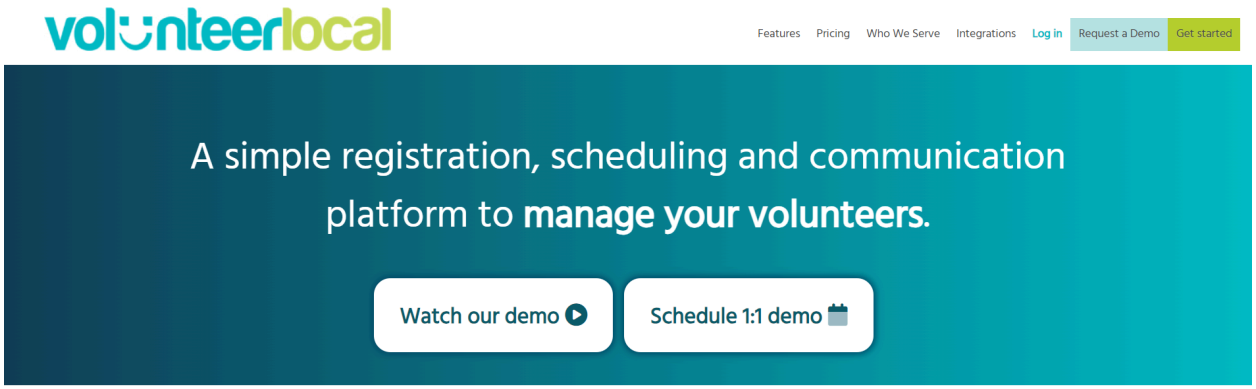
Style:



VolunteerLocal is a user-friendly volunteer management platform used by volunteer coordinators.

1. Clean and Modern Style
    a. Justification

        A clean and modern page can help make your webpage look more inviting. It helps convey credibility and trustworthiness to customers. This in turn could help increase the number of people that want to enrol into the volunteer program.

    b. Example

        For example in this website volunteerlocal (https://www.volunteerlocal.com/) the use of light colours and the minimalistic scheme makes the website look very sleek with ample white space, clear typography and intuitive navigation the website looks very well rounded and inviting. The block of colours also allows for a clear distinction between areas in the website allowing the users to unconsciously separate different aspects of the website to make for a better reading.

2. Warm and Inviting Colour Pallet
    a. Justification

        Incorporating warm and inviting colours in the website can evoke positive emotions by the user and create a welcoming atmosphere. Colours like green can be associated with values such as growth and harmony, and blue normally associated with values such as trust and stability. This can be particularly effective for volunteer related websites.

    b. Example

        This can be seen above where the use of the colours blue, green and other warm colours to create a friendly inviting aesthetic.

3. Distinctive Branding and Identity
    a. Justification

        Branding and uniqueness serves as a visual representation of the organisation's values and mission. Through compatible images, design elements and consistent messaging, websites can communicate their commitment to their cause. The use of bold typography along with a unique logo, creates a recognisable and unforgettable visual identity that resonates with users. The cohesive branding strategy not only enhances the website's aesthetic appeal but also reinforces trust and credibility.

    b. Example

        An example would be Habitat.org's distinctive branding that can be observed across the website. This stays consistent from the homepage all the way to the recruitment pages. The prominent display of Habitat's logo and its main colours black and orange establishes a sense of urgency and demand. Additionally the bold letters and clean design attributes to the company's professionalism.

