**2023-24 GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

The Victorian Women’s Trust was established in recognition of the role of women in shaping Victoria. We conduct research and advocacy for women, and every year we provide grants to projects that help women, girls and gender diverse people to thrive. Since 1985, we have seen community projects take shape, grow and change lives — all through the power of targeted grant-making.

***We Want to Make the Application Process as Easy for You as Possible*!**

To this end, we have set our twopossible approaches you can adopt:

1. Firstly, we strongly encourage applicants to look closely at the Sub-Funds to see if their purposes match your interest. The Victorian Women’s Benevolent Trust has Seventeen Sub-Funds open for grants in 2023-24. The Sub-Funds provide small grants to eligible organisations for innovative programs for Victorian women and girls that directly address the purposes of each Sub-Fund. We ask applicants to carefully consider and address these purposes when applying for a grant.

Applicant organisations are asked to only apply to *one* Sub-Fund, so they should choose the most appropriate Sub-Fund for their project.

1. If you are uncertain about which Sub-Fund might fit your project, please feel free to make an application with the following general categories in mind:
* Health and well-being
* Family violence and sexual harassment
* Poverty and income insecurity
* Housing and homelessness
* Gender equality and discrimination
* Disability
* Leadership
* Education and empowerment
* First Nations rights

Applicants are encouraged to read our grant ethos before submitting an application.

[**GRANTS ETHOS**](https://www.vwt.org.au/victorian-womens-benevolent-trust/grants-ethos/)

**Applications must be lodged no later than midnight Friday 25 August 2023**



**SUB-FUND PURPOSES**

**PLEASE NOTE:** applicants only need to address ONE Sub-Fund purpose for the Sub-Fund they are applying to (NOT all the purposes for that Sub-Fund).

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| **FLEUR SPITZER SUB-FUND**Supports projects that:* increase the literacy, educational opportunity and empowerment of women and girls; or
* identify and address barriers that deny older women safety, security and dignity.
 | **CON IRWIN SUB-FUND** Supports innovative social justice projects that offer circuit breaking solutions to:* discrimination;
* violence against women and children;

 and * inequality of educational opportunity.

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| **CHRISTINE FRIDAY & KATHLEEN POOLEY SUB-FUND**Supports project applications from Aboriginal community organisations that:* address the education, health needs and housing of Aboriginal women and girls in Victoria.
 | **HUMANITAS SUB-FUND**Supports project applications from women from African countries living in Victoria, including those who are refugees or asylum seekers that:* enable them to avail themselves of educational, employment and other economic opportunities in Australia.
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| **JAN WEBSTER AND SUE PETERSON SUB-FUND** Supports projects that work with:* women exiting prison;
* educational and leadership opportunities for Aboriginal women; and
* pathways for women out of homelessness.

  | **LOULA RODOPOULOS SUB-FUND** Supports projects that:* assist women recovering from mental illness or other difficult circumstances; or
* support and enable programs which encourage young and established female writers.
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| **FAY MARLES EQUAL OPPORTUNITY SUB-FUND** Supports projects that provide:* leadership training to increase young women’s working knowledge of equal opportunity legislation, structures and processes;
* research that strengthens knowledge of loopholes and gaps in equal opportunity legislation, with a view to system improvement and policy change; and
* education and engagement on equal opportunity issues in workplaces, organisations and in the broader community.

  | **ESSIE BURBRIDGE SUB-FUND** Supports projects that:* provide leadership and achievement in cross-cultural understanding, and strategies for combating racism;
* promote values critical to a vibrant and non-racist society;
* build bridges between European, Middle-Eastern and Asian cultures; or
* advance tolerance, compassion and understanding in the community.
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| **PRUE MYER SUB-FUND**Supports projects for immigrants, refugees and disadvantaged girls and young women that: * provide them with positive mentoring opportunities;
* improve their academic and educational outcomes; and
* encourage their engagement and participation in political life.
 | **ALMA & ALBERT TIVENDALE SUB-FUND**Assist projects which:* Support girls who are disadvantaged in overcoming barriers to participation in physical activities such as sport and dance; and
* foster imaginative community models to assist women and their families experiencing financial hardship due to health and medical crises.

