

Community Inclusion Grants 2024 - successful applications

Organisation	Project Title and Project Description	Grant amount \$
Active Southbank Community	<p>Active Southbank Community Market</p> <p>This quarterly market is a vibrant hub that champions inclusivity, celebrating diversity and fostering unity welcoming everyone, regardless of age and background. Seasonal, themed and cultural festivities celebrate the high demography showcasing Southbank uniqueness. Through a wide variety of booths/suitcase-sale, art and craft, food galore, multi-cultural fiesta, children's activities and community communications, accessible creating an environment where all feel valued and connected.</p>	17,960
Aquatics and Recreation Victoria	<p>VICSWIM - Teen Intensive</p> <p>Aquatics and Recreation Victoria (ARV) recognises the need for water safety programs for new and emerging communities (NECs), specifically for youths aged 13-18 due to the high risk they represent when engaging in water-based activities. ARV's VICSWIM – Teen Intensive project aims to increase water safety awareness and contribute to reducing the number of drowning related deaths amongst this cohort.</p>	14,049
Australian South Asian Centre	<p>Inclusive Arts Program for Indian and South Asian Women</p> <p>Inclusive arts workshops to build stronger communities in Melbourne by empowering under-represented Indian and South Asian women with the skills and confidence to create performances centred on their lived experience. Focusing on the medium of spoken word and stand-up.</p>	14,000
Blind Sports and Recreation Victoria (BSRV)	<p>Educating and empowering: a vision for inclusion in Melbourne</p> <p>BSRV will instil confidence and help improve the safety of people with vision loss through familiarisation walks; where they learn about precincts and support services in the city/Docklands. Concurrently, BSRV will educate staff at venues and facilities in vision loss awareness, so they are equipped and prepared to effectively involve people with vision loss. This will improve accessibility and participation.</p>	15,000
BrightCentre inc.	<p>Learn2Reach</p> <p>Learn2Reach is a pilot program that will work with schools to deliver a series of workshops to support young people in building their future. The program will help them envision their future goals, develop action steps to reach them, provide holistic support on how to reach them and link them with an education counsellor to support them in implementing it.</p>	10,000
Carlton Scout Group	<p>Carlton Scouts Inclusion Program</p> <p>The Inclusion Program builds on our successful response to Covid-19 by heavily subsidising membership for 15-20% of our members who are City of Melbourne resident families experiencing social and financial disadvantage. Inner city kids will gain access to a fun and adventurous outdoor program with proven mental health benefits which includes weekly activities, outdoor excursions, weekend camps and leadership courses.</p>	7500
cohealth	<p>Footwear and podiatric material aid</p> <p>The program aims to provide suitable footwear, orthotics and aids to vulnerable clients living or sleeping rough in the City of Melbourne with the ultimate goal of reducing the need for lower limb amputation, improving quality of life and being able to participate in social and employment activities previously restricted by lack of appropriate footwear.</p>	10,000

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Compost.Care	<p>Community Composting Network - Building Local Engagement</p> <p>This project will develop and document a framework to deliver a coordinated neighbourhood composting network across Kensington - empowering residents to respond to sustainability issues and building community capacity. A key outcome will be to increase community connection by tailoring support to marginalised residents, allowing them to learn about and engage in composting in trusted community spaces.</p>	10,000
Dadfit	<p>Dadfit - supporting healthy families and gender equity in the City of Melbourne</p> <p>The project will support the health of 120 families by delivering 8 five-week Dadfit programs in Carlton to dads with children aged 0-5. Dadfit's innovative program involves weekly group workouts followed by facilitated discussions about the highs and lows of fatherhood, plus peer support to try out new ideas in family life - including parenting, relationships, and mental wellbeing.</p>	15,556
Disability Resources Centre	<p>Belong - bringing our community together</p> <p>Belong is a free network led by and for people with disabilities. Members come together both online and face to face to build connections, share experiences and support one another. Regardless of culture, age, gender identity, geography or disability, everyone is welcome here. Together we ameliorate loneliness and social isolation and build community, identity and pride.</p>	20,000
Hotham Mission	<p>Breakfast Club Inner North</p> <p>Commencing in 2024 Hotham Mission is planning to operate a breakfast program with its school partners Mt Alexander College and University High. Both schools have been aware of the food insecurity that many students experience. Anticipated demand is high, with as many as 150 children likely to attend each week. Hotham is committed to providing high quality culturally appropriate food.</p>	10,000
Kensington Neighbourhood House	<p>Kensington Life Support Program</p> <p>"Just do it online." Easier said than done! With core services increasingly moving to remote delivery, many community members are digitally excluded from participation in daily life. The Kensington Life Support Program will address digital exclusion by providing one-to-one support to help people access the internet, build digital skills and complete life tasks.</p>	19,929
Latin Stories Australia Incorporated	<p>Let's tackle it together</p> <p>Latin Stories Australia aims to support Latin American migrants in Victoria. This is done by building opportunities for social cohesion for Latin American migrants (especially for those in need); increasing meaningful connections within the community and with the broader Australian community; and building resilience in the community.</p>	13,000
Little Dreamers Australia	<p>Young Carer: Advocate, Represent, Empower (YCARE)</p> <p>YCARE functions as a dedicated Young Carer Advisory Group, comprising of 10 Young Carers and key representatives from Little Dreamers, including staff and board members. This group will provide feedback on programs, projects, events, and documents or policies, as well as offer ideas for new initiatives or changes that Little Dreamers can implement for Young Carers in Melbourne.</p>	18,000
Lotus Group Projects Inc	<p>Celebrating Disability Diversity</p> <p>A Project Management Group to hold regular meetings planning four 3 hour community awareness-raising workshops in Ross House. Topics; living with an Acquired Brain Disorder; lymphedema; depression/anxiety/developing resilience & the benefits of community awareness. A celebratory 3 hour catered event for International Day of Disability on December 2 would launch a "knowledge bag" Celebrating Disability Diversity.</p>	13,200