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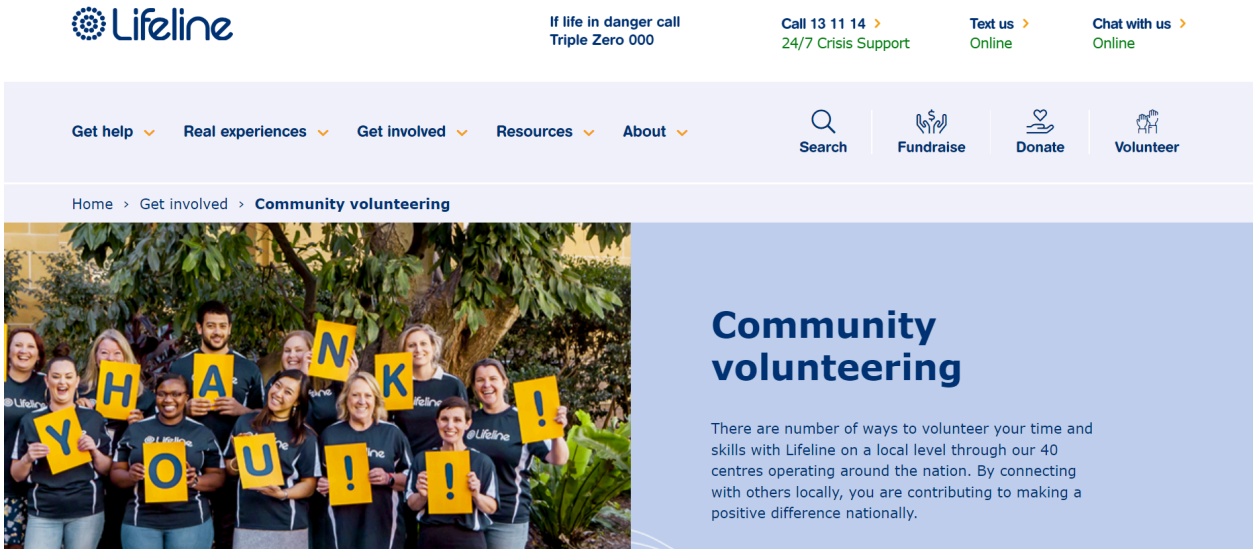


5. Use of visuals designs
    a. Justification

        Visually engaging designs can capture the viewer's attention, leading to increased engagement and extended browsing sessions. Imagery and videos can also be compelling which can connect to the viewer on an emotional level. This is relevant to volunteer pages as emotional engagement can evoke empathy which leads to greater chance of viewers signing up to volunteer.

    b. Example

        The example above shows the use of imagery to engage the viewer. The website displays a large visual formatted to the left of the text to draw your eyes to the image first, then read the text. The image choice of volunteers saying thank you and smiling makes the viewer feel encouraged to sign up.

[Home - Volunteering SA&NT (vsant.org.au)]

Structure:

Volunteer database
Build custom registration forms for your events to collect comprehensive demographic information on each volunteer.

Volunteer scheduling
Self-scheduling, administrative scheduling and so much more.

Email + SMS/text
Send and schedule broadcast email and SMS/text messages, including automatic reminders.

Group volunteering
Group leaders can register everyone at once, or secure spots and fill in the information later.

Hours tracking
We provide a number of ways to track hours - mobile web, app, kiosk and admin screens.

Reporting
Standard reporting, export and search capabilities as well as access to custom reports specific to your organization's needs.

Background screens
Run background screens on your applicants - it is fully integrated with our platform.

CRM Integrations
CRM integrations to keep your CRM up to date + report hours.

1. Clear and Intuitive Navigation
    a. Justification

        A clear and intuitive navigation system is essential for helping visitors find information quickly so save both the user and admin time. The use of logical navigation labels and the organisation of the hierarchy of different aspects in the website should be seamless to provide the best experience

    b. Example

        On the volunteerlocal website the navigation menu is present at the dashboard on the top and when scrolling down a link to each different component with a brief description is seen. After clicking each link the website provides an easy way to head on to the next component by clicking an arrow instead of having to come back to the main page. Each category also has sub-categories with this hierarchy, it allows users to navigate with ease, regardless of whether they are seeking volunteer opportunities, job listings, or organisational resources.

