

Appendix A Small Community Grants August 2025

A total of 44 applications have been recommended for a small grant.

Organisation/ Group	Organisation/ Group Description
The Australian Catholic University (ACU) and the Order of Malta	The Australian Catholic University (ACU) and the Order of Malta are committed to a contribution to 'community development' with and within Darebin communities through outreach activities and partnerships through the Mobile Community Cafe initiative at the Reservoir Neighbourhood House and at the Agg Street public housing estate.
Australian Greek Ex-Servicemen Elderly Seniors Club of Northcote	This organisation helps Greek elderly community members connect weekly, with over 60 members. It benefits the members by creating relationships within the Greek culture and religion. It breaks isolation, loneliness and depression and creates a meeting place for them to connect and come together in friendship.
Blue Rhythm Arts Troupe	A community group of Chinese women, who provide a warm, supportive environment where members can feel a sense of belonging and cultural pride. It celebrates culture through dance, fashion, and community engagement weekly at the Reservoir East Senior Citizens Centre.
Brain Injury Matters North Metro Peer Support Group	Based in Northcote is one of nine peer groups across Victoria. It has weekly in-person meet-ups aimed at reducing social isolation and building skills, resilience, and connection. It also provides support for travel training, legal rights for people with ABI, Victorian health system and navigating changes to the NDIS.
Congee Social Club	A social and cultural space for the LGBTQIA+ Asian community to connect and celebrate their identity. Through sharing diverse cultural practices through food, art (visual, film, music, literature, games), knowledge shared, events, and exhibitions centred around shared cultural calendars such as Lunar New Year.
Croxton Community Garden	Croxton Community Garden is a volunteer organic community garden with 69 members. The group arose from a need and deep desire for a community garden in the Croxton area, which would enable the community to grow and have access to fresh and local organic fruit, vegetables, and herbs.
Darebin Chess Club	Darebin Chess Club is a community organisation whose mission is to improve residents' educational outcomes and social development with the game of chess. Activities range from teaching and coaching programs; chess play both leisurely and competitively for all levels and all age groups.
East Preston and East Reservoir Community Action Group for Public Housing Residents	The group provides advocacy, resources, and support for public housing tenants. It advocates for public housing tenants and provides tenant advice and referrals to other services, including education and training, health, and legal services.
Fairfield Community Garden Inc.	Located in Alphington with plots for members to work, share produce & communal tasks to improve and maintain this special environment. The garden provides a safe, trusted environment for improved wellbeing and help reduce social isolation and increase accessibility to community members.
Fairfield Hellenic Seniors and Carers	A group of volunteers that supports isolated seniors living in Fairfield, Northcote, Thornbury, Alphington, and surrounds. It has a supportive network of Carers to meet the needs of a frailer ageing population and help them access a variety of information and activities that foster healthy living and social connection.

