

Media Release

Mr Colin Brooks MP

Minister for Child Protection and Family Services

Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers

Acting Minister for Mental Health

Acting Minister for Treaty and First Peoples



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VICTORIA - DELIVERING THE INCLUSIVE STATE

The Andrews Labor Government is investing to make the state more inclusive for all Victorians, making popular tourist destinations and community facilities more accessible for people with disability.

Announcing 46 accessibility grants through a \$5.4 million investment, the Labor Government is cementing its reputation as the most inclusive and welcoming state in Australia.

The grants program has allocated \$3 million to build 19 new fully accessible Changing Place bathroom facilities and \$2.4 million for 27 Universal Design grants to improve the accessibility of community facilities and public spaces.

The Universal Design grants are part of a new program aimed at making it easier for all Victorians to take part in community and social activities.

Funds have been allocated to designs that include the installation of beach wheelchair access matting in Anglesea, a dementia-friendly sensory garden in Chiltern and accessibility upgrades to playgrounds and play equipment, doorways, toilets and ramps at venues across regional Victoria and greater Melbourne.

The grants announcements comes as the Labor Government reached an important milestone in its delivery of reforms to improve inclusion, with 100 Changing Places now located in Victoria out of 227 nationally.

Each Changing Place has a height-adjustable, adult-sized changing bench, a tracking hoist system and enough space for two people.

The Changing Place grant round builds on \$5 million previously invested to build Changing Places facilities across Victoria.

To find out more about the grant recipients visit improving-access-community-facilities-and-more-changing-places.

To find maps of popular tourist spots with Changing Places toilets and your closest facility visit changingplaces.org.au

Quotes attributable to Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Colin Brooks

"We're ensuring that Victoria's most popular tourist destinations can be accessed and enjoyed by everyone."

"Expanding the network of accessible places cements Victoria's status as the nation's most accessible and inclusive state."

Quotes attributable to Victorian Disability Advisory Council Chair Chris Varney

"We must do everything possible so that people with disability are fully included in all aspects of our community."

"These grants will help improve access so that more people can get the best out of their day-to-day lives."