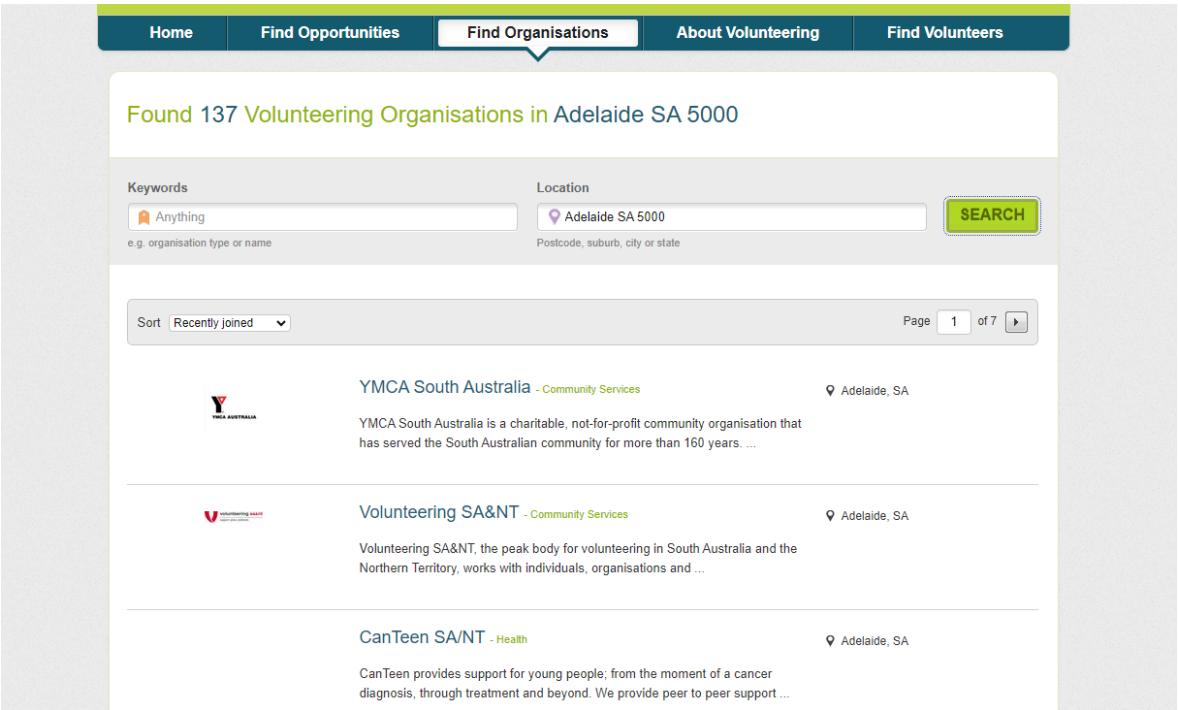
Discover Plan	Grow Plan	Enterprise Plan
$600/year	$2,400/year	Contact us
2 admin users Volunteer database (unlimited volunteers) Volunteer scheduling Unlimited applications, events, jobs and shifts Email and SMS/text* communication Automated messaging (email & SMS/text) Message templates Export data to CSV file Visual/interactive report Mobile app for volunteers Event-level signup/cancel notifications **10,000 SMS included (US & CA)*	10 admin users *Discover Plan features, plus:* Custom design (wrapper) File Library (file hosting) Group volunteering Applicant status & qualification tracking Hours tracking (check in/out tools) Import shift & volunteer data Password protected jobs/shifts Job-level permissions for users **50,000 SMS included (US & CA)*	50 admin users *Grow Plan features, plus:* Leader/captain user type Job-level notifications Shift-level permissions for users Credentials / badges **100,000 SMS included (US & CA)*
START YOUR DISCOVER PLAN 14-DAY TRIAL	START YOUR GROW PLAN 14-DAY TRIAL	START YOUR ENTERPRISE PLAN 14-DAY TRIAL

2. Pricing and Payment Plans
    a. Justification

        Including a dedicated pricing section and different payment plans is essential for any website to have clarity and transparency. This helps users understand the cost and budgeting of the volunteering management software and allow them to choose a plan that best fits their interests. By providing these details you empower the users to make informed decisions for themselves which in turn encourages them to take the next step forward.

    b. Example

        The pricing section in volunteerlocal outlines various different plans and pricing tiers available. Additionally they offer a free trial to allow for users to test the services before investing in them. They also have a full breakdown of each tier to show what are the features and additions that come with them. By presenting pricing information in a clear and transparent manner, these websites make it easy for potential customers to compare plans and make a confident purchase decision.