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Footscape Inc.	Established in 2009 Footscape is an Australian Podiatry charity that assists disadvantaged persons encountering debilitating foot problems. Organisation projects include Foot Care Kits: people seeking asylum, homeless persons, and First Nations persons. Provision of footwear and socks to disadvantaged population groups and provision of pro bono Podiatry clinical services.
Friends Of Regent Community Garden	Friends of Regent Community Garden have a space where the local community can connect, learn and participate in communal food gardening and sharing of fresh produce as well as provide sustainable activities including workshops and social events in a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment.
Greek And Cypriot Social/Welfare Centre	The centre has a monthly variety of activities for members such as guest speakers, luncheons, outings, and a welfare service.
Greek Choir Parikia	The choir is made up of senior citizens from the Greek Australian community and some other CALD communities. The group rehearses once a week and performs across Darebin and other areas of Melbourne. This choir encourages social participation and reduces isolation for senior community members and promotes the Greek culture through music and socialising.
Greek Elderly Citizens of Thornbury	A community group of senior citizens and pensioners. It has been operating for several years and frequent every Tuesday at St George-Community Hall. It is located at 66 St David St, Thornbury. It offers hot meals, weekly activities, education seminars and other community functions that engages in senior community involvement.
Greek Women of Northern Suburbs 'Anemones'	The group was established to provide support and to enhance physical and mental wellbeing to women in the Northern Suburbs. The group provides members with the opportunity to meet weekly, dance and socialise and to stay connected with their community. Members voluntarily perform traditional Greek dancing at Aged Care facilities to entertain the residents and perform at multicultural concerts and other events.
Hellenic Women's Federation Victoria	The Hellenic Women's Federation of Victoria is a multi-cultural organisation centred around supporting the well-being of the Darebin community. The group plans events that cater for the diversities of the community, inclusive of people with special needs.
Home Away from Home Chinese Elders Group	Home Away from Home Chinese Elders Group meets at the East Reservoir Senior Citizens Centre. The group provides mutual support and wellbeing, access to information of services, programs and activities and to learn new skills like cooking, dancing, playing card, mahjong, Ping - Pong games etc.
Keon Park soccer club	Keon Park Soccer Club has been based in the City of Darebin for over 40 years. It has provided the opportunity for all genders to be active and involved within a local sports club. It has junior children, young adults, and adult participants. Most players come from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds.
Macedonian Senior Citizen Group- Prespa	Prespa are a group for senior members of the Macedonian community in Darebin. The group has weekly meetings to socialise, build friendships, celebrate language and culture, reduce the feeling of loneliness, isolation while improving wellbeing. Activities include card and board games, craft, morning tea and a luncheon once a month.
Manna4life	Manna4Life has been operating in Darebin since 2021. It provides a weekly home cooked dinner on Thursday evenings for the underprivileged and homeless at the Reservoir Neighbourhood House.

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Melbourne Harmony Rhythm Beijing Opera Group	This non-profit organization is aimed at providing local Chinese communities with a place to enjoy and participate in traditional Beijing Opera. The organization endeavours to promote Beijing Opera to foster cultural exchange, diversity, and artistic expression. It also participates in annual Chinese opera events in Darebin and across the State of Victoria.
Melbourne Polytechnic Advanced Diploma Jewellery and Object Design	The Advanced Diploma of Jewellery and Object Design from the Fairfield Campus have annual exhibitions from the 2023 graduating class. This supports emerging artists in the community and unites the creative community, bringing together local artists, galleries, and professionals from the industry.
Multiethnic Senior Citizen -Preston	The group is mixture of elderly people from Bosnia and Herzegovina. They meet on a weekly basis at the Preston Library and the aim of this group is to help and prevent the isolation and loneliness of elderly people. They participate in regular socialization and networking between people who speak the same language, are of same culture and have similar lifestyle.
Nuba Omarang Association of Australia-Melbourne	A Sudanese group whose members come from the same community - Nuba Omarang. It meets twice a month with the aim of retaining cultural connections including language & traditional dance and to prepare for annual festivals.
Ne African Women's and Children Support Group	A community group promoting African-based intercultural social events open to all women. It supports the welfare of African women and children based in East Preston/Reservoir, through activities such as Homework Club & intercultural women's exercise groups. Activities are based at East Preston Community Centre.
Northcote Baptist Church	The church community provides much needed spiritual and emotional resources to our diverse community. It has an English & Chinese speaking community which focuses on people from all nations including many with CALD backgrounds.
Northcote Swimming and Lifesaving Club	A community-based club, providing coaching and training programs for swimmers of all abilities to develop the skills, strength and fitness and pathways toward competitive swimming. NTC has training programs to meet the needs of swimmers of varying abilities and welcomes swimmers with a disability.
Northern and Inner Multiple Birth Association	Northern and Inner Multiple Birth Association (NIMBA) is run by local volunteer parents who provide support, assistance, and social connection to other families of multiples (twins, triplets and higher order births). NIMBA has 43 families (180 residents) residing in Darebin.
Northern Region Indian Seniors Association (NRISA)	This association comprises of seniors from diverse cultures, but mostly from a common Indian background. It strives to address the issues of loneliness among our members and provides opportunities for socialising, share information about Darebin services and Indian cultural music, dance, food, and drink.
Pinko Collective	Pinko Collective is an intergenerational music collective that aims to strengthen community connections to celebrate creativity and collaboration. It provides a range of services and supports to ensure musicians can perform their best.
Preston Cricket Club Inc	Preston Cricket Club have been a part of the Preston/Darebin landscape for 160 years, acting as a senior cricket body and arranging a variety of junior & senior programs for boys and girls. This includes get active programs and Winter Academy for boys and girls free of charge.

