

2023 Connected Communities Grants – Successful applications

Small Grants

Organisation Project title	Project description	Grant amount \$
African Communities Elderly Association	Operational costs	2000
Australian Red Cross Migration Support Food Pantry	The MSP Food Pantry is volunteer run and is currently all donated food from Second Bite, Oz Harvest, Food Bank and occasionally community members. We often lack essential food items such as oil, rice, flour and milk. The grant will be used to purchase staple items each months to be given directly to those in need.	2000
Carlton Gardens Probus Incorporated	Operational costs	1829
Chinese Arts Association of Melbourne Incorporated	Operational costs	2000
Docklands Representative Group	Operational costs	2000
Dragons Abreast Melbourne Pink Phoenix Helping more Breast Cancer Survivors to feel the joy of Dragon Boating	Dragons Abreast Melbourne Pink Phoenix (DAMPP) will use a range of community engagement strategies to identify breast cancer survivors so they can join us, and find joy through the sport of Dragon Boating @ Docklands. We will raise awareness through developing information in five languages for distribution at community events and markets.	2000
Drill Hall Community Garden Association	Operational costs	2000
Drill Hall Residents Association	Operational costs	2000
East Melbourne Historical Society	Operational costs	2000
East Melbourne Neighbour Network	Operational costs	700
Kensington Chinese Friendship Association Inc	Operational costs	2000
Kensington Stockyard Food Garden	Operational costs	2000
MARG FDN Walk Talk	We will bring diverse communities together to connect and make them stronger. Get them to participate by taking them for a walk, coffee and cake. Support them with light exercises, yoga. Diverse vulnerable community shares with each other, overcoming their language, gender, age and diversity barriers.	2000
Melbourne Bearbrass Probus	Operational costs	1976
Melbourne Line Dancing Group	Operational costs	2000

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Melbourne Somali Community Inc	Operational costs	2000
Melbourne South Yarra Residents Group Inc	Operational costs	2000
Melbourne Sunrise Probus Club Inc	Operational costs	2000
Melbourne University Lightning Netball Club Indigenous Cultural Education	Host educational sessions for our athletes and coaches to gain a wider appreciation of our Aboriginal heritage in hope of being able to use gained knowledge to engage appropriately with Indigenous communities in the Melbourne and other regional areas.	900
Morning Exercise Melbourne Incorporated	Operational costs	2000
Multiple Birth Volunteer Support Foundation	Operational costs	2000
North Melbourne Chinese Association	Operational costs	2000
Parkville Gardens Residents Association	Operational costs	2000
Southbank3006 INC Southbank3006 Community Engagement Meetings	Engaging with the whole of Southbank by holding Monthly meetings on the last Sunday of the month from February - November of 2023 at the Boyd Community Hub, engaging our community through Social media, our Newsletter and monthly columns in the Southbank News.	2000
Spanish Speaking Elderly Group of North Melbourne Craft and activities making knitting	The ladies of the group participated in knitting, craft, making dolls and sewing project.	2000
The East Melbourne Group Inc	Operational costs	2000
The Parkville Association	Operational costs	2000
The Probus Club of Carlton-Parkville Inc.	Operational costs	1770
Uniting Church Gospel Hall Melbourne (Yee Hong Group) Caring and sharing for senior members	Providing outdoor activities throughout the year for our members. Creating the opportunities for the seniors to increase their physical activities so as to improve their physical and mental health as well encouraging them to adopt a more positive attitude towards life.	1500
Victorian Elderly Chinese Welfare Society Inc. Wellness & Reablement Awareness and addressing cultural diversity	We will be running a one day weekend trip to Daylesford (Hepburn Springs & National Park) for the financial disadvantaged elderly who live alone at the government housing.	2000
Victorian Pride Lobby	Operational costs	2000
We Live Here Movement Ltd	Operational costs	2000
West Brunswick Amateur Football Club	Operational costs	500

