Community Support Fund

Final report outcomes summary

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## Justice Connect's Not-for-profit Law Program - 2016-17 to 2017-18

Justice Connect’s Not-for-profit Law Program is a specialist legal service that provides free and low cost legal advice and training to Victorian not-for-profit community organisations.

Over the two years of funding, the program has provided a unique, multi-faceted, impactful service for the not-for-profit sector including mobilising an estimated 2,700 pro bono lawyers delivering an estimated $2.8 million of free legal support by:

Responding to over 1,100 individual enquiries from Victorian organisations, provided free legal advice to more than 400 Victorian organisations advice (by phone and via member law firms), and tailored legal information and resources to 562 Victorian organisations;

Developing 70 online self-help tools relevant to Victorian not-for-profits, including two interactive website apps (e.g. www.nfplaw.org.au/gettingstarted) in collaboration with the University of Melbourne Law School and software design company, Neota Logic;

Facilitation of 52 face-to-face training sessions in outer metro and regional Victoria, attracting 1,016 training attendees from regional and outer metro Victoria, and assisting 103 webinar attendees from regional Victoria;

Contributions to the sector through membership of a number of professional bodies and sector working groups, where input is provided on the experiences and common challenges for not-for-profit and charitable organisations, informing reform and advocacy; and

Active participation in various policy-focussed expert committees and working groups, sharing sector trends and scope for improving the regulatory framework for Victoria’s community sector (e.g. working with the Victorian Council for Social Services in launching their Governance ‘Health Check’). The program provided input on the health check and its recommendations, leveraging their experience and expertise in advising small not-for-profits ensuring accessibility of the tool and suitability for community organisations.

The program has a commitment to a diversified funding base, attracting significant philanthropic support, receiving financial support from its member law firms (in addition to their pro bono contributions) and generating income through fee-for-service streams.

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| Disclaimer: The information above is provided by the Department of Health and Human Services. |

## Pre-commitment Information Program

YourPlay, Victoria's voluntary pre-commitment scheme, commenced state-wide on

1 December 2015. Victoria is the first state in Australia to implement a state-wide networked

pre-commitment scheme for gaming machines. It is also the world's first state-wide voluntary pre-commitment scheme to be implemented on this scale, which has generated significant interest both nationally and internationally.

YourPlay is an important harm minimisation and consumer protection measure available on all

gaming machines in Victoria, including the Melbourne casino. It enables people to make informed

decisions about their gaming machine play and it can assist them to stay in control of their gambling behaviour.

YourPlay enables players to set time and money limits and to track their play on gaming machines

across the state. Regular updates are provided to players on their spending and how they are

tracking against their limits. They can also access detailed information about their playing activity

at kiosks in venues, privately online or via the Your-play helpline.

As at 30 June 2018, there have been:

* 5.6 million gaming machine sessions using YourPlay;
* more than 11 million responsible gambling information messages delivered to players advising them of their losses;
* 15,540 registered YourPlay cards issued to 3,545 individual accounts;
* 44,596 casual cards (anonymous) activated; and
* 3,513 players who have set a personalised message to be displayed when they approach their playing limit.

The communication campaign is crucial to achieving the intended policy objectives of YourPlay.

Clear and targeted messaging is critical to improve players' awareness and participation and to

reducing any stigma associated with using YourPlay. A YourPlay Ambassador Program, information

forums and YourPlay promotional events have also been introduced to ensure staff are prepared

and knowledgeable when promoting YourPlay to their gaming customers.

An independent evaluation Of the YourPIay Scheme is being undertaken by the South Australian

Centre for Economic Studies at the University of Adelaide. The evaluation strategy will provide an

evidence base as to the effectiveness of the scheme in achieving its objectives, provide data to

improve the effectiveness of the scheme and identify the costs and consequences of implementing

pre-commitment. This will assist the Government in making informed decisions about YourPlay

going forward. The report is due in late 2018.

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| Disclaimer: The information above is provided by the Department of Justice and Regulation. |

## Indigenous Cultural Strengthening Project

The original intent of this initiative was to showcase innovative projects that maintained the ongoing cultural transference of knowledge between elders and youth across the Victorian Aboriginal community by creating a suppository of cultural strengthening activities that could be shared and developed by the community to demonstrate ongoing connection to culture.

Some positive outcomes were achieved for the benefit of a small number of Aboriginal youth who were able to develop unique skills in the area of film making. An additional benefit of this skill then contributed to the development of a limited number of films that captured a variety of cultural knowledge transference to young people by their elders. These films were then used by the community as a segue into local Aboriginal cultural practice and education.

The small grants program also delivered a great opportunity for different Aboriginal community groups and organisations to realise their aspirations in reinvigorating Aboriginal culture whether it be through ceremonial dance and practices, language books, or Indigenous bush food. These opportunities provided a way to reclaim, showcase and maintain the ongoing connection to culture.

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| Disclaimer: The information above is provided by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. |

## Community Support and Recreational Sports Package - DHHS

The aim of the program was to support community service organisations to participate fully in delivering the Victorian Government’s drive for more effective service delivery that focuses on improving outcomes for vulnerable Victorians, building stronger communities and supporting families.

The CSF funding was for the completion of the following projects:

* Capacity Build Project of Foster Carer Association of Victoria to leverage new technology to better support carers;
* Domestic Violence Advocacy and Support Program of Doncaster Community Care & Counselling Centre;
* Independent evaluations of sector driven children and family programs, including process evaluation and impact evaluation for OzChild Children Australia's Functional Family Therapy and statutory saving analysis of Lighthouse Foundation’s services; and
* Community Sector Reform Council research projects.

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## Heyfield Museum

The aim of project was to preserve the history of the local area and provide a secure home for current historical collection.

Outcomes of the project are as follows:

* Partnership agreements created with local schools and service groups -- future tours and
* educational opportunities;
* Increased membership of the society -- creation of a new group of volunteers wiling to assist in the running of the museum and attached Nursery;
* Increased awareness of the museum and its collection -- opportunity to collect local history;
* Increased tourism -- funds being spent in the local area; and
* Creation of another community space.

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| Disclaimer: The information above is provided by the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources. |