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Preston Lions Football Club	Preston Lions Football Club has been a cornerstone of the local community, fostering inclusivity, youth development, structured training programs, mentoring, and skill development. It also nurtures young talent, teamwork, respect, and resilience.
Preston Boxing Youth Club	The Preston Boxing and Youth Club is a youth centre aimed at physical fitness and general well-being for over 60 years. It welcomes young participants from all abilities and backgrounds including Indigenous youth, drug and alcohol affected members of society, immigrants and people of all religious backgrounds.
Preston Garden Club	A local nonprofit community group since 1934. It has monthly meetings with guest speakers, produces a monthly Newsletter, organizes garden visits, and holds monthly guest speakers and competitions for members to learn more about gardening and to share stories and expertise with each other.
Probus Club of Kingsbury	The group encourages lifestyle, health, and wellbeing for semi-retired/retired members of the community. It provides a variety of activities including day trips, theatre outings and Guest Speakers.
Reach Community Church	Reach engages the community with information of activities/clubs etc in their local municipality to support engaging children and families, improve mental & physical health and connect with others in the community.
Reservoir Chinese Seniors' Group	All members are Chinese senior citizens aged 60+ from different areas of China. The group meets to share traditional Chinese culture and participate in activities such as singing, tai chi, cooking, and tours of Melbourne.
Sylvester Hive	Sylvester Hive is a collaboration between City of Darebin Council, the Pavilion School and Darebin residents supporting urban permaculture and public open space. It brings community members together to experience gardening, share food, harvesting of vegetables & fruit and food preparation techniques.
Thin Green Line	The group aims to improve the public land from the railway line and encompassing the road along Hartington Street. It supports biodiversity, public use, collaborative planning, and action and engages local authorities and stakeholder groups.
Thornbury Church of Christ	Food Relief Program endeavours not only to provide essential food, bakery and grocery items to assist everyday cost of living, but a safe and comfortable space to 'be'; play cards, chat, enjoy a meal, snack and or hot beverage amongst both members of the community and the Food Relief team.
University of the Third Age Darebin (U3A Darebin Inc)	U3A Darebin promotes healthy ageing through educational, creative, and social activities provided by members, for members. It runs a wide range of courses in movement and wellbeing, music, dance, art & craft, science & health, humanities, and writing & literature as well as social activities for older Darebin adults.
Voice of Ghana Community Victoria	A community group whose mission is to listen to, represent, support, and uplift individuals within the community by implementing numerous services and support systems. It provides tailored assistance that addresses the cultural needs of Ghanaian & other youth, focusing on social identity and cultural education.
Virtual School Victoria	Virtual School Victoria (VSV) is one of the largest state government schools in Victoria, delivering high-quality, flexible education to students from Foundation to Year 12 through virtual and blended learning models. It is designed to meet the needs of students whose circumstances prevent them from attending mainstream school.

Appendix B Medium Community Grants August 2025

A total of 27 applications have been recommended for a medium grant.