Impact Grants

Organisation Project title	Project description	Grant amount \$
African Family Services Limited Mental Health(MH) Community Education and Yarning Circle	AFS proposes to provide MH Community Education and Information sessions for African Australians living in the City of Melbourne. The sessions will be facilitated by a qualified mental health professional with an understanding of African culture and context of MH.	19,930
Australia Palestine Advocacy Network Enhancing Palestine National Day	Palestine National Day is an annual event celebrating Palestinian culture. This event includes participatory music and dancing performances and community market stalls including unique Palestinian food.	10,000
Carlton Football Academy Life beyond football: Mentoring young people by young people in Carlton.	Building on the success of Carlton Football Academy's 2021-2023 project, forming connections with young people through sport, we have established the need for expanded support. We will provide peer to peer mentorship and referrals for young residents at the Carlton housing estate. We will support them into employment, education and recreation in order to help young people achieve their goals.	17,450
Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre Carlton Harmony Day Festival 2023	Carlton Harmony Day festival brings together the community of Carlton to celebrate diversity and strengthen community bonds. It is a family friendly event with activities for children and adults, speakers and performers, a global meal and community stalls. Marking national Harmony day provides an opportunity for Carlton's community to show they will not tolerate racial discrimination in our suburb.	10,000
Carlton Primary School Carlton Primary Creative Incubator	We will conduct a multi-disciplinary creative program with the students at Carlton Primary. Stage one will engage the full student body through in-class creative co-design processes where children shape the project theme and goals. Stage two will launch an intensive after school program for smaller groups that builds towards a celebratory arts event for the parent and staff community.	20,000
Carlton Scout Group Carlton Scouts Inclusion Program	The Inclusion Program will support members who are City of Melbourne resident families experiencing social and financial disadvantage. Inner city kids will gain access to a fun and adventurous outdoor program with proven mental health benefits which includes weekly activities, outdoor excursions, weekend camps and leadership courses.	16,650
Circus Nexus Team Turbo	Team Turbo builds on a highly successful circus program to continue to bring physical, mental and social health and wellbeing benefits to 6–12-year-old CALD youth residing in the North Melbourne housing estate. Activities include a bike donation drive, a bike stunts performance and workshops, and 2 days of bike riding adventures with stunts and bike maintenance sessions.	18,000
Digital Learning and Teaching	Digital Learning and Teaching Victoria seeks to train 45+	20,000

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Victoria Teacher Training for neurodiverse student inclusion	teachers from City of Melbourne state, catholic and independent schools to run an innovative, digital games-based program that builds social capacity for neurodiverse children and young people. The program is co-designed with people with lived-experience of neurodiversity, and aims to increase participation in education by increasing social confidence and strengthening friendships.	
Docklands Representative Group Docklands Owners Corporation Network (DOCN Stage-2)	Over 97% of Docklands residents live in apartments, governed by annually elected volunteer Owners Corporation Committees (OCCs). While “lynchpins for liveability”, OCCs operate in isolation, lacking tailored resources to support decision-making. Building upon DOCN-Stage1, this project builds capacity and strengthens connections between volunteer OCCs to promote wellbeing in residential apartment-communities.	18,490
Drill Hall Community Garden Association Artwork and surface enhancement for child climbing block and adjacent citipower kiosk	Create robust easily maintained surface protection for children's art themes on the community garden's child climbing blocks and adjacent utility kiosk. The art themes will project a sense of community involvement through play to enrich the public amenity and cultural ambience of the garden, strengthen its unique sense of place and create space for contemplation, reflection, and inner harmony.	3000
Drummond Street Services RYMS on Wheels (RYMS stands for Real Youth Music Studios)	RYMS offers mentoring support for young people in the city of Yarra to build resilience through skills in electronic beat-making, lyric writing, recording, DJ-ing, dance, and paid performance opportunities. We plan to fit out a caravan with recording equipment to make the program mobile so we can service young people on the City of Melbourne housing estates.	20,000
East Melbourne Neighbourhood Network East Melbourne Neighbour Network - Community Choir	To form an unauditioned, mixed-voice, inclusive community choir. The choir will aim to 'Celebrate Life Through Song' and create an eclectic repertoire of music including musicals, pop, folk and classical in 3 and 4 part harmony.	3500
Gotcha4Life Foundation Building mental fitness in the City of Melbourne	We will deliver programs to schools, sports clubs, businesses and community groups to build mental fitness, community connections and resilience. Workshops give people skills and confidence to speak up when they are struggling. Training, including mental health first aid, gives people skills to identify and support others who are in stress, distress or crisis.	17,000
Guide Dogs Victoria Connecting people with low vision or blindness in City of Melbourne	Guide Dogs Victoria (GDV) will actively engage residents in the City of Melbourne living with blindness or low vision, and their support networks. GDV will collaborate with peer groups to plan and implement activities that increase the confidence of participants to access the wealth of social, cultural and sporting experiences offered throughout the City of Melbourne.	11,500