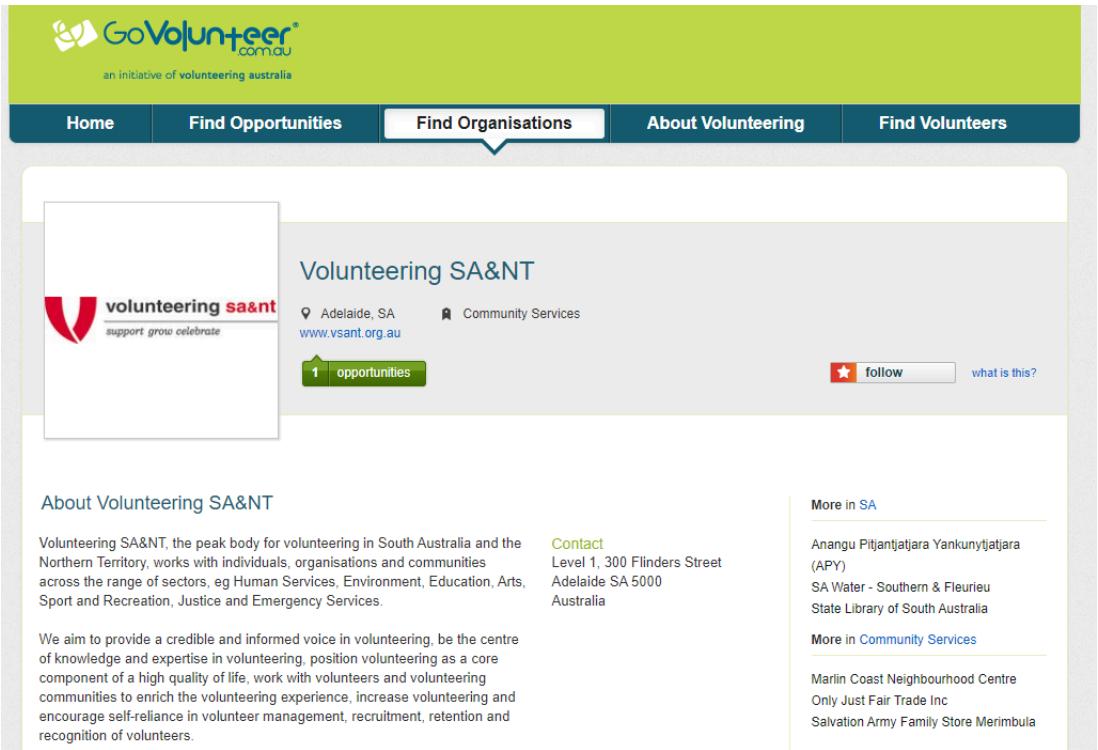


3. Find organisation page
    a. Justification

        The find organisation page is structured in a list format displaying each organisation's logo, name, brief summary, category, and location. This layout helps users to quickly scan through the list and find organisations that match their interest.

    b. Example

The GoVolunteer website has a find organisation page that allows you search for different volunteer organisations by keywords or location. It provides a list of organisations that can be sorted by recently added or alphabetically to make it user-friendly. Additionally, it has page numbers and arrows to easily transition between pages and remember which page you are on. This user-friendly layout helps viewers efficiently sort through different organisations and find what they are after.



4. Individual organisation summary pages
    a. Justification

        Individual organisation summary pages allow for organisations to present important information about their mission, location, contact information, and volunteer opportunities. This information helps viewers understand what each organisation has to offer.

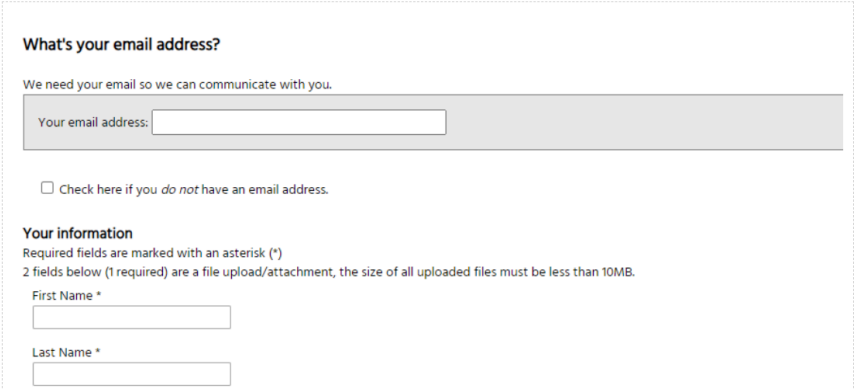
    b. Example

        The GoVolunteer website structures the organisation page in two sections. The top section includes their logo on the left, and their name followed by location, job opportunities, and link to the right of the logo. The second section includes a description about the organisation and contact information. This structure helps to clearly present the necessary information to the viewer.

Features:

Collect Volunteer Data

Create simple registration forms for your volunteers to complete. Along with basic demographic information, you can collect file uploads (certificates, etc) and profile pictures.

