

Media Release

Mr Danny Pearson MP

Minister for Transport Infrastructure

Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop

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Minister for WorkSafe and the TAC



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GRANTS SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH LIFE-ALTERING INJURIES

The Allan Labor Government is helping Barwon Valley School students improve their physical activity with a share of more than \$240,000 in grants from the Transport Accident Commission (TAC).

Minister for WorkSafe and TAC Danny Pearson today announced the school as one of five recipients in the latest round of the TAC's Small Grants Program.

The program offers grants of up to \$50,000 to support innovative, community-led projects that improve the lives and independence of people with life-altering injuries like acquired brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, blindness and amputations.

Barwon Valley School will receive more than \$45,000 from the grants program to purchase new smart technology devices to help increase physical activity participation rates in senior students aged 12 to 18.

The devices will help the school support physical activity that is inclusive and accessible for all, regardless of a student's physical, cognitive and sensory needs and abilities.

The school will work with occupational therapy students from Monash University to collect and analyse data relating to participation in physical activity and the effectiveness of the new technology.

Other recipients from the 2023 Small Grants Program are:

- Care Companions (Monash) – Community singing group for Chinese people with a disability (\$49,950)
- EnAccess Maps – A web-based platform that helps mobility aid users find and review accessible events and locations (\$47,653)
- Victorian Advocacy League for Individuals with Disability (VALID) – Advocacy Advice Line (\$50,000)
- Inclusion Melbourne INC – My Guide To Circles of Support (\$49,875).

Quotes attributable to Minister for WorkSafe and TAC Danny Pearson

"This grant will ensure all students at Barwon Valley School have access to the equipment they need to maintain and advance their health and wellbeing."

"By supporting the TAC's Small Grants Program we're ensuring the school can meet the unique needs of every student, improving their lives and independence."

Quote attributable to Member for South Barwon Darren Cheeseman

"Everyone deserves to be included in physical activity regardless of their needs and abilities – this grant will make a big difference for students at Barwon Valley School."

Quote attributable to Transport Accident Commission CEO Tracey Slatter

"The TAC's Small Grants Program supports projects that offer real and practical solutions to the challenges people with a disability face, with the core aim of giving every person independence and autonomy within their life."

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