Organisation/ Group	Organisation/ Group Description
1000 Generations	The organisation is committed to breaking cycles of hardship and empowering individuals to reach their full potential. Through targeted programs, community partnerships, and compassionate support, it aims to uplift young people and families facing challenges, guiding them toward resilience, confidence, and sustainable change.
Boccia Australia	Boccia Australia is a small not for profit organisation that supports and delivers the sport of Boccia, which is a sport for people with disability, but anyone can play. It has inclusion classes all the way through to Paralympic classes. It has regular activities for people to play, connect and get some physical activity.
CERES	CERES is an environmental park & education centre, community garden, urban farm, and social enterprise hub. The environmental park is enjoyed by Darebin residents for recreation, education, gathering and celebrations. CERES has delivered the Olives to Oil program for Darebin residents for the past 5 years.
Circus Nexus	Circus Nexus is a unique not-for-profit organisation in Melbourne, dedicated to supporting the growth and diversity of the Melbourne circus sector. It uses creative approaches to grow the mental and physical health of young people from varied social, economic, and cultural backgrounds by building their creative, emotional and physical skills.
Lara Costello	Lara Costello is a queer artist and creative producer specialising in outdoor and site-specific multidisciplinary performance. Her work often centres on playful, participatory experiences in public space, with a strong focus on community and storytelling.
Laura Couttie	Laura Couttie (she/her) is an independent curator, writer, and arts manager. Laura regularly writes for artists and galleries, and her writing has been published in Art+Australia, Art News New Zealand, Art Collector, Art Guide, Artist Profile, un-Magazine, and Runway. Laura is co-founder and director of Melbourne Sculpture Biennale.
Croxton School	Croxton School is a government Prep – Year 12 school catering for students with a mild intellectual disability. It provides a safe and supportive learning environment where students are challenged to achieve and reach their full potential.
Zena Simone Cumpston	Zena Cumpston is a First Nations Barkandji woman who works as an artist, writer, educator, curator, consultant, and storyteller. Her multidisciplinary practice is centred around protecting and celebrating Country. She is particularly interested in Indigenous plant knowledge, food sovereignty and working to build platforms for young First Nations people.
Dadfit	Dadfit supports healthy families and gender equity by encouraging men to be the best dads as healthy, connected, direct, caring fathers and partners. Dads can exercise together ('Dad Workouts'), talk openly about the difficulties of fatherhood ('Dad Chats'), and support each other to put new ideas into practice ('Dad Challenges').
Darebin United Soccer Club	Darebin United Soccer Club, founded in 1975, is a vibrant not-for-profit based at Mayer Park, Thornbury, celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2025. With over 300 members & inclusive programs welcome all backgrounds, fostering health, wellbeing, and community cohesion in Darebin.

Organisation/ Group	Organisation/ Group Description
Figs May Fly	Figs May Fly is an emerging arts collective working at the intersection of art, science, and folklore. Its work crosses disciplines and sectors. It aims to create fresh ways of experiencing the world—inviting curiosity, connection, and wonder along the way.
Free To Feed	Founded in 2016 in Darebin, Free to Feed was Australia's first cooking school with all recipes, classes and events delivered by people of refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds. Free to Feed's mission is to empower people from asylum seeking and refugee backgrounds and new migrants to overcome barriers to social and economic inclusion in Australia.
Gamelan DanAnda	Gamelan DanAnda (GDA) is a Balinese gamelan percussion orchestra based in Darebin, Naarm. GDA regularly perform at Australia's leading festivals including Oz Asia Festival, Brunswick Music Festival, AsiaTOPA, the National Folk Festival, Port Fairy Folk Festival and more. Recent collaborations have been with Joelistics, Balinese Australian neo-soul singer/producer Komang, and electro-jazz-fusion band Firetail.
JOLT Sonic & Visual Arts	JOLT Arts is an avant-garde sonic and arts org. that generates socially engaged sonic and arts content, and then disseminates that content through performances, community workshops, exhibitions, JOLT festivals, albums, and other publications (writings/scores), online activity, and artist development.
Nepali Association of Victoria	Established in 1997, the Nepalese Association of Victoria (NAV) is a well-recognised, registered not-for-profit community organisation that has been serving the growing Nepalese population across Victoria. NAV was formed with the vision of preserving Nepalese culture, fostering a sense of community among Nepalese migrants, and promoting harmonious integration into the broader Australian society.
Northcote Community Gardens	Northcote Community Gardens is a not-for-profit incorporated association. Its Mission is to enhance well-being, health, and food security in our community by respecting and loving the land, sharing skills, cultivating a spirit of learning, and by encouraging diversity, creativity and friendship.
Seth Masters	Seth's Spray Skills Street Art Workshops are creative, youth-focused programs that use street art to empower and inspire young people. These workshops offer an engaging, structured, inclusive environment where participants explore practical self-expression, vocational training, and community engagement through mural-making.
Perry Street Child Care and Elizabeth Gorman Memorial Kindergarten	The Childcare Centre and Kindergarten is a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable community-run early childhood education centre that acknowledges and supports the uniqueness of each child aged 6 months to 6 years and their families for over 40 years. It welcomes families from Fairfield, Northcote, Preston, Thornbury, Alphington and more.
Proud 2 Play	Proud 2 Play is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to reducing social isolation and discrimination faced by LGBTIQ+ individuals through the power of sport and recreation. One of its programs, the Park life initiative, brought together people from diverse backgrounds to participate in fun, non-competitive sporting activities in local parks.
Queer Sporting Alliance	Queer Sporting Alliance (QSA) is Australia's largest community sporting club for the LGBTIQ+ community. It runs Q League—a weekly basketball, netball, and futsal competition across 40 weeks of the year. It supports safe, social, and welcoming spaces for queer and gender diverse people to participate in sport without fear of discrimination or exclusion.

