



# FUNDING DURING COVID-19 AND ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

September 2020

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The following information has been collated by the Outer East PCP and Victorian Primary Care Partnerships/VicPCP to provide a snapshot of the range of funding that has been made available by government and other sources in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It details a range of funding and grant opportunities provided from federal, state and local governments, and other sources, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to assist in planning and coordination of local recovery efforts.

The document has been adapted with permission from the Outer East PCP and will be updated regularly as additional funding is announced.

Please email us at [emma.fitzsimon@vicpcp.org.au](mailto:emma.fitzsimon@vicpcp.org.au) if you have information about other funding sources that have not been included in this resource.

## 2. AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT (NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN: COVID-19)

### 2.1 Aged Care and Older People

#### 2.1.1 [Aged Care Preparedness](#)

**\$101.2 million over 2019-20 and 2020-21** to fund a range of measures to support senior Australians in aged care and home care.

#### 2.1.2 [Pathology Testing in Aged Care](#)

Funding for specialist “in reach’ pathology testing for COVID-19 and influenza in residential aged care facilities

#### 2.1.3 [Aged Care Support Program](#)

The Aged Care Support Program will reimburse aged care providers who are directly impacted by COVID-19.

#### 2.1.4 [Support for Aged Care Workers in COVID-19](#)

Designed to assist approved Residential Aged Care providers, approved National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program (NATSIFACP) providers and approved Home Care providers to minimise the risk of infection to aged care workers, residents and other consumers of aged care service.

### 2.2 Domestic Violence

#### 2.2.1 [Domestic Violence Support](#)

An initial **\$150 million** will be provided to support Australians experiencing domestic, family and sexual violence due to the fallout from coronavirus.

### 2.3 Health at Home

#### 2.3.1 [Supporting Telehealth Consultations](#)

**\$5 million** in 2019-20 is part of the National Health Plan, telehealth can now be bulk-billed and Electronic Prescribing is being fast-tracked, with work to upgrade the doctor and pharmacy software well underway. It is expected to be ready by May 2020.

#### 2.3.2 [Home medicine service](#)

The Home Medicines Service is available for people in home isolation and for vulnerable patient groups who wish to limit their potential exposure to novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the community. The service commenced on 16 March 2020 and will be available for six months.

## 2.4 Infrastructure Investment Response to COVID-19

### 2.4.1 [Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program](#)

**\$500 million** Program will support local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects across Australia, supporting jobs and the resilience of local economies to help communities bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

### 2.4.2 [Shovel Ready Projects](#)

In response to economic impacts from COVID-19, the Australian Government announced a **\$1.5 billion** package to invest in infrastructure which includes **\$1 billion** for Shovel Ready projects and targeted road safety works across regional Victoria that can support jobs immediately. In Victoria, the investment is for the Regional Rail Revival and Princes Highway East projects and a range of target road safety projects.

## 2.5 Mental Health

### 2.5.1 [National Mental Health and Wellbeing Pandemic Response Plan](#)

**\$48.1 million** to support the Mental Health and Wellbeing Pandemic Response Plan presented to the National Cabinet this morning.

The package supports the three immediate priorities of the Plan:

- Data and modelling
- Outreach
- Connectivity

### 2.5.2 Data Modelling and Research

- **\$2.6 million** investment will boost national capability in monitoring, anticipating, and reacting to the mental health impacts of the pandemic. This will be used to enhance and expand the National Self-harm and Suicide Monitoring System and will support the provision of expert guidance for proactive decision making in mental health service deployment.
- **\$4.7 million** will be provided to continue investment in suicide prevention research through the National Suicide Prevention Research Fund administered by Suicide Prevention Australia, and to support the work of the National Suicide Prevention Taskforce.

### 2.5.3 Reaching Vulnerable Groups in Community

- **\$19 million** to enhance access and provide additional mental health nursing support for older Australians. PHNs will be funded to support in-reach mental health services in residential aged care services and in the community.
- **\$3.5 million** for strengthen
  - the existing Programme Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma

- ensure current digital mental health services are accessible to this population group. This includes the Government’s digital mental health gateway Head to Health ([www.headtohealth.gov.au](http://www.headtohealth.gov.au))
- deliver culturally appropriate services through Primary Health Networks (PHNs).
- **\$3.5 million** additional funding to Carers Australia and Carers Gateway to provide targeted assistance and information.
- **\$3.5 million** will be provided to PHNs to work with local communities to bolster existing services as restrictions are lifted. Focus on Indigenous Communities.