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Melbourne Boomers Foundation Limited	<p>Mamma Ball - Women Only Basketball program</p> <p>Mamma Ball is a pioneering initiative that focuses on empowering women and non-binary individuals through basketball. Led by Deakin Melbourne Boomers WNBL players and coaches, sessions are tailored to suit all skill levels - all are welcome on the court and for complimentary morning tea afterward.</p>	15,000
Melbourne Social Soccer Inc.	<p>MSS Women: Stronger Together</p> <p>Through the Stronger Together program, MSS will organize subsidized 'come and try games' for women from diverse backgrounds (international students, CALD, working professionals, refugees; aged 18 years+) of all soccer skill levels. The objective is to reduce financial barriers for involvement, have improved physical and mental wellbeing, build meaningful connections, and enable an inclusive community.</p>	12,600
Mentoring Men	<p>Connecting men and promoting well-being in the City of Melbourne</p> <p>This project will engage with at-risk men in Melbourne to promote mental health and well-being, improve help seeking behaviour, increase social connections and build resilience. Through identifying local leaders and providing them with mentoring skills, the community will build on its strength to support each other and equip itself with the skills to meet challenges into the future.</p>	16,719
Open Table	<p>Local Lunch Club</p> <p>The Local Lunch Club project is an expansion of a pilot series of seasonal community lunches made with diverted surplus food, aimed at addressing food insecurity and social isolation and improving wellbeing outcomes for the community. This project will be place-based and openly accessible to all, providing a space for everyone to connect using food as a social equaliser.</p>	19,784
Richmond Rowing Club	<p>Indigenous Recognition and Inclusion</p> <p>To listen to Wurundjeri Elders and educate the members of our club to recognise and understand the places where the club meet and gathers on each day. We seek to commission an Indigenous artist to design a canvas that best describes our purpose and values and to provide a more open and welcoming environment at the club for Indigenous Australians.</p>	2755
Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network (RIMERN) Inc.	<p>Everyone needs a bed</p> <p>RIMERN collects donated clean second hand mattresses but is always short of bases as we don't accept demountable bases that are hard to store & reassemble. For our around 12 clients a week needing a bed we propose to purchase folding bed bases to complete their orders and provide a comfortable bed for every client.</p>	10,000
St Joseph's Flexible Learning Centre	<p>Melbourne Victory Community Coaching in Schools</p> <p>Using football to improve health, wellbeing, social connectedness and progression into adulthood. Weekly 1 hour soccer sessions held at the school, run by a qualified and experienced soccer coach from Melbourne Victory.</p>	4600

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St Martins Youth Arts Centre	<p>St Martins Drama Workshops Inclusion Scholarships</p> <p>Generations of young people have participated in our drama workshops, which have a positive role in developing life skills and impacting their choice of future careers. We are striving to offer places to young people who wouldn't be able to otherwise participate, by offering partial and full scholarships. We want to ensure and increase our capacity to continue doing so.</p>	17,960
The Centre: Connecting Community in North & West Melbourne	<p>Intergenerational Sport & Games Program: Bridging Generations Through Play</p> <p>Through a tournament of weekly friendly games of soccer, basketball and volleyball, this project will strengthen relationships between young and middle-aged men living in North Melbourne public housing.</p> <p>This project will help participants develop a sense of belonging by encouraging social engagement, physical wellbeing, and the sharing of life experiences across a generational divide.</p>	19,907
The Community Grocer	<p>The Community Grocer Carlton</p> <p>TCG runs a weekly fruit/vegetable market at the Carlton Public Housing Estate at 510 Lygon St. Every Friday, we serve up to 50 residents and community members, providing access to over 60 types of culturally diverse foods at a price 30% cheaper than surrounding options, and all in a safe and inclusive environment that encourages connection and community building.</p>	17,030
The Salvation Army (Victoria) Property Trust	<p>Melrose Street Wellbeing Garden Project</p> <p>The garden at 159 Melrose Street has remained in the same state for decades. It is a community garden which can be accessed by the residents and members of the public. The Support In Public Housing Program would like to redevelop the garden to be a more welcoming and usable space.</p>	18,000
Ubuntu Project	<p>Ubuntu Project Leadership Academy</p> <p>The Ubuntu Project Leadership Academy is a four tier development program for girls and woman of African heritage. From personal growth, confident building and goal setting to leadership in the community sector including Board directorship there are opportunities for all woman in this program.</p>	16,000
Victorian Blind Cricket Association	<p>Blind Cricket Belonging</p> <p>This project aims to bring a sense of belonging to blind and low-vision people through the medium of blind cricket. This aim will be achieved by providing blind cricket activities (clinics, activators, come-and-try) and twelve free, inclusive, all-abilities Junior Blind Blast sessions. The project is targeted at under-represented groups (children, women) in the blind and low-vision community.</p>	8600
Victorian Elderly Chinese Welfare Society Inc.	<p>Site accessibility and facilities upgrade</p> <p>VECWS intends to upgrade the accessibility as well as facilities at its headquarter, a two-story building located at 187-189 Victoria Street, West Melbourne, that it acquired more than 35 years ago.</p>	12,650

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Youth Projects Limited	<p data-bbox="352 259 643 293">First Nations workshops</p> <p data-bbox="352 320 1355 463">Youth Projects will deliver a program of ten cultural identity focused workshops designed to support First Nations rough-sleeping clients that attend The Living Room, a vital primary health service located in Melbourne's CBD. Workshops will be delivered over six months by a specialist First Nations Facilitator and include seven interchangeable units that are flexible to the needs of the cohort.</p>	14,968