



Media release

From the Minister for Aged Care

Friday, 5 December 2003

\$6 MILLION BRACKS GOVT BOOST FOR ETHNIC HACC SERVICES

Aged Care Minister Gavin Jennings today announced 39 ethnic organisations and councils would share \$6.2 million over three years to strengthen multicultural Home and Community Care (HACC) services in Melbourne and Geelong.

Announcing details of the *Culturally Equitable Gateways Strategy*, Mr Jennings said the Bracks Government funding boost would enable agencies and councils to deliver more culturally responsive HACC services.

“This initiative will help develop more culturally sensitive HACC services to meet the needs of older people from multicultural backgrounds and increase patronage,” Mr Jennings said.

“Ethnic seniors are under-utilising HACC services but this program will help remove cultural hurdles limiting their access and improve their understanding of the available services.

“The Bracks Government is committed to working with mainstream and multicultural service providers to deliver better services to people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities.”

Agencies and councils will share around \$2.06 million in the first year of the program, with the remaining funds to be spread over the following two years.

HACC provides services to people wanting to continue living at home and are delivered through 500 councils, health services and non-government agencies across Victoria.

Services range from home and personal care and respite care to home-delivered meals and property maintenance.

Funding available under the *Culturally Equitable Gateways Strategy* includes;

- \$1,650,000 to help ethno-specific agencies provide practical support to local councils for culturally appropriate services;
- \$3,384,042 to help selected local councils provide more culturally friendly HACC services;
- \$450,000 to support the recruitment of bilingual and multicultural staff to deliver HACC services;
- \$420,000 for leadership and sectoral development for ethno-specific agencies and local government bodies to improve services; and
- \$300,000 for agencies to improve the access of small and emerging ethnic communities to HACC services – only \$52,392 of this amount has been allocated.

The Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs, John Pandazopoulos, said one in five Victorians aged over 65 are from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

“The Bracks Government is committed to investing in culturally responsive services for older people from multicultural communities,” Mr Pandazopoulos said.

The *Culturally Equitable Gateways Strategy* will operate for three years. Funding will be available to the successful agencies from January 2004.

“The Department of Human Services will be working closely with funded agencies to develop their projects and maximise their benefit to the multicultural community,” Mr Jennings said.

ATTACHED ARE THE FUNDED PROJECTS :

Table 1: Ethno specific agencies funded to work with local governments	2003-04 Funding	Total 3-Year Funding
Australian Greek Welfare Society Ltd Brunswick	\$40,000	\$120,000
Co As It Italian Assistance Association, Carlton	\$30,400	\$91,200
Victorian Arabic Social Services Inc Broadmeadows	\$50,000	\$150,000
Australian - Polish Community Services Inc, Footscray	\$50,000	\$150,000
Australian Croatian Community Services Inc, Footscray	\$50,000	\$150,000
Australian Vietnamese Women's Welfare Association Inc, Richmond North	\$30,000	\$90,000
Filipino Community Council of Victoria Inc, Footscray	\$15,000	\$45,000
Macedonian Community Welfare Association of The West, St Albans	\$50,000	\$150,000
Maltese Community Council of Victoria Inc, Parkville	\$15,000	\$45,000
Russian Ethnic Representative Council of Victoria Inc, Fitzroy	\$15,000	\$45,000
Serbian Social Services and Support Inc, St Albans	\$15,000	\$45,000
Spanish Latin American Welfare Centre Inc (CELAS) Footscray	\$40,800	\$122,400
Geelong Ethnic Communities Council Inc, Geelong West	\$15,300	\$45,900
Fronitha Care Inc, Clayton South	\$40,000	\$120,000
Jewish Care (Victoria) Inc, Melbourne	\$28,000	\$84,000
Lao Elderly Association Inc. Mitcham	\$15,500	\$46,500
Chinese Community Social Services Centre Inc	\$50,000	\$150,000
TOTAL	\$550,000	\$1,650,000

Table 2: Local Governments funded to provide more culturally friendly HACC services		2003-04 Funding	Total 3-Year funding
Brimbank City Council	Western Metro Region	\$88,900	\$266,700
Hobsons Bay City Council	Western Metro Region	\$82,500	\$247,500
Maribyrnong City Council	Western Metro Region	\$82,600	\$247,800
Moonee Valley City Council	Western Metro Region	\$79,000	\$237,000
Banyule City Council	Northern Metro Region	\$30,000	\$90,000
City of Darebin	Northern Metro Region	\$79,000	\$237,000
Hume City Council	Northern Metro Region	\$79,000	\$237,000
Moreland City Council	Northern Metro Region	\$85,600	\$256,800
Whittlesea City Council	Northern Metro Region	\$64,000	\$192,000
Yarra City Council	Northern Metro Region	\$30,000	\$90,000
Bayside City Council	Southern Metro Region	\$30,000	\$90,000
City of Stonnington	Southern Metro Region	\$30,000	\$90,000
Glen Eira City Council	Southern Metro Region	\$63,500	\$190,500
Greater Dandenong/ Casey/Kingston - Joint application with City of Greater Dandenong as lead council	Southern Metro Region	\$166,714	\$500,142
Manningham/Monash - Joint application with City of Manningham as lead council	Eastern Metro Region	\$87,200	\$261,600
City of Greater Geelong	Barwon South West Region	\$50,000	\$150,000
TOTAL		\$1,128,014	\$3,384,042

Table 3: Bilingual/Multicultural funding to Migrant Resource Centres	2003-04 Funding	Total 3-Year Funding
Migrant Resource Centre North East , Preston	\$50,000	\$150,000
South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre, Dandenong	\$50,000	\$150,000
Migrant Resource Centre, North-West Region Inc, St Albans	\$50,000	\$150,000
TOTAL	\$150,000	\$450,000

Table 4: Leadership and sectoral development	2003-04 Funding	Total 3-Year funding
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	\$70,000	\$210,000
Ethnic Community Council of Victoria (ECCV)	\$70,000	\$210,000
TOTAL	\$140,000	\$420,000

Table 5: Funding for the Small and Emerging Ethnic Communities	Community	2003-04 Funding	Total 3-Year funding
Migrant Resource Centre, North West Region Inc, St Albans	Sri Lankan/ Indian Support Program	\$5,944	\$17,832
Migrant Resource Centre, North West Region Inc, St Albans	African Community Elderly Association	\$6,980	\$20,940
Migrant Resource Centre, North West Region Inc, St Albans	St Mary's Coptic Church	\$4,540	\$13,620
TOTAL		\$17,464	\$52,392