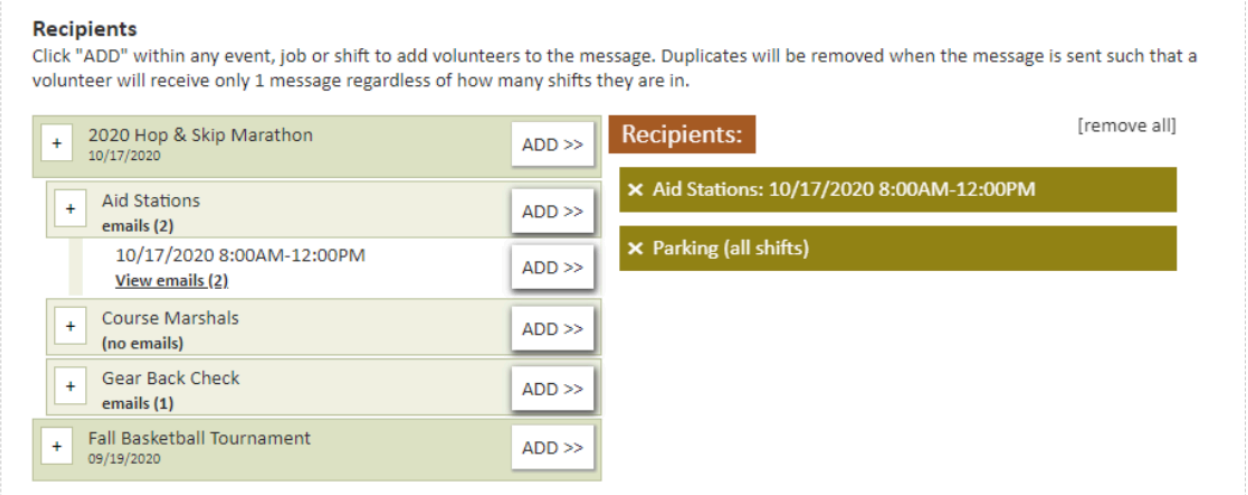


1. User Registration and Volunteer Profile Creation
    a. Justification

        Allowing users to register on your website and create volunteer profiles can help stream the volunteer recruitment process. Registered users can receive personalised recommendations for volunteer opportunities based on their interests and skills, making it easier for them to get involved.

    b. Example

        As seen above volunteerlocal go above and beyond as they allow you to create detailed and personalised account. Through these profiles users can input their interests, skills, availability, and location, enabling the platform to match them with volunteering opportunities that align with their preferences and schedules. Overall, prioritising user personalization and customization on volunteerlocal not only makes it easier for users but it makes it easier for individuals to find volunteers and it facilitates a community among volunteers and organisations.



2. Email broadcasting and automatic reminders
    a. Justification

        Email broadcasting and automatic reminders are essential features for volunteer work websites as they help make the application and communication process a lot more streamlined and make sure that everyone is informed. Email broadcasting also allows organisations to reach large audiences with important information. Additionally email reminders reduce the chance of no-shows by sending timely notifications to everyone involved. It also helps save time and resources while keeping participants engaged and informed, ultimately enhancing the effectiveness of their volunteering management efforts.

    b. Example

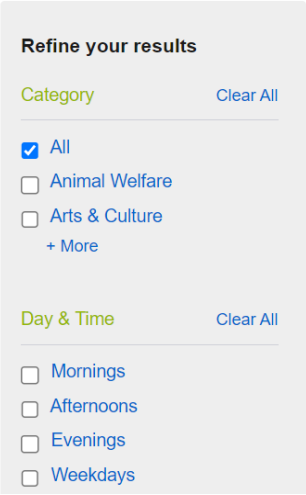
        The implementation of email broadcasting and automatic reminders on websites like volunteerlocal offer robust volunteer management solutions that include features for scheduling, communication and engagement. By leveraging these features, volunteer work websites can enhance communication, and ultimately maximise the impact of their programs and initiatives.

3. Search filters
    a. Justification

        Search filters help the customer locate volunteer organisations based on preferences such as categories, type of work, time of day, and commitment. This improves the website's user-friendliness by aiding the user in narrowing down specific organisations.

