

Media Release

The Hon Luke Donnellan MP
Minister for Child Protection
Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers



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MAKING THE BEST OF OUR STATE MORE ACCESSIBLE

The Andrews Labor Government is helping all Victorians enjoy everything our state has to offer, with applications now open for the latest round of grants for fully accessible public restrooms.

Grants of up to \$110,000 will build an extra 18 Changing Places facilities, which are larger than standard accessible toilets, providing accessible public restrooms that include adult change tables and hoists – enabling Victorians with disability to access more of our most popular recreation spots.

Local councils and not-for-profit community organisations across the state are encouraged to apply.

The Labor Government is investing \$2.5 million to expand Victoria's Changing Places network, which will enable Victorians with high support needs and their carers to enjoy popular tourist locations, parks and community facilities.

The latest grants round builds on \$3.46 million already invested by the Government to build 33 facilities, including at the MCG, Melbourne Zoo and Hamer Hall. Victoria leads the way nationally, hosting 87 of Australia's 178 Changing Places facilities.

Building more facilities is one of the goals of Victoria's *Absolutely everyone: State Disability Plan 2017–2020*. The next state disability plan to build a fairer and more inclusive community is due to be released at the end of the year.

Grant applications close 5 November 2021. To find out more and apply, visit providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/changing-places.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Luke Donnellan

"Changing Places make a very real difference to people's lives, enabling them to actively participate in all that Victoria has to offer."

"These \$110,000 grants will help us expand Victoria's network of Changing Places so that people can not only enjoy their local community but will be able to visit all parts of our great state."

"I encourage local councils and community organisations to apply for these new grants to build Changing Places in their local communities and make a real difference in the lives of locals living with disability."