

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP

Minister for Veterans
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Youth



Saturday, 23 September 2023

MARRAM NGANYIN MENTORING GRANTS OPEN

New and emerging Aboriginal organisations are being encouraged to apply for new grants from the Marram Nganyin Aboriginal Youth Mentoring Program, funded by the Andrews Labor Government.

Designed and delivered by First Nations Victorians and tailored to the needs and interests of young Aboriginal people, the program is funded through the \$23.4 million *Investing Early Where It Matters* investment package in the *Victorian Budget 2023/24*.

The new round of grants up to \$335,000 over three years continue the Labor Government's commitment to Aboriginal self-determination.

Marram Nganyin translates to 'we are strong' in the Woiwurrung language of the Wurundjeri People.

Mentoring provides social and practical support for young Aboriginal people to strengthen their family and community relationships, learn about culture, and engage with education, training, and employment.

Having a trusted relationship with a mentor creates a culturally safe space where a mentee can enjoy social connection, receive encouragement, and share their experiences.

Marram Nganyin has supported 300 young Aboriginal people since 2016 and the 2023-2026 program promotes partnerships between Aboriginal organisations to build capacity, and aims to enable smaller, new, and emerging organisations and community groups, to take part in the program.

Flexible place-based mentoring programs will provide tailored support reflecting the diversity of Aboriginal communities across Victoria.

Successful applicants will receive support to run programs from the Koorie Youth Council in recognition of their statewide leadership as a representative body for young Aboriginal people in Victoria.

Applications close on Thursday, 26 October. For information and grant applications visit marram-nganyin-aboriginal-youth-mentoring-program-2023-2026.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman

"The Marram Nganyin youth mentoring program continues the Labor Government's commitment to Aboriginal self-determination."

"I thank the Koorie Youth Council for their ongoing leadership, advocacy and partnership on behalf of Victorian Aboriginal young people."