

Media Release

The Hon Harriet Shing MP
Minister for Housing
Minister for Water
Minister for Equality



Friday, 5 April 2024

NEW GRANTS FOR LGBTIQ+ GROUPS TO EXPAND WORK

The Allan Labor Government is calling for organisations and groups that support Victoria's LGBTIQ+ communities to apply for grants that will help them strengthen their work and grow.

Minister for Equality Harriet Shing today opened applications for LGBTIQ+ Organisational Development Grants, with applications open until 30 April.

The annual grants program established by the Labor Government in 2016 helps organisations and groups grow their capacity to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex, queer and asexual (LGBTIQ+) communities across Victoria.

Recipients are supported to run a range of activities including training and mentoring for staff and volunteers, expanding their work into regional Victoria, and plan for the future of their organisations.

Established groups and those with demonstrated experience in serving LGBTIQ+ communities can apply for grants of up to \$40,000, while newer organisations or those with limited experience can apply for grants of up to \$20,000.

Applications are particularly encouraged from groups that support engagement with diverse LGBTIQ+ communities, including regional and rural communities across Victoria.

Strengthening the LGBTIQ+ sector through grants programs is part of the Government's efforts to drive equality in Victoria, aligned with the *Pride in our Future: Victoria's LGBTIQ+ strategy 2022-32*.

The Australian GLBTIQ Multicultural Council received a grant in 2023 to engage a consultant to assist with organisational development activities, to help them continue their work in supporting the LGBTIQ+ multicultural and faith communities in Victoria.

While the Gippsland Pride Initiative also received a grant for infrastructure to improve the support, representation and advocacy they provide for LGBTIQ+ communities across Gippsland.

Since 2016, the program has helped more than 100 LGBTIQ+ organisations to further develop their operations and expertise.

For information and to apply, visit vic.gov.au/lgbtqa-organisational-development-grants.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Equality Harriet Shing

"We're strengthening the community-led LGBTIQ+ sector with grants that help organisations and groups build safe, supported and inclusive communities in Victoria."

"In Victoria, equality is not negotiable. These grants will provide vital support to organisations and groups that contribute to the economic and social inclusion needs of LGBTIQ+ communities being met across the state now and well into the future."

"I encourage all eligible organisations keen to see their LGBTIQ+ communities thrive to apply for these grants."

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