#### 2.5.4 Connected Mental Health Services

- **\$0.9 million** working with PHN, states and territories, digital and mental health providers to develop a system to enable a direct transfer between different mental health services, ensuring they receive the care they need
- **\$10.4 million** a national mental health communication campaign. This will give Australians the confidence to reach out for mental health information and support.

#### **In addition to the National Mental health and Wellbeing Pandemic Response Plan**

The **\$48.1 million** builds on approximately **\$500 million** for mental health and suicide prevention announced by the Government since 30th January, including **\$64 million** for suicide prevention, **\$74 million** for preventative mental health services, and a significant proportion of the **\$669 million** telehealth package to support MBS subsidised treatments provided by GPs, psychologists, psychiatrists and other mental health professionals.

An initial **\$74 million** will be provided to support the mental health and wellbeing of all Australians

- **\$10 million** will be provided to create a dedicated coronavirus wellbeing support line, delivered by Beyond Blue, to help people experiencing concern due to a coronavirus diagnosis, or experiencing stress or anxiety due to employment changes, business closure, financial difficulties, family pressures or other challenges. The Government welcomes an additional \$5 million contribution from Medibank to Beyond Blue to support this vital initiative.
- **\$14 million** will bolster the capacity of mental health support providers who have experienced an unprecedented surge in call volumes with funding increasing their capacity, including \$5 million for Lifeline and \$2 million for Kids Helpline.
- **\$10 million** to the Community Visitors Scheme to ensure that older Australians in aged care are not socially isolated despite visiting restrictions. The funding will mean extra staff to train volunteer visitors, who will connect with older people in aged care online and by phone, and assist older Australians keep in touch with the community and loved ones.

- **\$6.75 million** to help younger Australians stay on track in their education and training and prepare them for the workforce will be provided to deliver the headspace digital work and study service and eheadsace.
- **\$28.3 million** will be utilised to continue to deliver psychosocial support to Commonwealth community mental health clients for a further 12 months. This will allow additional time for people with severe and complex mental illness to complete their applications and testing for support under the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

#### 2.5.5 [New Mental Health Clinics to Support Victorians during the COVID 19 Pandemic](#)

An additional **\$31.9 million** to create 15 mental health clinics across Victoria and further enhance essential support during the COVID-19 pandemic. **\$26.9 million** of the new funding will establish 15 dedicated mental health clinics across Victoria, with nine clinics in Greater Melbourne and six in regional Victoria. In addition to the clinics, **\$5 million** in funding will be provided to enhance digital and phone services for specific groups that are experiencing significant challenges during the additional restrictions.

#### 2.5.6 [Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Research](#)

- **\$20 million** additional funding for research to improve mental health care and reduce suicide rates in Australia:
  - **\$10.3 million** for suicide prevention research. **\$3 million** for a new grants round under the \$125 million MRFF Million Minds Mission, for rapid research to improve the national mental health system response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Recipients below
    - **University of Melbourne (Professor Jane Pirkis)**: will receive **\$5.6 million** to research the prevention of suicide in boys and men.
    - **University of New South Wales (Scientia Professor Helen Christensen AO)**: will receive **\$3.7 million** for the Under the Radar Project. This project will investigate the use of the internet as the first point of contact and develop a collaborative, consumer-led, comprehensive care model using digital, peer support and face-to-face services.
    - **Murdoch Children’s Research Institute (Associate Professor Rebecca Giallo)**: will receive **\$951,000** to research suicide prevention among men in early fatherhood.

## 2.6 Older People

### 2.6.1 Communication Packages

- **\$6 million** for communication packages for Older Australians to prevent loneliness and social isolation.

- Almost **\$5 million** will be used to significantly expand Friend Line, a national telephone support service for older Australians, to answer 60,000 calls a year.
- **\$1 million** in grants to 215 local community organisations to provide at-risk seniors with digital devices such as mobile phones and laptops.

The grants will be delivered on the ground through local community organisations and managed by Good Things Foundation Australia as the Be Connected National Network Manager.

## 2.7 Primary Care

### 2.7.1 [Primary Care – Boosting Workforce and Infection Control Training](#)

**\$30 million** to 2021 to boost the health workforce and providing up-to-date infection control training to health, aged care and broader care workforce.

