

# DELIVERING FOR LGBTIQ+ VICTORIANS

2020-21 VICTORIAN BUDGET

**The Hon. Martin Foley MP**  
Minister for Equality

4 December 2020



Premier  
and Cabinet

# 2020-21 INVESTMENT IN EQUALITY

## A FURTHER \$3 MILLION SUPPORTS COVID-19 RECOVERY FOR LGBTIQ+ COMMUNITIES



\$2 million to establish the new **LGBTIQ+ Sector Economic Recovery Grants** program



\$1 million to continue the **LGBTIQ+ Community Grants** program

### LGBTIQ+ COVID-19 PRIORITY INITIATIVES

- > **\$729,000** in targeted funding from the existing 2019-20 and 2020-21 Equality portfolio budget to well established LGBTIQ+ organisations to support LGBTIQ+ communities impacted by COVID-19. Organisations included **JOY 94.9, Switchboard Victoria, Drummond Street Services, Thorne Harbour Health, Celebrate Ageing** and **Pride Cup**.
- > **Nine initiatives support LGBTIQ+ communities** through providing emergency, financial and housing assistance, counselling and support services, social and community connection and health and wellbeing resources online.

# OUR INVESTMENT IN THE EQUALITY PORTFOLIO

**WE HAVE DEMONSTRATED OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY OVER THE LAST SIX YEARS**



# PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING EQUALITY IN 2020

## DELIVERING ON REFORMS AND INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE EQUALITY IN VICTORIA – KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Delivered **priority initiatives** to support LGBTIQ+ Victorians during the COVID-19 pandemic
  - Increased **mental health support** for LGBTIQ+ communities through Switchboard Victoria, including the establishment of Rainbow Door
  - Implemented **birth certificate reforms**, with more than
- **340 people applying** to have their registration changed since May 2020
  - Established the **third LGBTIQ+ Taskforce**, including
- the introduction of associate members to represent Aboriginal, intersex and rural and regional communities
  - Expanded support for **rural and regional LGBTIQ+**
- **pride events and festivals**, including adapting activities in line with COVID-19 restrictions



# CONTINUING OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY

## 2020-21 KEY PRIORITIES INCLUDE DELIVERING ON OUR ELECTION COMMITMENTS



### 1. OPEN THE VICTORIAN PRIDE CENTRE

Opening of Australia's largest LGBTIQ+ community hub, which brings together LGBTIQ+ communities to support Victoria's recovery from COVID-19

### 2. DELIVER ON OUR COMMITMENT TO BAN CHANGE OR SUPPRESSION PRACTICES

Passing the bill in Parliament to ban harmful LGBTIQ+ change and suppression practices in Victoria.

### 3. SUPPORT RECOVERY AND BUILD A VIBRANT LGBTIQ+ SECTOR

Implementing new programs which support the economic and social recovery of the LGBTIQ+ sector, commencing the new family counselling service for LGBTIQ+ Victorians, and launching the EOI process to establish the LGBTIQ+ homelessness program.

### 4. RELEASE THE WHOLE OF VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT LGBTIQ+ STRATEGY

Finalising and releasing the first whole of Victorian Government LGBTIQ+ Strategy to provide a coordinated and ambitious approach to Victoria's commitment to achieve equality.

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