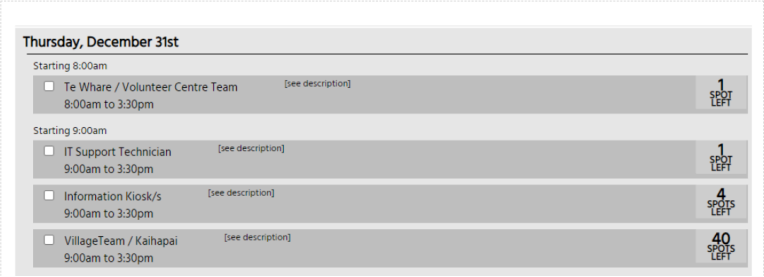
    b. Example

        The search filter from GoVolunteer includes several different categories to help refine the search. It also includes a 'clear all' feature to help the user quickly remove everything they selected.



Self-scheduling options

VolunteerLocal provides list-views and calendar-grid views to accommodate your needs. We also offer settings such as minimum/maximum shift selection to accommodate your requirements.



4. Event scheduling
    a. Justification

        The Volunteer event scheduling feature serves as a useful tool for managing and promoting volunteer opportunities. It allows admin users to post upcoming events along with descriptions and is an easily accessible source of information for volunteers interested in participating. Viewers can browse through upcoming events, find ones that suit their interests and availability, and register.

    b. Example

        The example above by VolunteerLocal shows an example of a list-view event schedule. It displays all events on a certain day sectioned by time of day. Each event has a name, time, and number of spots available. You can click on each event and it expands showing a description of the event. This feature allows volunteers to select jobs/shifts and allows event organisers (admin users) to mass export volunteers from a CSV file.

Features

User Features

1. **Sign Up/Log In**
   This feature lets users create a new account by signing up or login to an account.
   Implementation of Sign Up:

   - Users can access the sign up page using the navigation bar.
   - Users fill up the sign up form, where the system queries the user database to check if the username and email are unique. Furthermore, validates if the password meets complexity requirements.
   - Then, system updates user database with new user, with the information they put in the sign up form
   - If successful, validates user with message

   Implementation of Login:
   - Users can access the sign up page using the navigation bar.
   - Users fill up the login form, where the system queries the user database to check if the username and password are present in the database.
   - If successful, validates user with message

2. **Manage User Information**

   Users can edit and update their information
   Implementation:

   - User goes to their profile dashboard
   - System retrieves the users information from the database, specifically the user table
   - User is presented with a form, where they can update their information such as name, bio, age, etc
   - The system validates this new information and updates the user table in the database
   - The user is validated if the update was successful
3. **Join Volunteer Organisation**

Users can find and join volunteer organisations

Implementation:

- User goes to organisation page, where they can find all the organisations
- Users can filter the organisations by metrics such as type, location, etc using a button. This is where the system sends a query to the organisations table, filtering it.
- User presses a button to join an organisation. System updates memberships table and adds user to table.
- User request is validated if successful.

4. **RSVP Events**

Users can RSVP to upcoming events

Implementation:

- User can press a button where they can RSVP to event
- The system creates or updates a record in the RSVP table.
- The user interface is thus updated to reflect the user's RSVP
- Event information is sent to the user via email

Volunteer Organization Manager Features

1. View Members and RSVP status

Managers can view the members in their volunteer organisation

Implementation:

- Manager goes to the managers dashboard
- Managers can press on the users tab which makes the system query the memberships table for members of the respective organisation.
- Display list of members and their RSVP status and details

2. **Post Updates**

   Managers and admins can post updates publicly or privately

Implementation:

- Manager or admin goes to manager dashboard where they can fill out a form with their update
- When manager submits their update, the system stores the update in a updates table which is displayed to users in their user dashboard

3. **Create and Update Events**
   Managers and admin can create and update events for the volunteering organisation

   Implementation:

   - Manager or admin fills out an event form
   - The system validates the event form and stores it in the events table
   - User dashboard is updated with new event

System Admin Features

1. Manage Users

   Admins can manage users by editing their information or deleting them from system

   Implementation:

   - Admin goes to their admin dashboard where they can view all users

- The system queries the user table for all users and displays the users in a table with option to edit or delete
- Admin selects edit or delete and the system updates the users table
- The admin is validated with a success message if successful.

2. **Sign-up Other Admins**

   Admins can edit profile of users to have admin role

   Implementation:

   - Admin goes to admin dashboard where they can find all users
   - They can edit a user's role to admin which updates the user table
   - Sends confirmation email to new admin