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| **JEAN MCCAUGHEY SOCIAL JUSTICE SUB-FUND**Supports research projects that relate to women in the areas of:* homelessness;
* poverty and family well-being; and
* strengthening local communities.
 | **JOAN HUDSON SUB-FUND** Supports projects that provide:* positive and effective community supports for mothers and their children;
* new and/or improved opportunities for respite care for mothers of children with high-need disabilities; or

 * practical support for young women from less advantaged backgrounds to access educational and academic opportunities.
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| **RUTH OWENS & KEVIN LYNCH SUB-FUND**Supports grassroots projects that address and enhance educational and employment opportunities for:* single women as parents; and

 * refugee and migrant women.
 | **SUPRIYA SINGH SUB-FUND**Supports projects which:* financially empower women who have experienced violence and abuse; or
* deepen our understanding and communication of gender, money, power and control in intimate relationships.

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| **UNION OF AUSTRALIAN WOMEN SUB-FUND (Victoria)**Supports projects from Aboriginal organisations which address:* Indigenous rights, leadership and training for Indigenous girls in Victoria.
 |  **Nancye & John Cain SUB-FUND**Assist projects for women, girls and gender diverse peoples with disability or disabilities, including hearing loss, in ways which:* support their participation, civic engagement and leadership capacity;
* address barriers in society that prevent their full and equal enjoyment; and
* empower them to have independence, choice, and control in their own lives.
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| **THE** **DEBORAH GANDERTON & JOHN HENRY SUB-FUND**Assist projects which:* support young women and gender diverse people in developing their skill and capacity in strategic foresight and strategic planning to advance full gender equality.
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[**READ MORE ABOUT THE SUB-FUNDS**](https://www.vwt.org.au/grants/sub-funds/)

**GRANT AMOUNT**

 Grants can range from $2,000 to $10,000 depending on the Sub-Fund.

**APPLICATION TIMELINES**

**Monday 17 July 2023 – Applications Open**

**Friday 25 August 2023 – Applications Close**

***Decisions about successful applications are made by Trustees in October 2023.***

**ELIGIBILITY AND EXCLUSIONS**

* The Victorian Women’s Benevolent Trust cannot fund individuals.
* Grant applicants must be endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office for Item 1, Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR), and either Tax Concession Charity (TCC) or can prove that they would be charitable but for their connection with government (usually established by a letter from the ATO). Applicants must provide a copy of these endorsements, or a letter from the ATO, at the time of application.
* Eligibility is strictly limited to groups *that operate for charitable purposes and either provide relief of poverty, sickness, suffering, distress, misfortune, destitution or helplessness amongst Victorian women or operate for purposes beneficial to Victorian women*.
* Projects must address the needs of women and girls living in Victoria.
* VWBT is open to funding the project of an eligible organisation in partnership with another organisation.
* VWBT does not provide matching or shortfall funding for government funded projects, infrastructure or operational costs.

**IF SUCCESSFUL – REPORTING AND EXPECTATIONS**

Effective reporting benefits all parties. It helps us to better inform our donors and future grant-making decisions, and it helps the grant recipient by clarifying the links between objectives and outcomes. The wider community gains through exposure to the knowledge and experience from the project.

**Successful grant recipients are expected to:**

* provide a final report on project outcomes and as appropriate, progress reports;
* complete a financial acquittal;
* co-operate with VWBT for our promotional materials and publications such as photos for our annual report and newsletters;
* accommodate site visits when requested (and where safe during the COVID-19 pandemic);
* acknowledge VWBT in any promotional material or media resulting from the grant; and
* work with VWBT, where appropriate, in exploring possible policy implications of the project.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Complete the application form here:

[**APPLY FOR A GRANT**](https://www.vwt.org.au/2023-sub-fund-grant-application-form/)

Applications must address all questions in the application form.

**Applications must be lodged no later than midnight Friday 25 August 2023.**

**OTHER INFORMATION**

You may also refer to our [FAQs](https://www.vwt.org.au/faqs/). See our full list of previous grants via our [Annual Reports](https://www.vwt.org.au/about/annual-reports/).

Should you have any unanswered questions, or if you would like to discuss accessibility accommodations, email grants@vwt.org.au