Organisation/ Group	Organisation/ Group Description
Riot Baby - Punk for kids and elders	Riot Baby was formed in late-2019 and is a punk band for kids, by kids and parents. They make fast and loud music for little people, and the big people that take them to gigs. Riot Baby write songs about navigating late-stage capitalism, pandemics, disasters, bullies, and big feelings.
Sustain: The Australian Food Network	Sustain is a national sustainable food systems organisation, with a growing reputation for thought and practice leadership in urban agriculture and food system transformation. Sustain's mission is to design and build better food systems: better for human and ecological health and wellbeing, and fairer for farmers and food workers, realised through food systems events, research, network-building and consultancy services.
Thornbury Kindergarten	Thornbury Kindergarten is a well-established and loved community-run kindergarten operating in Thornbury. The kindergarten comprises a diverse and welcoming community of 132 families. It offers a combined 3- and 4-year-old sessional kinder program and that caters for the diverse needs of our community. It also has an Out & About and a Bush Kinder program.
The Victoria Seniors Chinese Cooking Club	The Victoria Seniors Chinese Cooking Club (VCSCC) create an environment that supports creating an understanding of Chinese culture with Chinese cultural celebrations and cuisine. The programs focus on the preparation and enjoyment of Chinese cuisines along with an understanding of the Chinese cultural heritage related to the food and the festivals that are celebrated.
Village Greening	Village Greening mission is to cultivate a sustainable and vibrant community, where residents, traders, and shoppers work together to create an eco-friendly haven. It has been collaborating with traders and locals to increase sustainable practices in Fairfield and to reduce plastic usage and diverting materials from landfill.
Women's Circus	Since 1991, Women's Circus has been a leader in community arts and social inclusion, using circus as a powerful tool for social transformation. Through a social circus model, we break down barriers, transcend language and cultural divides, and empower individuals to find community, confidence, and voice.
Worthy Cause	Worthy Cause is a social enterprise that bakes delicious cookies. It employs vulnerable people due to disability or disadvantage, have not been able to find long-term employment. It has a structured employment program with a stable income, financial literacy training, emotional counselling, soft-skills development, and on-the-job skills building in an inclusive and safe environment.

Appendix C Youth Projects Grant 2025

A total of 11 applications have been recommended for a youth project grant.