### 2.7.2 [MBS Telehealth Services and Increased Practice Incentive Payments](#)

Increased Practice Incentive Payments, Bulk Billing Incentives and new temporary Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) items allow doctors, nurses, midwives and allied health professionals including mental health, to provide telehealth services, encourage practices to bulk bill patients and ensure patients can still access face-to-face care

### 2.7.3 [Central patient COVID-19 Triage Hotline – 1800 020 080](#)

### 2.7.4 [COVID-19 Remote Community Preparedness and Retrieval](#)

**\$57.8 million** over 2019-20 and 2020-21 to support remote communities to minimise the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, increase their capacity to evacuate early cases, and enable an effective response if an outbreak occurs.

### 2.7.5 [Respiratory Clinics](#)

**\$206.7 million** over 2019-20 and 2020-21 for up to 100 private practice respiratory clinics will be established to provide dedicated services to people with mild to moderate COVID-19 symptoms, in addition to services available within public hospitals and general practices.

## 2.8 Relief and Recovery Fund

### 2.8.1 COVID Relief and Recovery Funding (Federal Government)

- **\$1 billion** COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Fund to support regions, communities and industry sectors that have been disproportionately affected by the Coronavirus crisis. The initiatives announced under the Fund are supporting industries including aviation, agriculture, fisheries, tourism and the arts.
- Immediate **\$100 million** funding injection to more than 300 charities and community organisations to support Australians in the wake of the coronavirus economic

downturn. Funds distributed mid April remaining \$100 million will be distributed over the next 6 months.

- Emergency Relief details:
  - **\$37 million** will be shared among almost 200 existing Commonwealth-funded Emergency Relief organisations to boost support and change service delivery methods to comply with social distancing guidelines.
  - **\$7 million** to the Red Cross over the next six months to deliver emergency relief and some casework support to people facing significant vulnerabilities who are on temporary visas.
  - **\$16 million** to secure food supplies, transport options and required workforce to Food Relief providers Foodbank Australia, SecondBite and OzHarvest
  - **\$20 million** Good Shepherd to offer about 40,000 Australians access to safe, affordable financial products through the No Interest Loans Scheme.
  - **\$20 million** to current financial counselling services including the National Debt Helpline, Money Support Hubs and Problem Gambling to increase their capacity to assist more Australians through the economic downturn.

Details of funded providers are available on the Department of Social Service's [service directory serviceproviders.dss.gov.au](https://serviceproviders.dss.gov.au) by searching by service type for 'Financial Crisis and Material Aid – Emergency Relief' or 'Commonwealth Financial Counselling and Financial Capability'.

## 2.9 Research

### 2.9.1 [COVID Research Response](#)

**\$30 million** for COVID–19 research to enable Australian researchers to contribute to global efforts to control the outbreak.

### 2.9.2 [Telehealth](#)

**\$669 million** to provide continued access to essential primary health services during the coronavirus pandemic, will be provided to expand Medicare -subsidised telehealth services for all Australians, with extra incentives to GPs and other health practitioners also delivered. (Refer to MBS Telehealth under Primary Care)

### 2.9.3 [NHMRC Administered Grants](#)

Research to understand how the mental health system can be enhanced to be most effective and responsive during and following the acute COVID-19 crisis. This may include consolidating data systems, helping to design and deliver new treatments, new services, and new policies both during and beyond the crisis

## 2.10 Women

### 2.10.1 [Supporting for Australian Women During COVID and Beyond](#)

Under the Women’s Leadership and Development Program (WLDP), four successful grant recipients have received funding in 2019-20 to deliver projects that will achieve women’s economic security and support women during the pandemic.

#### 2.10.2 [More Funding to Keep Women and Children Safe](#)

**\$3 million** over the next two years for 12 women’s health services to continue their work in preventing family violence. Includes \$600,000 from previous \$59.4M mental health package.

### 3. VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

#### 3.1 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities

##### 3.1.1 [Supporting Aboriginal Victorians through Coronavirus](#)

- **\$23 million** to support Aboriginal Victorians through the pandemic.
  - o **\$10 million** to establish the Aboriginal COVID-19 Response Fund, to give local organisations the funding they need to develop responses at a local level over the coming year.
  - o **\$13 million** over two years to meet an increase in ACCO service demand.
- **\$35 million** to support Aboriginal organisations to build, upgrade and maintain social and transitional housing,
- **\$2 million** to ACCHOs in wellbeing and social supports,
- **\$287,400** in targeted business support and
- **\$100,000** to improve and create targeted health messaging.