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HealthNest Women Health and Wellbeing Program	The program consists of Yoga and Mobility class session at Carlton Baths and Swimming, Sauna and Spa hydrotherapy exercise with a view to creating a fun social outing away from the isolation of their homes for Women of all ages and thus offer mental health support.	9000
Hotham Mission WomEmpower	WomEmpower is a new program for young women aged 16- 23 of mainly African backgrounds from the inner north of Melbourne. The program offers a weekly sessions promoting community, leadership, cohesion and recreation.	7500
Inner Melbourne Community Legal Without suspicion: strengthening youth resilience against racialised policing in the City of Melbourne	This project aims to end racialised policing and reduce resulting harm by providing easy access points for over-policed communities of black and brown young people in the City of Melbourne to share their stories and issues involving police and co-design local solutions to address the problem.	20,000
Inventi Ensemble Aged Care Performances in Melbourne	The presentation of engaging music performances in aged care centres within the City of Melbourne.	15,000
Kensington Neighbourhood House Kensington - From The HeART	From The HeART will be a place-based, intergenerational, community art project focused on rebuilding social connections following pandemic restrictions. It will provide a creative focus for the Kensington community and allow participants to explore and reflect on their sense of belonging post covid - developing confidence, pride and a sense of resilience. Improving health and wellbeing for young and old.	10,000
Life Saving Victoria Limited CALD community & Older Adults Health, Social and Cultural Connections through Aquatics Project	Provision of aquatic education and skills to CALD children/youth and Seniors that facilitates ongoing healthy participation and connections to local community whilst bridging the gap between the CALD community and other Australians. Participants will learn how to access local aquatic facilities and their nearest beach, gaining vital skills and knowledge that allow them to safely recreate in those environments.	15,000
Lin's Community Free Haircut Lin's Community Free Haircuts Project	Providing free haircuts to anyone experiencing disadvantage including young people, unemployed, mental health issues and homelessness in Melbourne. Receiving a fresh haircut, is something everybody should have access to, it can offer a confidence boost, instill dignity and provide a self-esteem lift that will encourage more social connection.	13,844
Meals With Impact Magpie Meals Project	The Magpie Meals Project (MMP) aims to support disadvantaged people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities with culturally appropriate meals to reduce food insecurity in Inner Metropolitan Melbourne. Women from refugee and migrant backgrounds will be employed to co-design, produce and package halal meals (called Magpie Meals), specifically to support	19,680

