

Media Release

The Hon Gabrielle Williams MP
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Minister for Women



Wednesday, 4 November 2020

MORE CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT FOR ABORIGINAL GROUPS

The Victorian Government is standing with Aboriginal Victorians through coronavirus by empowering local organisations to lead the response.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Gabrielle Williams today announced a further \$930,000 has been awarded under the second round of funding through the \$10 million *Aboriginal Community Response and Recovery Fund*.

The Fund – announced in July – was set up to support Aboriginal groups in leading local responses to the pandemic, including emergency relief, outreach and brokerage, social and wellbeing initiatives.

Six Aboriginal organisations will share in the latest funding, including Elizabeth Morgan House Aboriginal Women’s Service so it can continue its work providing emergency and long-term housing solutions, while Killara Foundation will be supported to keep community connected through a digital platform.

Dardi Munwurro will receive funding to create 10 online videos that highlight the work of Aboriginal leaders and community members, while First Peoples’ Health and Wellbeing and Nairn Marr Djambana will get a funding boost to provide additional outreach support to members in the Frankston area and surrounds.

Other funded initiatives will support more emergency relief payments and cultural strengthening activities, as well as mental health and wellbeing supports.

So far, the Fund has allocated more than \$1.4 million to support Aboriginal communities and will be available until next year.

Applications are reviewed on a monthly basis, with more than \$8.5 million still available.

For the full list of recipients or to apply for funding, visit: aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-community-response-and-recovery-fund.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Gabrielle Williams

“Victoria’s Aboriginal community hold the knowledge and expertise about what is best for themselves, their families and their communities – in these unprecedented times, that knowledge is crucial.”

“While it is fantastic to see Victoria opening back up again, we know the impacts of the pandemic will be long-lasting.”

“I encourage more Aboriginal Victorians and organisations to apply for funding so we can drive more culturally safe, locally based responses to the pandemic.”