#### 3.2 Arts and Culture

**\$66.3 Million** Survival package for Victoria’s Creative sector

##### 3.2.1 [Sustain Creative Workers](#)

- **\$4.7 million** the Sustaining Creative Workers initiative seeks to support the continued work of Victoria’s independent creative practitioners who have been negatively impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19). Applications for this program have closed. See the recipient list [here](#) and sign up to our eNews or follow us on social media for the latest information on funding programs and opportunities.
- **\$2.3 million** grants to directly support 373 independent creatives and micro-businesses across the state. (Announced 28 July 2020).

##### 3.2.2 [Victorian Live Music Venues program](#)

Grants of more than **\$13 million**, to help prepare Victoria's \$1.7 billion music industry for a vibrant, COVID Normal future. Survival cash injections for more than 100 beloved live music venues, grants to support music jobs on stage and behind the scenes as well as new planning controls to better protect venues will help the state's world-famous music industry rebuild, recover and prepare for a summer like no other.

Some 106 live music venues across the state will share in grants totalling **\$9 million** in the first allocations under the Victorian Live Music Venues program.

### **3.3 Business**

#### **3.3.1 [Business Support Package](#)**

**\$534 million** Business Support Package will provide more support to help businesses and workers through to the other side of the coronavirus pandemic.

#### **3.3.2 [Additional Business Support Package](#)**

A massive new support package will see **\$3 billion** in cash grants, tax relief and cashflow support delivered to Victorian businesses taking the Government's total business support to over \$6 billion.

#### **3.3.3 [Outdoor Eating and Entertainment Package](#)**

**\$290 million** package that delivers further support to the entertainment industry, repurposes Melbourne's CBD and gives sole traders a helping hand.

**\$87.5 million** to councils and businesses outside of Melbourne's CBD

- **\$58 million** will go towards grants of up to \$5,000 to help hospitality businesses
- **\$29.5 million** will be provided to local councils to help them implement swift and streamlined permit, enforcement and monitoring processes

**\$100 million** fund to reshape Melbourne's CBD in partnership with the City of Melbourne.

- Small and medium businesses will be able apply for **\$30 million** worth of grants
- a further **\$30 million** will support COVIDSafe events and cultural activities to attract visitors back to the CBD
- Another **\$40 million** will go towards providing physical improvements to the CBD streetscape, which could include wider footpaths, bollards and street planter boxes.

**\$100 million** Sole Trader Support Fund will provide grants of \$3,000 to eligible sole traders working in sectors.

### **3.4 Disability**

#### **3.4.1 [Supporting Victorians with a Disability during Coronavirus](#)**

- **\$17 million** to ensure all Victorians with a disability get the help they need, when they need it:
  - **\$2.6 million** to establish new Disability Liaison Officers in health services
  - **\$4 million** to assist organisations helping Victorians with psychosocial disabilities transition then to their business model to the NDIS
  - **\$2.2 million** in advocacy organisations so they can make sure people with disability, including children and students, are appropriately supported during the pandemic with things like phone and online services.
  - **\$1.7 million** will support the needs of people with disability in the forensic disability, youth justice and adult prison systems.
  - **\$1 million** to ensure people under guardianship do not experience long wait times for services, and to provide new technology for our Community Visitors program.
  - **\$2 million** will help smaller not-for-profit services with infection control and business continuity, targeted at regional providers.

### 3.5 Emergency Food Relief

#### 3.5.1 Food Distribution

- **4.9 million** to Foodbank, SecondBite and FareShare for workforce capacity to scale food distribution
- (unable to locate information online).

### 3.6 Employment

#### 3.6.1 [Working for Victoria](#)

**\$500 million** for the Working for Victoria Fund, displaced workers will be eligible to apply for different types of work.

#### 3.6.2 [Building Works](#)

**\$2.7 billion** to build the projects that matter to Victoria and create the jobs. All tenderers will be required to find new employees through Working for Victoria in the first instance.

### 3.7 Family Services

#### 3.7.1 [Families and Children](#)

**\$77.5 million** over the next two years to support some of Victoria's most at risk children by bolstering the staff, resources and services available to them. This includes:

- **\$46 million** to increase the capacity of family services to provide outreach support to the most vulnerable Victorian families.