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	people with multi-faith and cultural requirements.	
Melbourne Softball Association Incorporated Increasing participation in sport and the community with new opportunities	We would like to provide a new annual offering of social, less-structured, more affordable, fun and engaging softball activities to allow approximately 100 local resident children to enjoy the sport and be part of a community reaping the benefits of physical activity, mental health and be part of a community benefiting from networking and community inclusion.	5700
Minus18 Foundation Queer Formal Melbourne - Celebrating LGBTQIA+ young people	A free, safe and inclusive celebration for LGBTQIA+ young people, the Melbourne Queer Formal will be hosted at the National Gallery of Victoria, a free even for more than 700 attendees aged 12-19, with a diverse line up of performers, catering, activations and opportunities to create new friends.	20,000
Museum of Chinese Australian History Multicultural Melbourne Day	As part of Melbourne Day 2023, the Museum of Chinese Australian History will offer free Museum entry to all residents of the City of Melbourne to appreciate the contribution that Chinese people have made to this great multicultural city.	5000
North Melbourne Language and Learning Out & About	"Out & About" will facilitate cultural exchange and connect community members to local services and community spaces in the City of Melbourne by providing a series of excursions to City of Melbourne landmarks, open spaces, events and services.	10,500
People Living with HIV/AIDS Victoria Viral Stories: Sharing our stories to challenge HIV stigma	Viral Stories is a public storytelling night which invites and supports people from the diverse communities living with HIV in Melbourne to share meaningful stories of their life with the communities of Melbourne. The event aims to raise the visibility of people living with HIV, challenge misconceptions and HIV stigma and build community connection through accessible and entertaining storytelling.	11,000
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre Essential upgrades to the Peter Mac Men's Shed	This project seeks funding for essential upgrades to the Men's Shed, to make the space accessible and appropriate for men with chronic health conditions and support their health and wellbeing.	7724
River Nile Learning Centre Connecting Refugees & Asylum Seekers with the Community	The project connects isolated refugee and asylum seeker women with the Melbourne community. River Nile Learning Centre These women will be taken on guided group excursions to local community health and support services and other places of interest, that otherwise they would not have the opportunity visit/experience.	10,800
Salvation Army 'Support in Public Housing Program' Melrose Street Wellbeing Garden Project	Enhancement of the garden space for residents of the high-rise public housing at Melrose St, North Melbourne.	20,000
Somali Community Inc. Somali Day Australia Festival	SoDAF is an integral part of community life. It provides social and recreational opportunities to celebrate a sense of belonging and connectedness within the	10,000

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(SoDAF) 2023	community. On this day, many activities are held that celebrate and acknowledge cultural performances and history.	
Southbank3006 INC Southbank3006 Connecting Community Events - 'Better Together'	Engaging the community with events that bring people together and foster community wellbeing using Southbank's Open Space, commercial venues, the Arts Precinct, University of Melbourne and others to celebrate the diversity of Southbank.	10,000
The Centre: Connecting Community in North & West Melbourne North & West Melbourne News Transformation	Through this project, the 44 year old award-winning community newspaper, North & West Melbourne News, will be modernised, becoming a multi-modal and responsive community media platform. North & West Melbourne News will employ community representatives from a number of under-represented local cultural groups to integrate these voices into the transformed community media platform.	10,000
The Centre: Connecting Community in North & West Melbourne North & West Community Events	2023 Spanish Language Fiesta celebrates the Spanish language by inviting the wider community to connect with, and learn about, Spanish speaking cultures. 3000 people will gather in the laneways of North Melbourne to learn and celebrate. In Docklands, Holi in March and Diwali are contemporary expressions of ancient Hindu festivals.	20,000
The Probus Club of Carlton-Parkville Inc. Activities that encourage social participation and reduce isolation in members.	These are financially difficult times for many retired members, the grant money will go towards subsidising coach hire and entry costs to special events, thereby enabling most members to participate in club social activities.	3600
The Village Festival of New Performance Inc 'Food + Photos'	A weekend-event series helping isolated international students and communities connect - via the universal language of food and photos. Partnered with B-Friend and William Angliss, it embraces food-creation and local food culture, plus friendly sharing of photos and stories.	17,000
Transgender Victoria Trans Jobseekers Support and Capacity Building Program	The program aims to address the gap in employment outcomes for Trans and Gender Diverse (TGD) folks. It will provide meaningful support to TGD individuals through a facilitated peer support program which incorporates emotional support with practical tools jobseekers can use on their journeys.	16,420
Travellers Aid Australia Mobile events-based Accessibility and Inclusion Services	Melbourne recognises accessibility as a strategic priority for its citizens and all Melbournians want to be out, having fun and taking part in the city's many activities. Travellers Aid wants to provide ongoing access and inclusion services for older people and people with disabilities so they can enjoy all major Melbourne events in the COVID-normal years ahead.	20,000
Victorian Skateboard Association (VSA)	Utilising the new coaches trained and equipment purchased in our last Kensington program, this project aims to strengthen the skateboarding engagement at	20,000

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Kensington Skateboarding Curriculum	Kensington skate park that has been irregular due to macro conditions. Through this program we aim to engage participants in a yearlong continuous structured skill-based curriculum to fast track skill development that is highly sought by community.	