

## **Celebrating National Volunteer Week 2013**

On: 13 June 2013

**National Volunteer Week 16 – 22 June 2013 celebrates the invaluable contribution of volunteering in New Zealand.**



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National Volunteer Week 16 – 22 June 2013 celebrates the invaluable contribution of volunteering in New Zealand. In the event industry we often hear “this event would not have happened without volunteers” reflecting this year’s theme He tāngata, He tāngata, He tāngata! It is people, it is people, it is people!

Major Events Development Fund (MEDF) invests in many events that require a volunteer workforce. Examples of MEDF invested events are international sporting events like the Barfoot & Thompson World Triathlon Auckland and the Winter Games in the South Island. Both need large volunteer teams and regularly recruit between four hundred to a thousand volunteers. These types of events are held over different locations and require specialised skills, for example, the Winter Games volunteers are required over five locations on snow and ice.

People are keen to participate at events and get the inside experience. Another MEDF invested event is the inaugural Fast5 Netball World Series held in Auckland last year. It recruited one hundred and thirty volunteers in record time and continues to attract a large audience for the next series in November.

Cultural events typically require smaller volunteer teams meaning these positions are more difficult to obtain and very popular. The MEDF invested IceFest in Christchurch recruited almost one hundred and forty volunteers last year.

Whether local, regional or national, people are attracted to events whether they be sporting and recreational, environmental, arts and cultural, festivals, conferences, trade shows, emergency or fundraising events. Volunteering at events is another way to support your community.

Thank you for volunteering at events throughout New Zealand.