- **\$11 million** will provide extra financial support for carers most in need and a one-off payment of \$600 to all foster and kinship carers per child in their care to help cover the additional costs of full-time caring at home.
  - **\$4 million** to support all young people currently in care who are due to turn 18 before December this year.
  - **\$15 million** will support residential care service providers to form mobile response teams that will bolster staff where needed and proactively respond to the needs of every young person. It will also help to ensure residential homes are properly cleaned to ensure the safety and hygiene standards needed during this crisis.

### **3.8 Family Violence**

#### **3.8.1 [Funding to Help Women and Children](#)**

**\$3 million** over the next two years to continue their work in preventing family violence.

#### **3.8.2 [A Safe Place to Escape Family Violence During Coronavirus](#)**

**\$40.2 million** invest in crisis accommodation and specialist services for people suffering or at risk of family violence.

### **3.9 Housing and Homelessness**

#### **3.9.1 [Rent Relief](#)**

One off grant to help Victorian renters maintain safe, secure and stable accommodation.

#### **3.9.2 [Homes for Homeless Victorians During Pandemic and Beyond](#)**

**\$150 million** From Homelessness to a Home package:

- Current hotel accommodation until at least April next year while these 2,000 Victorians are supported to access stable, long term housing.
- Arrange to lease 1,100 properties from the private rental market, providing a permanent home for people once they leave emergency accommodation.
- 1000 new social housing units are also coming online now and will also support people to transition out of homelessness and into a home.
- Each client will have access to flexible support packages to ensure they are getting the tailored help they need while in crisis hotel accommodation – including mental health, drug and alcohol and family violence support for those who need it
- Funding will be allocated to homelessness agencies in both metropolitan and regional areas – enabling them to deliver a tailored and more responsive service based on the needs of individuals.

#### **3.9.3 [Tower Relocation Program](#)**

- **\$31.7 million** is designed to reduce the risk of another outbreak at the tower estates. High rise public housing tenants at greatest risk from coronavirus will be offered private rental properties as part the Victorian Government’s ongoing efforts to keep them safe and supported throughout the pandemic.
- Up to 420 private rental properties will be leased for two years and offered to high rise estate tenants at greater risk due to coronavirus.

### 3.10 Mental Health

#### 3.10.1 [Surge Funding helping Our Mental health System During Crisis](#)

- **\$ 59.4 million** to help meet demand as Victorians reach out for help with stress, isolation and uncertainty.
- **\$17.8 million** to begin the first phase of the roll out of 170 extra youth and adult acute mental health beds
- **\$7 million** will help mental health services deliver supports for people with severe mental illness via phone and video, to prevent relapse and emergency department presentations.
- **\$6.7 million** will expand online and phone counselling services through BeyondBlue, Lifeline, Kids Helpline and Suicide Line Victoria
- **\$6 million** to fast track Orygen Youth Health’s new eOrygen platform, which will provide online therapy and peer support for young people

#### 3.10.2 Fast-Tracked mental Health Support For Victorians in Need

- **\$59.7 million** to strengthen the surge capacity of clinical and community mental health services across Victoria to cope with additional presentations and reduce pressure on hospital emergency departments.
- **\$250,000** for Nursing and Midwifery Health Program to ensure additional mental health counselling and support for nurses, midwives and personal care workers.

### 3.11 Multicultural

#### 3.11.1 [International Student Emergency Relief Fund](#)

**\$45 million** to support international students in Victoria who are facing financial hardship through lost wages and work as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The fund is being delivered in partnership with Victoria’s tertiary education providers.

#### 3.11.2 Helping Multicultural Victorians through Coronavirus

**\$11.3 million** to help these communities, which are facing their own unique challenges due to social isolation, language barriers or difficulties accessing services such as income support, Medicare or Centrelink:

- **\$5 million** to support vulnerable and at-risk youths and families in financial hardship who need essential items such as food and clothing.
- **\$2.2 million** to provide basic needs assistance to thousands of asylum seekers and
- **\$1.1 million** toward culturally appropriate family violence prevention and early intervention services.
- **\$1 million** to boost translated messaging across government departments, so Victorians with English as a second language can better navigate their way through the pandemic.

