networks, making volunteering more accessible, and encouraging many to step forward and volunteer – I know first-hand the significant difference volunteers make in our local community.



I joined VolCan in March 2005, after coming in to look at what volunteer opportunities were available. They invited me to join the team and so I did!

I enjoy the socialising aspect of volunteering, and the variety in the roles I volunteer for, for example the Ellerslie Flower Show, and my Kiwi Breeding role at Willowbank.

I enjoy the work I do for VolCan, coming into town and helping people who do not have internet access to find opportunities and volunteer roles that suit them. VolCan's work is so important in the community.



Before I joined VolCan, the role I was in relied on Volunteers and as we worked in the same building I got to know Volunteering Canterbury well. I found the Kopapa of the organisation and the ability to share knowledge and skills to help keep our Volunteers engaged and feeling valued was essential to our organisation. The VolCan website provided us with amazing volunteers who were committed and interested in our organisation and the training was extremely valuable for me in this role. I have had numerous board roles and decided this was the best way for me to be involved and support Volunteering Canterbury. I have been on the board of Volunteering Canterbury for 3 years and now have the privilege of being Board Chair. I believe volunteering is an opportunity to share our skills and extend our knowledge and friendships.