



## **2018 Participation for CALD Seniors Grants Program now open**

8<sup>th</sup> May 2018

The Victorian Government's 2018 Participation for CALD Seniors Grants Program is now open.

The Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (ECCV) welcomes the Grant Program for community groups and organizations to develop opportunities which increase the social participation of vulnerable senior citizens who face linguistic, cultural and other challenges.

ECCV Chairperson Cr Kris Pavlidis says "We are pleased to be a program partner and applaud the funding of more than 322 community projects since 2011 for isolated seniors of culturally diverse backgrounds to participate in community activities."

The Victorian Government funded projects will be implemented over the course of a year commencing October 2018, with up to \$300,000 in grants available this year.

Cr Kris Pavlidis states "the evidence shows that older people from culturally diverse backgrounds are at a higher risk of social isolation because of a range of factors such as language and cultural barriers and limited awareness of services available to them."

Eligible organisations such as ethnic community groups, aged care facilities and local councils are invited to apply for funding up to \$10,000.

Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing Martin Foley encouraged organisations to take part and says "We want to continue the great work of previous grant recipients in helping isolated culturally diverse seniors participate more fully in community life."

The grants assist community groups and organisations to provide participation opportunities to isolated seniors such as, social activities, assistance with transport and training.

Applications close by 5pm, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018. Successful applicants will be notified by August 2018 and awarded grants for projects commencing 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 and concluding on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**For media comment, please contact Leenie Fabri, Communications & Media Officer, [lfabri@eccv.org.au](mailto:lfabri@eccv.org.au) / 0422 480 319**

**Reference:**

<https://www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/get-involved/grants/participation-cald-seniors-grants-program>