

Governor of Victoria

Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater ABN 11 091 816 085 Inc A0020449D

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## Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater – Youth Reference Group (YRG)

## Organizational Context

The Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater (FoHH) is a community group based out of Yellingbo (Wurundjeri Country), Victoria, that aims to improve the status of the critically endangered Helmeted Honeyeater and its habitat, whilst increasing public awareness of local environmental issues. Since the FoHH formed in 1989, hundreds of volunteers and dedicated agency partners have worked tirelessly towards these two aims. Today, the FoHH has over 150 members, is managed by a volunteer committee, employs six part-time staff and runs an indigenous plant nursery.

The FoHH recognizes the power of community members coming together with a common aim, and has as a result, expanded its <u>volunteering opportunities</u> that include helping via nursery assistance, planting days and habitat restoration, citizen science flora and fauna surveys, weekend activities, and many more. The Youth Reference Group is another step in increasing the range of our volunteer activities.

## The Youth Reference Group (YRG)

The concept of a Youth Reference Group has emerged as an opportunity for young people aged 18+ to participate in the activities and advocacy efforts made by FoHH in ways that suit their lifestyles in a two-way relationship – one that appreciates the voice of young people in the FoHH and allows young people to gain transferrable skills and experience whilst also building social connections and connect with nature.

The activities of the YRG will be designed by young people for young people, with a consideration of timing to ensure they don't clash with study, work, and personal responsibilities. Activities and actions could include designing citizen science projects in collaboration with our staff members and external partner agencies, contributing content to our social media platforms, giving feedback on key organization policies, and more.

The YRG is not limited to adults of a certain age demographic however, with the group welcoming any person aged 18+ who resonates with the event descriptions. Rather, the YRG focuses on providing meaningful volunteer opportunities for people who may be new to the sector to build social connections and transferrable skills.

## Key Contact People

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**Please note** - This information has been provided as a general introductory statement to the Youth Reference Group, and does not intend to explicitly dictate the roles or requirements of individuals involved in the group.