

# Media Release

**The Hon Vicki Ward MP**

Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Natural Disaster Recovery  
Minister for Equality



Monday, 31 March 2025

## BACKING VICTORIA'S LGBTIQA+ COMMUNITIES

The Allan Labor Government is backing organisations who provide support to our LGBTIQA+ communities.

Minister for Equality Vicki Ward today announced on Trans Day of Visibility that 13 organisations will receive a share of \$800,000 as part of the LGBTIQA+ Sector Strengthening Program Grants to bolster or expand their services.

The Labor Government stands with trans and gender diverse communities, and this funding will improve equitable, inclusive and accessible services that will contribute to safer, stronger and sustainable communities.

Transgender Victoria will deliver a mobile state-travelling service will ensure trans and gender diverse Victorians can access free gender-affirming services.

Funding for Switchboard will deliver expanded free training to LGBTIQA+ organisations on LGBTIQA+ suicide prevention and bereavement support, while Thorne Harbour Health will provide more affordable mental health support to LGBTIQA+ community members.

Transcend Australia will use its funding to expand support for families of young trans and gender diverse Victorians and improve service accessibility to better assist caregivers and young people living with disabilities.

Now in its second year, the grants program continues to reinforce the important work of organisations supporting and delivering services to Victoria's rainbow communities.

Trans Day of Visibility, celebrated around the world annually, acknowledges the achievements and contributions of trans and gender diverse communities while raising awareness of the challenges, discrimination and stigma that they face.

The grants program is part of the Labor Government's broader efforts to drive equality in Victoria, a vision outlined in *Pride in our future: Victoria's LGBTIQA+ strategy 2022-32*. For a full list of recipients, visit [vic.gov.au/successful-recipients](https://vic.gov.au/successful-recipients).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Equality Vicki Ward

*"In Victoria, equality is not negotiable. Labor will always stand with our LGBTIQA+ communities in their long fight for equality, and we will always fight for their right to be safe, respected and included."*

*"We're supporting organisations working to meet the needs of our diverse Victorian LGBTIQA+ communities right across the state – and this year's funding will go towards some great initiatives that will make a real difference."*

## The 13 successful LSS grant organisations for 2025

- Flat Out
- Thorne Harbour Health
- Transcend Australia
- Melbourne Queer Film Festival Inc
- Transgender Victoria
- Victorian Pride Centre
- Minus18 Foundation Inc
- Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation Inc
- Intersex Human Rights Australia (InterAction)
- Switchboard (Victoria) Inc
- Many Coloured Sky
- Gippsland Pride Initiative Inc
- LINE Wangaratta