



## Position Description

Position	Location	Position Description Completed
Bilingual Water Safety Volunteer	South Eastern Sydney	August 2021
Management	Start Date	Type of role
Led by Surf Lifesaving NSW in collaboration with the South East Sydney Multicultural Water Safety Committee	TBC	Community Education & Engagement

### BACKGROUND

NSW is one of Australia's most **culturally diverse states** with nearly one third of NSW residents identifying in the 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census that they were born overseas.

Some key statistics from recent reports and research papers show:

- Of the total drowning deaths in Australia between 2005 and 2015, 27% were of people born outside of Australia (Royal Life Saving's 10 Year National Study Of Overseas Born Drowning Deaths).
- 22% of overseas-born resident drownings occurred at the beach (Australian Water Safety Strategy 2030).
- 48% of coastal drownings were of people born overseas (2020 Surf Life Saving NSW Coastal Safety Report)

Importantly the above statistics do not represent any of the vast number of individuals who are involved in non-drowning incidents and accidents at the beach and along the coastline. We would estimate that many thousands of individuals, a vast number of these being from a CALD background, would be rescued each year. The need to promote and improve water safety is clearly a priority among the people of CALD backgrounds.

### PURPOSE OF THIS ROLE

The Bilingual Water Safety Volunteer will assist and support the delivery of beach and water safety education and engagement activities to people from a diverse range of backgrounds and communities and will support the delivery of these messages in multiple languages.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Core Responsibilities

- You will be going to the beach/waterways with other volunteers and under supervision to speak to community members about water safety. You will be approaching people at the beach/waterways, asking them about their water safety knowledge, giving them information verbally and directing them to other online and print resources or apps for additional information.
- Engage with users of waterways to deliver water safety messages and encourage safe use, in community languages
- Assist with delivering public and community events in English & community languages. You may be also asked to assist with adapting water safety information for people of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, or with other water safety initiatives.
- Spread awareness of how to access water safety resources online, print, and other mediums.

### **Additional Pathway Responsibilities**

- Assisting in the delivery of dry, on-beach and other practical community education sessions with relevant stakeholders.
- Assisting in public engagement stalls in the South East Sydney & across various areas of Greater Sydney when needed.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Good verbal communication and interpersonal skills with the ability to engage with audiences from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Proficiency in one of the following languages: Arabic, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Korean, Hindi, Nepali, Spanish, Portuguese, Punjabi
- Willingness and ability to participate in outdoor activities
- Ability to work well in a team
- Personal attributes of flexibility, initiative, positivity, reliability, and punctuality
- A current Working with Children's Check or willingness to obtain one.
- No current water safety knowledge or swimming skills required.

### **KEY OUTCOMES**

- Represents SLSNSW & all committee organisations in a professional and ethical manner while undertaking work on community engagement & education programs.
- Communicate feedback, information, and insights about water users back to the Committee and SLSNSW
- Adhere to relevant policies and procedures and codes of conduct of Surf Life Saving NSW
- Reasonably complies with WHS guidelines and procedures, using protective clothing or equipment provided at all required times
- Participate on consultation around culturally appropriate water safety messaging and share cultural knowledge
- Undertakes and completes induction and ongoing training as required
- Contributes positively to the team and volunteer cohesion
- Refers all media enquiries to the Community Education Manager

### **PATHWAY TO PAID CASUAL WORK**

Pathways to casual employment roles as well as training and volunteering opportunities may be available to suitable volunteers with the following organisations:

- Sutherland Shire Council Lifeguards' Team.
- Waverley Council
- Surf Life Saving NSW
- Swimming Centres
- Royal Life Saving NSW