Organisation/ Group	Organisation/Group Description
Anglicare Victoria	Anglicare Victoria works with children, young people, and families. We prevent harm and empower people to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential. It works with families towards positive change.
Breakthrough Inclusive Performance Co	The company is dedicated to empowering school leavers and young adults (18-25) with intellectual disabilities to thrive in the Performing Arts through specialised training and performance opportunities in our local Darebin community with weekly sessions in performance, choreography, and education.
Encompass Care Vic	Encompass Care is a not-for-profit organisation committed to seeing young people fully engaged in their communities. It operates as a recognised food relief hub, providing emergency material aid, emotional support, and community connection to those in need.
Preston High School	Preston High is one of the newest secondary schools in Melbourne. As a public high school Preston directly impacts the Darebin community as an inspirational and welcoming foundation for local youth to grow and learn in. It impacts local families, providing a positive community and support networks.
Reservoir High School	A local high school with around 700 students and growing. Reservoir High School has been around since the 50's and students volunteer in the local Darebin community. An early Intervention Program is delivered in 9 x 60min weekly sessions where key concepts and experiential activities are explored.
St Georges Antiochian Orthodox Parish Association	St. George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral was founded in 1973. It now comprises approximately nine hundred households, with around one-third consisting of refugees and asylum seekers who have resettled in Australia through government humanitarian programs.
St Martins Youth Arts Centre	The Centre's mission is to invest in artists, innovative ideas and artistic outcomes created in collaboration with and for children & young people. It includes performance works, inclusive workshops, exceptional artworks, and creative workshops for 5–18-year-old young people.
Thornbury Primary School	At Thornbury Primary School, First Nations culture and understandings are embedded into learning programs and provide a strong influence on the school's identity and culture. Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung language is taught to all students across the school. Our vision is to foster an inclusive, supportive and safe community.
Qwids	Qwids (short for Queer Kids) is a child-designed, after-school program created by and for LGBTQIA+ children aged 6–12. It is a vibrant, peer-led community program where young LGBTQIA+ children can connect, create, and feel completely themselves.
Victoria State Emergency Service	Victorian State Emergency Service (VICSES) is a volunteer-based emergency response organisation dedicated to serving the community in the Northern suburbs of Melbourne. With the Heidelberg Unit, it services a large area of the City of Darebin including Northcote, Preston, Reservoir, Alphington, Fairfield, Bundoora, Kingsbury, Macleod, and Thornbury.
Youth Action Group	This program offers leadership, advocacy, organisational training, and mentorship from industry professionals. Participants will build essential skills and confidence in eleven fortnightly sessions where they discuss issues that matter to them and their peers.

Appendix D Venue Hire Support Grants

A total of 36 applications have been recommended for a Venue Hire Support grant.

Organisation/ Group	Event Description
Anglicare Victoria	New Sparks Program
Australian Cantonese Opera Association (ACOA)	Cantonese Concerts in 2026
Australian Disability Pensioners Group "Vardar"	Community meetings
Australian Kurdish Community	Community cultural activities & meetings
Ballet Teachers Workshop	2025 Workshops
Darebin District Girl Guides	Weekly meetings
Darebin City Brass	Annual performances
Darebin Chess Club	Weekly Chess Club, Coaching & Biannual Tournaments
Darebin Information, Volunteer & Resource Service	DIVRS 50th Celebration
Fairfield Hellenic Seniors and Carers	Weekly meetings for Seniors and Carers.
Fantazorki Playgroup	Playgroup Meetings
Ghana Association of Victoria	Meetings, Teaching Culture, dance, drumming & events
Greek & Cypriot Social/Welfare Centre	Monthly meetings & cultural events
Greek Choir Parikia	Parikia Community Choir rehearsals
Arhontises Greek Women Dancing Group	Rehearsal & performance space
Kool Kidz Preston	2025- 4-year-old kinder graduation
Melbourne Polytechnic, Fairfield Campus Advanced Diploma Jewellery & Object Design	Advanced Diploma of Jewellery and Object Design Graduate Exhibition 2025
Multiethnic Citizen Group-Preston	Meetings for Seniors from Bosnia & Herzegovina
The Northeastern Melbourne Chinese Assoc.	2025 Moon Festival and Chinese National Day
Northern Exposure Toastmasters	Meetings, Public Speaking & Leadership Program
Northern and Inner Multiple Birth Association (NIMBA)	Meetings & support groups
Northern Region Indian Seniors Association of Victoria Inc	2025 Indian Republic Day Celebrations
The Penguin Club of Australia	Speaking Made Easy - Preston Meetings
Polish Community Care Services Inc.	Social Support Group
Preston Education & Community Support Association, Inc.	Community Engagement and Education activities
Preston Garden Club Inc.	Garden Club Monthly Meetings.
Preston High School	Preston High School Spring Concert Event
Preston Symphony Orchestra	Orchestra rehearsals
Sacred Heart Mission	Social Justice Partnership
Sicilia Bella Folk Group	Rehearsal & community performances
SMART Recovery Australia Ltd	SMART Recovery Weekly Support Meetings
Speak Percussion Inc.	Rehearsals and Workshops

Organisation/ Group	Event Description
Squawkestra Incorporated	Performances
University of the Third Age (U3A Darebin)	Line Dancing Class
Victorian Elderly Chinese Welfare Society	Celebrating Multicultural Festival Event
Voice of Ghana Community Victoria.	Independence Day