

Volunteers are not expected to assist with the personal care of participants as a carer to assist with medical and personal needs accompanies all participants.

All Volunteers will be required to obtain a Police Clearance and a Working with Children Check.

Our volunteers

- Help people to gain meaningful and enjoyable experiences in an area that is of interest to them and in the past has been impossible for them to participate in.
- Receive great personal satisfaction with working with people with disabilities, and making a difference to someone less independent than themselves. They can also develop and/or improve their own communication skills when working with people from different backgrounds.

If you would like to receive a volunteer application form or you would like know more about the role of a FwDAI Volunteer please contact our Coordinator, Di Bruce on 0424 417073



Fishers with Disabilities Assoc. Inc.

Di Bruce

Executive Officer

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About Volunteering

**FISHERS WITH DISABILITIES
ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED**



“I was amazed at the enjoyment people with disabilities found in doing something most of us take for granted. Even though we had to do just about everything for them – bait-up, cast, reel in, take the fish off the hooks – they were so happy just being outdoors and participating as much as they were able. I wanted to be able to help them do things for themselves. I thought about all the people who have never been able to fish because of their disabilities, and those who thought they could never fish again”

***Neville Thomas – Fishers with
Disabilities Assoc. Inc. Founder***

Fishing is one of the most popular recreational activities in Australia. Every year, over 600,000 West Australians bait-up and cast a line. However, until recently this activity has been impossible for many people with disabilities.

The Fishers with Disabilities Association Inc (FwDAI) provides a range of programs and plays an advocacy role in promoting inclusive participation in recreational fishing.

Our objectives are reached through specially structured, fully supervised, fishing activities in areas with disabled access, or from our new, purpose built boat the "Nev Thomas"! Independent participation in fishing is aided by the use of specially designed motorised reels. All programs focus on ability rather than disability.

The "Nev Thomas" is a purpose built vessel, equipped to take participants with disabilities (including up to four wheelchairs) off the shore and out to where the fish are biting!

The vision of the FwDAI is simple;

"To enhance the quality of life and self esteem of people with disabilities"

...read on about becoming a volunteer

About Volunteering...

People in the community are prepared to volunteer in different programs for a variety of reasons. Some people want to make a valuable contribution to something they believe in, others may see a volunteer program as a way of meeting people or gaining experience in new fields, or as a gateway to new carer opportunities.

One thing is certain – people who volunteer come from a wide range of backgrounds have vastly different personalities and will be motivated to volunteer for a variety of different reasons.

Volunteering is about;

- Getting involved, participating and making a difference in the community you live in.
- Learning new skills, sharing life experiences and helping others.
- Putting that spare time to good use, making contacts and building self confidence and self worth.
- Staying active, socialising and gaining friends for life.
- Contributing to the health and well being of the community.

Why volunteer with us...

TO be a FwDAI volunteer you probably;

- Love the outdoors.
- Really enjoying talking to people.
- Love working as part of a team.
- Enjoy the satisfaction of helping others to develop their independence.

and more than likely

- really love fishing!

Our volunteers achieve great satisfaction through the time they spend with participants and carers in our programs. You will help in all areas of fishing participation such as setting up fishing gear, baiting and casting a line, catch care and boating duties as required if you volunteer on our vessel.

Volunteers undertaking Skipper or Crew duties on the vessel will need to possess the required qualifications. You may either already have these, or in some cases we can arrange for the required training.