

# Media Release

**The Hon Ros Spence MP**  
Minister for Agriculture  
Minister for Community Sport  
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Wednesday, 2 July 2025

## SECURING AFFORDABLE CARE FOR VICTORIAN PETS STATEWIDE

Victorian pet owners will benefit from expanded and upgraded services delivered by not-for-profit animal care organisations across the state thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence today announced 33 successful grant recipients as part of Round 12 of the Animal Welfare Fund Grants program, with a total of \$1.6 million awarded in this round.

This includes almost \$1.14 million to not-for-profit organisations, shelters, and community rescue and rehoming organisations to support the rehoming of companion animals.

Funding of \$460,000 has been granted to not-for-profit and community vet clinics to upgrade or expand their services or facilities or set up new low-cost clinics in areas of need across the state, which will be a real game-changer for Victorian families needing access to cheaper veterinary care.

Pets In The Park is a national organisation that provides free access to preventative veterinary healthcare programs, enabling homeless individuals to care for their pets while supporting their own wellbeing.

The organisation will use its \$131,000 grant to establish a new clinic in the Wangaratta area which will support the companion animals of vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness in the north east Victoria region.

Since 2014, the Government has awarded \$14.76 million to animal care organisations through the Animal Welfare Fund Grants program, which aims to improve companion animal welfare, encourage responsible pet ownership, and provide better animal welfare outcomes.

For more information on the Animal Welfare Fund Grants Program, visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/community-and-education/animal-welfare-fund-grants-program](https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/community-and-education/animal-welfare-fund-grants-program)

### Quotes attributable to Agriculture Minister Ros Spence

*"The Animal Welfare Fund Grants Program is making a real difference in the lives of Victorian companion animals and their owners, helping as many pets as possible into loving families."*

*"We are proud to work with animal care organisations to secure affordable care and we look forward to seeing the benefits of this work for many years to come."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

*"The grants will strengthen local communities in the north east, enabling animal welfare groups to expand their services and help pets find their forever homes."*

## OFFICIAL

### Animal Welfare Fund Grants program Round 12 recipients:

- Victorian Animal Aid Trust – Fulham (\$42,148)
- Humane Animal Rescue Australia LTD – Statewide (\$47,990)
- Maremma Rescue Victoria Inc - Grampians; Hume; Barwon South West; Gippsland (\$95,000)
- Australian Animal Protection Society – Keysborough (\$100,000)
- Sunraysia Animal Rehousing Group Inc – Loddon Mallee (\$97,300)
- The Royal Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals (Victoria) – Burwood East (\$82,825)
- Horse Shepherd Equine Sanctuary – Gordon (\$77,580)
- Equorum Ltd – Gooram (\$90,000)
- Mt Alexander Animal Welfare Inc – Castlemaine (\$70,000)
- Project Underdog Rescue Inc. – Statewide (\$70,000)
- Lort Smith – North Melbourne (\$100,000)
- Beyond Racing Ltd – Myrniong (\$60,000)
- Pets of the Homeless Ltd. – Statewide (\$18,000)
- Gumtree Greys – Statewide (\$20,000)
- Regional Community Vet Clinic Ltd – Castlemaine (\$20,000)
- Cat Protection Society of Victoria – Greensborough (\$20,000)
- Rescue Cats of Melbourne Incorporated – Metro (\$7,820)
- Squishies flat faced animal rescue incorporated – Statewide (\$20,000)
- Geelong Animal Welfare Society – Moolap (\$16,750)
- Greyt Greys Rescue Incorporated – Statewide (\$15,000)
- Herd Harmony Limited – Tyabb (\$4,260)
- Horsham People For Animal Welfare and Support Inc. – Grampians Region (\$13,000)
- The trustee for Pet Medical Crisis Fund – Statewide (\$20,000)
- R.A.C.E.D - Racehorse After Care Education Diversity Limited – Murgheboluc (\$20,000)
- Tiny Kits Rescued Incorporated – Metro; Gippsland; Grampians; Hume (\$10,968)
- The Vet Project Pty Ltd – Statewide (\$88,000)
- Pets in the Park Incorporated – Wangaratta (\$131,234)
- Victorian Animal Aid Trust – Coldstream (\$21,173)
- Community Vets Pty Ltd – Braeside (\$30,384)
- Second Chance Animal Rescue Inc. – Craigieburn (\$49,872)
- The Royal Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals (Victoria) – Burwood East (\$49,722)
- The Lost Dogs' Home – Statewide (\$49,960)
- Lisa Deering Pty Ltd – Cranbourne West (\$42,724)