

Victorian Legal Services BOARD

2017 Grants: \$2.801M to 8 organisations

Five organisations received funding of \$1,021,363 under the General Grants Guidelines:

Applicant	Project Title	Description	Amount	Length
Ganbina Inc	JOBS4U2 Program	The long term goal of Ganbina is to empower Indigenous people to achieve true social and economic equality with all other Australians within a time frame of two generations. JOBS4U2 involves a range of activities focused on education, training and personal development skills which are all essential building blocks for sustainable employment outcomes.	\$80,000	2 Years
WestJustice	Health Agency to Court: Tackling the Fines System	By taking a systemic approach to the infringements system, this project will contribute to alleviating the enormous burden that infringements constitute for vulnerable community members. By consolidating the systems and training underpinning their health-justice partnership with the Werribee Mercy Hospital, they will provide legal assistance to clients with acute mental health conditions caught up in the fines system. They will also undertake advocacy with enforcement agencies, toll operators and other key decision-makers in the fines system to enhance fairness and effectiveness at various points of the system, and drive enhanced collaboration between legal and health agencies to better support vulnerable clients.	\$223,000	2 years
Mental Health Legal Service	Partners in the Community – Mental Health Legal Centre & Royal District Nursing Service 'Homeless Person Project'	The project is addressing the unmet legal needs of the Homeless Persons Project clients at risk or experiencing homelessness, particularly those experiencing social isolation through an effective Health Justice Partnership.	\$244,800	2 Years
Youthlaw	Legal Pods – Addressing the multiple legal needs of young people transitioning to independence from the Child Protection System	A pilot of new legal service to provide comprehensive and personalised legal assistance to young people transitioning to independence from the Victorian child protection system. The program will connect small teams of <i>pro bono</i> lawyers to a young person to respond to their multiple legal needs for the duration of that person's transition from care – typically 4 years.	\$300,000	3 Years

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Federation of Community Legal Centres	Evaluation Capacity Building and Sector Outcomes Measurement	<p>The Project aims to support community legal services (CLSs) to improve the outcomes they achieve for clients through improved evaluation and outcomes measurement.</p> <p>The Project will transform the practice of CLSs in developing, maintaining and evaluating the quality of their service delivery and its associated outcomes, and will explicitly link this to service planning. This will drive ongoing development and improvement within CLSs, including organisational change, more effective ways of delivering services, and the potential for increased collaboration.</p>	\$174,363	2 Years

Three organisations received \$1,780,000 to address the priority theme of Preventing Women's Contact with the Criminal Justice System:

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Darebin CLC	Women Transforming Justice	<p>The shared vision of the collaboration between Flat Out, Law and Advocacy Centre for Women (LACW) and Darebin Community Legal Centre (DCLC) is to build and sustain a Justice Reinvestment strategy and infrastructure that reduces women's contact with the criminal legal system, reduces women's remand, ongoing and repeated incarceration, in response to the emergency of women's criminalisation and incarceration in Victoria.</p> <p>The vision will in part be achieved through a specialised women's bail and remand 'decarceration' court dealing with bail, remand, diversion and sentencing for women through a targeted approach that critically addresses the criminalisation of women in Victoria, especially Aboriginal women, women with disabilities, women experiencing homelessness and women who are victim-survivors of state and family and sexual violence.</p>	\$910,000	2 Years

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Women & Mentoring Ltd	The Women's Voices – a collaborative model of specialised help for criminalised women	The Women and Mentoring project will benefit criminalised women in the North-West Metropolitan region of Melbourne, as well as women at risk of being criminalised across these areas and in other parts of Victoria. The project will expand to operate at Melbourne Magistrates' Court & Broadmeadows Magistrates' Court to address the risk factors leading to criminalisation. They will work to ensure a consistent, integrated approach to service delivery to reduce women's criminalisation and the impact it has on their families and broader community.	\$400,000	3 Years
Stepping Up Consortium	Living Free - Fostering multi-sectoral partnerships and system advocacy to enhance young women's pathways out of justice in the Frankston Mornington Peninsula Catchment	This 2-year program leverages pre-existing partnerships and networks developed through the multi-sectoral Alcohol and Other Drug Alliance operating across the catchment and works to mobilise these networks to undertake a targeted integrated response to vulnerable young females aged 12-25 who have had contact with Victoria Police as a victim or offender.	\$470,000	2 Years