

Community Inclusion Grants 2025 – successful applications

Organisation	Project Title	Brief Project Description	Grant amount
3CR Community Radio	Stories from the Towers	In 2023, the Andrews Government announced the demolition of Melbourne's 44 high-rise public towers. While we've heard from politicians and experts, the voices of the communities directly impacted have been missing. "Stories from the Towers" is a 5-part podcast series featuring residents' experiences of living in the Carlton housing estate, along with their aspirations and hopes for the future.	\$7050
Able Australia	Able Melbourne Community Inclusion	People with multiple disabilities, including intellectual, physical and sensory impairments, feel isolated due to the complexity of their disabilities, their vast communication needs (including Auslan and tactile communication) and their extremely limited financial means. This project will provide community inclusion and advocate Melbourne's accessibility through four supported excursions to popular arts, cultural and tourist attractions in the City of Melbourne.	\$10,000
African Youth Alliance	Chef It Up	Chef It Up is a programme empowering young men through culinary education. Over three blocks, participants will learn quick global meals, healthy budget-friendly dishes, and African cuisine from expert chefs. Two major events will feature a food drive with Cook4CALD and a pop-up restaurant with Little Lagos, promoting community engagement and cultural appreciation.	\$12,000
ANTaR Victoria Inc.	Treaty and Truth Telling - support and education	Our project aims to educate and increase awareness and understanding of First Peoples' Treaty process. ANTaR Victoria plays a vital role in educating non-Indigenous Victorians about the issues most pressing to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in Victoria. ANTaR will partner with the First Peoples Assembly to support, share and explain the benefits everyone gains from a Treaty.	\$10,000
Cass Care Limited	Skill Up! --Art workshops for Older People	Skill Up! consists of a series of art activities to strengthen the capacity of older people aged 65 and above from Chinese-speaking backgrounds in the City of Melbourne. Participants can learn various things through this project which may help them feel valued and capable. This project is also a platform for them to connect and expand their networks.	\$3150
Concern Australia Welfare Inc.	Steps Outreach Service - Wellbeing and Inclusion Program	The Wellbeing and Inclusion Program will support young people in the City of Melbourne who are experiencing, moving on from and/or at risk of homelessness to positively connect with activities and organisations in the local community. This will strengthen their support network and help diversion to positive activities. This will increase wellbeing and improve chances of maintaining stable housing.	\$10,000
Disability Resources Centre	Medical Mates and Alongsiding	"Medical Mates and Alongsiding" is a new citizen advocacy and mutual aid model, designed to fill demonstrable needs in the disability community. Participants can access peer support for short term needs from those who are trained and truly understand. Support can be requested to attend a health or medical appointment, or to be heard and understood through times of transition.	\$12,000
Footscape Inc.	Foot Care Kits	Footscape distributes Podiatry endorsed material aid items to disadvantaged persons including identified homeless persons, asylum seekers and First Nations persons. Painful foot problems affecting such persons are accentuated as individuals may be forced to walk long distances upon poor footwear and socks. Footscape intends to continue maintaining this project work with a further 500 foot care kits for distribution.	\$10,000

