

## Major Grants Awarded in 2008-09

The Legal Services Board provided funding to the following projects in the 2008-09 Major Grants.

Applicant Name	Project Title	Project Description
The Youth Junction Incorporated	Youth, Community and Law Program	<p>The Youth, Community and Law Program at the Visy Care Hub, Sunshine, is a model of early intervention designed to enable diversion for young people aged 17-25 years from the justice system.</p> <p>It offers the courts, police and legal representatives a clear and straightforward referral point to assist young people to successfully avoid placing themselves in situations that may lead to further involvement in the justice system.</p> <p>Trained staff will construct a tailored package of legal and community services that respond appropriately and adequately to the individual needs of the young person by offering constructive and sustainable outcomes in education, employment, health, housing and recreational pursuits.</p>
Community West Inc.	Prisoners Legal Service Victoria	<p>The Prisoners Legal Service Victoria (PLSV) will extend the successful pilot program for a further year to provide advice, advocacy and non criminal law services for imprisoned persons.</p>
Federation of Community Legal Centres (Victoria) Inc.	CLC Law Graduate Scheme: Pathways to a Career in CLCs	<p>This project will enable the beginning of a Community Legal Centre's (CLC) Law Graduate Scheme.</p> <p>The Scheme will build the capacity of Victorian CLCs, and in particular rural and regional CLCs, to deliver more effective public legal services.</p> <p>Under the Scheme, one final year law student per year for 2 years will be offered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a paid position in a practical legal training (PLT) course;</li> <li>• a CLC placement for the professional placement component of the PLT course;</li> <li>• a 12 month graduate CLC lawyer position comprising three rotations through CLCs, including one in a rural or regional CLC;</li> <li>• ongoing professional development throughout the 12 month position; and</li> <li>• guidance towards a career in CLCs.</li> </ul>

Applicant Name	Project Title	Project Description
Department of Justice	Crimes Act and Criminal Procedure Review & Replacement	<p>This funding will enable the continuation of the major review of the Crimes Act 1958 and criminal procedure currently underway in Victoria.</p> <p>It is the most significant reform of Victoria's criminal procedure law ever undertaken.</p> <p>This large project will rationalise and clarify the procedures of the Act and modernise this area of the law.</p> <p>The Review is divided into three parts reflecting the three main aspects of the Act: criminal procedure, offences and police investigative powers.</p>
Jesuit Social Services	Remand Reform for Young People	<p>The Remand Reform for Young People Project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• document the experiences of young people aged 18-25 who spend time on remand;</li> <li>• provide young people on remand with improved access to support and information necessary to maintain/expand their community based supports and expedite their exit from incarceration; and</li> <li>• develop proposals to improve legislation, policies and systems relating to remand for young people.</li> </ul>
Tenants Union of Victoria Ltd	New Approaches to Tenancy Law	<p>The project will see the creation and delivery of a series of two workshops on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (VIC) and the relevance to the Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (VIC)</li> <li>2. The Family Violence Protection Act 2008 (VIC) and the amendments it has made to the Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (VIC).</li> </ol> <p>Participants will receive training through interactive workshops and will be able to use the knowledge gained to advocate for their organisations and clients. Workshops will be face to face or via an interactive e-learning facility.</p> <p>The primary target group is the community sector including housing, legal and family violence organisations that assist residential tenants.</p>