### 3.12 Older People

#### 3.12.1 [Protecting Older Australians](#)

One-off lump sum COVID-19 support payment will be paid to residential aged care providers.

The payment to all Commonwealth funded residential aged care providers will be linked to the number of residents being cared for by each facility during February 2020, and is aimed at covering the additional costs of caring for the health and wellbeing of residents during the pandemic.

### 3.13 Sport

#### 3.13.1 [Community Sport Sector short-Term Survival Packages](#)

**\$40 million** Community Sport Sector Short-term Survival Package provides grants to support the operational viability of community sport and active recreation organisations impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

This initiative is part of the Victorian Government's new Experience Economy Survival Package providing urgent support to help a range of key attractions, organisations and associations ride out the economic impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and help them reboot, rebound and recover.

#### 3.13.2 [Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Package](#)

**\$68 million** to build and upgrade community sports facilities across the state. This will support local sporting clubs, and create jobs and boost Victoria's economic recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Through the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program, community sporting clubs and organisations will work with local councils and alpine resort boards, as we fast-track infrastructure projects that can start in the coming weeks and months.

This initiative is part of the Victorian Government's \$2.7 billion Building Works package (refer to Employment).

### 3.13.3 [National Sport Organisations and Professional Clubs Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Short-term Survival Funding Program](#)

**\$16 million** National Sport Organisations and Professional Clubs Coronavirus (COVID-19) Short-term Survival Program will provide professional sport with the opportunity to apply for funding to support business operations over the coming months, to ride out coronavirus restrictions and help organisations to reboot, rebound and recover.

## 3.14 Social Connectedness

### 3.14.1 [Community Activation and Social Isolation \(CASI\) Initiative](#)

The Government is investing **\$2 million** to boost the Community Activation and Social Isolation (CASI) initiative.

CASI is an expansion of the Victorian coronavirus hotline (1800 675 398) and is already supporting people experiencing loneliness or social disconnection by linking them to support services and help in their local area.

### 3.14.2 [Let's Stay Connected Fund](#)

**\$5,000 and \$200,000** grants to support innovative, community-led and community-based initiatives that build connection, reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation and can be implemented quickly. It will also support existing initiatives that can be rapidly scaled up to a local, regional or state level – delivering innovative and practical solutions that will benefit communities as soon as possible.

## 3.15 Universities

### 3.15.1 [Support Packages for Universities](#)

**\$350 million** fund will support universities with capital works, applied research and research partnerships focused on boosting Victoria's productivity and economy as the state recovers from the impacts of the virus, which have hit universities hard.

### 3.15.2 [Payroll Tax Support](#)

**\$110 million** across all universities to help relieve the immediate financial pressures facing many institutions, the Victorian Government is offering all Victorian universities payroll tax deferrals.

## 3.16 Volunteers

### 3.16.1 [weVolunteer](#)

A new platform has launched to connect volunteers with Victorian organisations and businesses that need help. Volunteers can use the [weVolunteer](#) portal to register their

skills and search for roles, while organisations can issue call-outs for volunteer assistance. The platform has been designed in partnership with Volunteering Victoria.

## 4. OTHER FUNDING

### 4.1 Victorian Local Government

#### 4.1.1 [Victorian Local Government COVID-19 Initiatives](#)

The Municipal Association of Victoria and Victoria's 79 councils are working hard to support their communities through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Local councils are offering up grants to their communities.

### 4.2 Disability Institute

#### 4.2.1 [Melbourne Disability Institute](#)

**\$300,000** provided by Melbourne Disability Institute an interdisciplinary research institute at the University of Melbourne, to fund 14 new projects designed to help support people with disabilities and their families and carers in the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

### 4.3 Lord Mayor

#### 4.3.1 [Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund](#)

**\$1.76 million** to 21 not for profit organisations to assist them to respond to the COVID 19 pandemic

- **\$250,000** grant to Alfred Health's Department of Infectious Diseases located at Alfred Hospital. The grant will support research to understand the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable people in communities such as older people usually living in aged residential care and people with compromised immune systems.
- **\$100,000** grant to Monash University to support the newly established National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce, which has been developed by Australian Living Evidence Consortium, a new national health research collaboration.
- **\$50,000** grant to Monash University Behaviour Works Australia to develop best practice guidelines for the delivery of energy and water efficiency programs. The Foundation aims to increase the energy efficiency and climate resilience of vulnerable households to reduce the cost of living, reduce emissions and provide protection from temperature related health impacts.
- **\$30,000** grant to Domestic Violence Victoria. New pathways to support - research needed to publish and distribute family violence information at new access points. The Foundation's funding focuses on women with disability. Women with Disabilities

Victoria will produce disability inclusive and accessible family violence resources for the community.