Organisation	Project Title	Brief Project Description	Grant amount
Kensington Neighbourhood House	KNH - Access All Areas	A capital works project to upgrade the bathroom of Kensington Neighbourhood House using universal design principals - maintaining KNH as a place where people of all abilities can participate equally. KNH is a core service welcoming 1,000 visitors annually. However the facilities are run-down. Last renovated in 1992, the bathroom is no longer fit-for-purpose and poses a barrier to participation.	\$20,000
Little Dreamers Australia	Young Carer: Advocate, Represent, Empower (YCARE) - Year 2	We are applying for Year 2 of YCARE, a dedicated Young Carer Advisory Group comprising 10 Young Carers and key representatives from Little Dreamers. This group provides feedback on programs, events, and policies, and offers ideas for new initiatives or changes that support Young Carers in Melbourne.	\$10,000
Lively	Expanding digital literacy options for CALD elders in Melbourne	Lively will expand our support for CALD elders in CoM to improve their digital literacy by hiring and training 2-4 young people drawn from target language communities for our council partners. We will bolster this by establishing two peer support mentors to provide direct feedback and mentorship for Lively helpers working in the CoM to support retention and performance.	\$19,630
Many Coloured Sky	Big Wednesday	Currently Big Wednesday is a fortnightly social and wellbeing program that enhances a sense of belonging and community connection amongst LGBTQIA+ refugees, people seeking asylum and newly arrived communities. Through delivery of a series of workshops and the sharing of a meal together weekly, this project aims to foster meaningful relationships amongst community. We seek support to make this weekly.	\$10,000
Melbourne Community Television Consortium LTD	CTV News Melbourne	The project focuses on launching the pilot season of CTV Newsroom, a local Melbourne news program by Channel 31. It aims to provide emerging journalists from diverse backgrounds with hands-on experience and training in media production, fostering inclusive and representative news coverage that reflects Melbourne's vibrant community while contributing to the development of journalism careers within the region.	\$10,000
	Somali Language School	The Somali Language School will help Australian children with Somali heritage learn their Somali language to create strong cultural identity and connections and create Somali language communication connections with their parents, grandparents and communities. The project also aims to create employment opportunities for the Somalia community by hiring a teacher and admin staff to run the program.	\$20,000
North and West Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre	Wellness Across Ages: Uniting Generations Through Activity and Dialogue	This project is designed to connect international students and local seniors in Melbourne through a structured weekly program of yoga and tai chi sessions, cultural cuisine, informal conversations and social gatherings. This intergenerational program focuses on improving physical health, reducing stress and loneliness, and fostering cultural exchange, creating a supportive community network that enhances the wellbeing of all participants.	\$10,707
Open Table	Local Lunch Club	The Local Lunch Club is a monthly community lunch event at the Kathleen Syme Library. A team of volunteers prepare a delicious, nutritious meal utilising rescued produce. The project addresses food insecurity and social isolation and improves wellbeing outcomes for the community. This project is place-based and openly accessible to all, providing a welcoming space for connection and community support.	\$12,000
Phunktional Limited	Script Development for 'Seen'	Script development and filming with Community Participants for the development and presentation of 'Seen' a new performance touching on issues of online hate speech.	\$18,000

Organisation	Project Title	Brief Project Description	Grant amount
The Salvation Army (Victoria) Property Trust	Exploring Victoria and Healthy Ageing	To support initiatives increasing community participation, reducing isolation and providing an environment of inclusion focusing on Seniors and CALD residents. Through new experiences and outings, while empowering residents to make decisions for themselves, our team will engage and provide required support work. We have over 200 residents in our program who would be eligible to attend these outings.	\$10,000
St Martins Youth Arts Centre	St Martins Drama Workshops Inclusion Scholarships and Inclusion Artist Support (South Yarra)	Our Inclusion Scholarships provide children whose families are affected by hardship, due to economic or disability reasons, access to our drama workshop program that they may not otherwise have. Inclusion Artist Support allows us to provide additional workshop artists, specifically dedicated to inclusion, so we are able to provide 'invisible' inclusion in a meaningful, long-term and safe environment.	\$10,000
Street Side Medics	Street Side Medics Mobile Clinic	Street Side Medics is a not-for-profit organisation that provides mobile, GP led, primary healthcare to those experiencing homelessness and those that are vulnerable. We assist our patients to overcome barriers when engaging with healthcare services. The clinic will operate adjacent to other services on a weekly basis.	\$20,000
The Footpath Library Limited	Extending the reach of mobile library services for people experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness in the City of Melbourne	Operate regular mobile library services, via volunteers, in Carlton, Fitzroy, Flemington, Queen Victoria Markets and the CBD, for people experiencing homelessness and disadvantaged groups within our community (including Youth at Risk and CaLD communities), to access free quality books, reading glasses, and donated knitted goods; in collaboration with other sector providers, (e.g. food and clothing) in a safe, welcoming environment.	\$9963
West Melbourne Baptist Church Community Centre	Knitting and Crafting Group	Through our work with multicultural communities we have observed loneliness and isolation, particularly amongst multicultural women over the age of 50. This group's aims to combat this isolation and loneliness through the common interest of knitting and crafting. We will create a welcoming space for the group to meet weekly and be a place of sharing cultural diversity.	\$4500