

Monday, 14 August 2023

## VICTORIAN JOBSEEKERS READY, SET AND DRESSED FOR WORK

More jobseekers can now get assistance to look and feel job-ready, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government backing a charity organisation that provides clothing and advice to help people shine in job interviews.

Minister for Employment Ben Carroll and Member for Albert Park Nina Taylor visited Ready Set in South Melbourne to announce \$100,000 in funding for the not-for-profit organisation to continue to support jobseekers.

Ready Set provided clothing, styling and employment coaching to more than 1058 jobseekers who were experiencing economic hardship last financial year. Without a work-appropriate wardrobe, many people lack the confidence to apply for jobs and meet prospective employers.

Anita is one of more than 80 volunteers who give compassionate and respectful support to jobseekers who are facing challenges.

With over 10 years of volunteering experience at Ready Set, Anita says that “doing good for others” not only feels good, but more importantly it builds the confidence and resilience of the people who connect with Ready Set.

The mostly volunteer-run organisation will use the funding from the Labor Government to grow their on-site and online support service.

Ready Set’s services are available to all community members who need support to gain employment, including Aboriginal Victorians, refugees, people with disability, and LGBTIQ+ people.

Ready Set has supported more than 10,000 jobseekers since opening its doors in 2011 and saved more than 180,000 items of clothing from landfill.

For more information, visit [www.readyset.org.au](http://www.readyset.org.au).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Employment Ben Carroll

*“We know jobseekers can face multiple barriers when looking for work – giving people the right outfit to wear sounds like a small thing but makes a huge difference.”*

*“Supporting fantastic organisations like Ready Set demonstrates our government’s ongoing commitment to making access to employment fair and equitable for all Victorians.”*

### Quotes attributable to Member for Albert Park Nina Taylor

*“It’s great to see a local organisation changing the lives of Victorian jobseekers.”*

*“The Ready Set team are dedicated to helping Victorians become job-ready and I’m delighted to support their meaningful work.”*

### Quote attributable to Ready Set Board Chair Naomi Fox

*“The impact of this grant will help Ready Set help more individuals across Victoria who are vulnerable and facing disadvantage to build confidence and be ready to engage in their journey to paid work and build a more sustainable future for themselves and their families.”*