

What Makes a Good Nomination

Making sure that your nomination meets the award criteria is crucial for your nomination to stand out. By following a few simple hints and tips, you can ensure that your nomination shines above all others!

What are the criteria?

All nominations are judged by following:

The volunteer has:

- ★ Gone above and beyond what is expected of them.
- ★ Demonstrated exceptional commitment, dedication and effort.
- ★ Made a difference to their own life or the lives of others; and/or
- ★ Made measurable change or impact.

How to make your nomination shine

1. List specific roles and projects that your volunteer has been involved with:

- ✗ Gordon has volunteered at several events.
- ✓ Gordon has volunteered at the Edinburgh Marathon as a cheerleader for our runners and the MoonWalk as a marshal.

2. Describe what your volunteer has completed and achieved in their volunteering role:

- ✗ Sharon was extremely helpful in making the events a success.
- ✓ In the morning, Sharon arrived at the volunteer briefing with lots of energy and enthusiasm which helped to motivate the other volunteers. She took the lead of one of the water bottle stations and delegated tasks to other volunteers to ensure the station was set up in good time and helped keep morale of the volunteers high. When the station looked like it would run out of water, Sharon was proactive in sourcing more water from another station. This event would not have been as much of a success without her.

3. Provide measurable impact your volunteer has had:

- ★ How much money have they fundraised?
- ★ How many people have they helped?
- ★ How many hours do they dedicate to their role?
- ★ How many people attended an event they organised?
- ✗ Mandy worked really hard in organising the event. Lots of people attended and we met our fundraising goal.
- ✓ Mandy worked tirelessly for 2 hours every night for a week before the event to create, print and display posters. The posters created such a buzz around

Haddington that we sold over 100 tickets and fundraised over £1000 for Cancer Research on the night.

4. Describe how your volunteer went the extra mile to ensure a positive result:

- ✗ Carla is passionate about representing our views and managed to get one of our assignment deadlines extended.
- ✓ Carla, our student rep, set up a Facebook group for our course to raise any issues or concerns. I had mentioned how a lack of available resources meant it was difficult to complete our assignment on time. Carla took time to talk to other members of the course and found that many were having similar problems. She raised the issue with course leaders and managed to get the deadline extended.

5. Describe how your volunteer has had an impact on others around them:

- ✗ Jacqueline has ensured that all the residents at the care home are happy.
- ✓ By attending the care home every Sunday to run an arts and craft session, Jacqueline has made sure the residents have had an activity to look forward to every week. The session helps bring residents together and rediscover their youth! The residents are more active, and Jacqueline's enthusiasm and openness means they all have a new friend.

6. Describe how your volunteer has improved their own skills:

- ✗ Mitch has become more confident in himself and is now more sociable around friends.
- ✓ Mitch has sometimes struggled with his confidence but during his volunteering role he has been able to talk to a wide range of different people and helped them with some of their problems. Because of this, Mitch has learnt to become more open and is able to communicate more effectively and is fun to be around!

A nomination that is able to tell a personal story and provide specific details about the volunteer's role and contribution will help the panel understand the impact and specific contributions that the volunteer has made on others.