Applicant Name	Project Title	Project Description
Social Firms Australia (SOFA)	The 3Rs at Work - Training in Roles, Rights and Responsibilities	<p>The project will deliver training to employers, staff from employment support services and individual people with mental illness about their legal rights and responsibilities in regards to disclosure in the workplace.</p> <p>The project will be delivered in three municipalities where SOFA has strong networks, and there are high levels of disadvantage.</p> <p>The project will be evaluated to create a best practice model which can then be rolled out more widely across Victoria to make a long term impact upon employment conditions for people with a mental illness.</p> <p>The training will be delivered by a team, which will include people with mental illness and a trainer with legal expertise.</p> <p>The training will cover the duties, obligations and protections provided by the Disability Discrimination Act and the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act as well as the legal obligations framed in the Occupational Health and Safety Act.</p>
Auspicious Arts Projects	Love Drunk Partnership Program	<p>This is a theatre in schools program with the aim to reduce the incidence of sex related crimes and educate young people about sexual assault.</p> <p>Titled "Love Drunk" this is a cross-sectoral partnership between Phunktional theatre group and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria Police (Youth Resource Officers)</li> <li>• Mallee Sexual Assault Unit and Domestic Violence Unit</li> <li>• South East Centre Against Sexual Assault</li> </ul> <p>The show will tour schools in the Loddon Mallee and Southern Metropolitan regions of Victoria and include a program of workshops provided by local police and health services to better inform and educate young people about the law and raise awareness of local services they can access.</p>

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South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre	Legal Education for Refugee communities (south east region Melbourne)	<p>The project will provide information about the Australian legal system in relation to family law, the court system, family violence, Victorian and community legal aid and Victoria Police to refugee communities in the south east region.</p> <p>The project will focus on the largest refugee communities in the area, the Sudanese and Afghan communities, and work with women and men from these communities.</p>
Advocacy and Rights Centre Limited	Legal Services for Homeless People in Central Victoria	<p>Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre (LCCLC) will partner and support The Public Interest Law Clearing House, private legal firms in Bendigo, St Luke's and Loddon Mallee Housing to conduct Victoria's first regional Homeless Person's Legal Clinic.</p> <p>This project will build local capacity at LCCLC to support the pilot service.</p>
Whittlesea Community Connections (WCC)	VOCAT Capacity Building Program	<p>The project will improve access to justice to victims of violent crimes in Victoria by utilising the knowledge and expertise gained by the Whittlesea Community Legal Service (WCLS) through casework and consultations with organisations dealing with victims of crime.</p> <p>The aim is to resource community legal centres (CLCs) around Victoria to better deal with issues relating to crimes compensation generally and with Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal (VOCAT) applications more specifically.</p>
Uniting Care - Cutting Edge	Access to Justice in the Goulburn Valley: demonstrating the need for community legal services	<p>The project will fund research into unmet legal need in the Goulburn Valley and determine the need, if any, for dedicated community legal services in this region.</p> <p>If found the subsequent aim would be to secure community legal services in the region.</p> <p>Goulburn Valley (West Hume sub region) includes significant disadvantaged populations, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and a large indigenous community.</p>

Applicant Name	Project Title	Description
University of Melbourne	Genetic discrimination of individuals at risk of Huntington's disease: An examination of applicable Victorian laws	<p>The project will focus on privacy and discrimination in Huntington's Disease, an inherited neurodegenerative disease, for the purpose of identifying legal needs and providing a policy model for other disorders for which a genetic test may soon be available (such as Alzheimer's Disease).</p> <p>The project will benefit the community through improving knowledge of applicable laws, making recommendations for improved service access and provision, advocacy, and law reform.</p> <p>Easily accessible resources (booklet, website), will be developed, explaining legal rights and advice on navigating often complex legislation.</p>
Flemington Kensington Community Legal Centre Inc.	Racial profiling research project	<p>The project will undertake research to ascertain whether there is an identifiable pattern in policing in relation to racial and religious profiling and discrimination in the local Flemington/Kensington community.</p> <p>The project will help identify potential legislative, policy and practice changes, and develop complementary law reform strategies.</p>
Monash University	Reforming Judicial Review in Victoria	<p>This project will investigate why the Administrative Law Act 1978 is hardly ever used and whether it should be reformed or replaced.</p> <p>The project will also consider whether Victoria should follow several others States and Territories by adopting the federal model for judicial review and how such reform might strengthen the right of citizens to challenge government decisions.</p>
Human Rights Arts and Film Festival (HRAFF)	Human Rights Arts and Film Festival Education Program	<p>The project will establish a school's education program: HRAFF's Inbound Education Program.</p> <p>The purpose of the program is to introduce students to human rights in an interactive and engaging way. HRAFF will travel to schools to deliver a film based program on human rights.</p>