- **\$10,000** Foodbank Victoria to increase stock
- **\$150,000** Gather my Crew an online tool that enables people facing tough times or a crisis such as the Black Summer bushfires to reach out to their family and friend networks and develop a schedule of care and support.
- **\$120,000** to Infoxchange will enabled them to increase Ask Izzy's capacity to provide timely, accurate and location-specific information to help people in urgent need connect to critical housing, legal, family violence support and emergency relief specific to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **\$120,000** Justice Connect will enable them to increase their capacity to provide a series of tailored legal information and advice for their online self-help hub that directly respond to issues as a result of external factors caused by COVID-19.
- **\$100,000** STREAT provide hospitality training to young people they brought together food social enterprises to create Moving Feast with the aim of continuing employment for people working in social enterprises but also to provide good, wholesome nutritious food to vulnerable communities across Melbourne.
- **\$50,000** Uniting Victoria and Tasmania 'to develop a new service model aims to connect vulnerable people to multi-disciplinary services for support. The grant will fund a project co-ordinator to gather data to understand the impacts of COVID19 and the supports required and use this data to inform the design of the newly integrated program and contribute to sector understanding of emerging community needs.
- **\$100,000** White Box Enterprises to establish the COVID-19 Jobs Creation Vehicle to create more jobs for disadvantaged young people using social enterprise as the tool.
- **\$110,000** WISE Employment will adapt existing vocational rehabilitation and employment support materials into online e-learning modules and adapt previous face-to-face one-on-one and group sessions with vocational coaches for delivery via video conferencing.
- **\$288,238** Youth Affairs Council Victoria will support and increase its advocacy for the Victorian youth sector and specifically young people with a disability. Three new positions will be created including a research and policy officer to coordinate a sector-wide COVID-19 response to focus on employment, mental health and education responses; a disability advocate team leader to coordinate the enormous increase in demand for services; and a digital communications officer to manage the increase in demand for online services, particularly from young people with a disability.
- **\$50,000** Abbotsford Convent financial support for the Convent
- **\$15,000** Bangarra Dance Theatre support for performers

- **\$15,000** Collingwood Children’s Farm purchase woodworking tools, machinery and safety equipment
- **\$50,000** Contemporary Arts Precinct financial support
- **\$68,000** Centre for Australian Progress train, build and nurture a new generation of well informed and articulate community spokespeople to influence key policy decisions that affect their lives during the pandemic. The Centre’s participant selection will prioritise changemakers and young people with lived experience on issues of social security, housing, racial equality and economic justice.
- **\$14,500** Climate Action Victoria to gather the latest data on the costs and benefits of renewables, including employment and economic factors and opportunities, and compare these to gas.
- **\$25,000** Council to Homeless Persons to advocate for 500,000 new social and affordable homes as part of the post- pandemic stimulus package.
- **\$50,000** Monash Sustainable Development to redo the Transforming Australia, a baseline report of Australia’s performance against United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At this critical time for Australia’s future this will inform post COVID-19 recovery priorities and potential targets. The grant supports this further research. The data will be selected and grouped in a way that tells a story about Australia’s progress to date and what is needed to meet the targets and respond to COVID-19 and bushfire recovery.

## 5. OTHER INFORMATION

### 5.1 Funding Summaries

5.1.1 [Government Assistance for Victorian Businesses – accessible version](#)

5.1.2 [Government COVID-19 Assistance for the Arts](#)

### 5.2 Grant Websites

5.2.1 [COVID-19 National Funding Platform](#)

Australian Communities Foundation and Philanthropy Australia have partnered to provide a national funding platform to coordinate the philanthropic response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

5.2.2 [Ecstra](#)

**3.3 Million** Rapid response funding supports vital community recovery to 50 organisations ensuring crucial immediate support as well as investment for the long road to economic recovery. The diversity of the grantee organisations includes community centres, financial counselling services, specialist women's outreach teams, and community legal services spread across regional, rural and metropolitan locations. Website provides a list of funded organisations.