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Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

Mark Speakman

Attorney General

Minister for Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence

MEDIA RELEASE

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MORE GRASSROOTS SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

Grassroots organisations can now apply for the latest tranche of a record \$43.2 million funding package to support vulnerable people and multicultural communities across NSW.

Minister for Multiculturalism Natalie Ward said community-led grassroots initiatives will be able to share in \$3.6 million to provide immediate and essential services. These include food and school products, services to help those experiencing domestic and family violence and seniors facing social isolation, wellbeing checks and community activities such as youth groups.

“The NSW Government has responded urgently to support those in need during the pandemic. This is the second round of funding for vulnerable people and multicultural communities delivered through our Empowering and Supporting Local Communities program,” Mrs Ward said.

The first round of the program has been finalised and will deliver more than \$3.4 million to 194 grassroots community organisations across the state.

“This latest round builds on the initial funding and will support communities big and small across our metropolitan, rural and regional areas with grants of up to \$30,000,” Mrs Ward said.

“As we continue racing towards our vaccination targets and look to easing restrictions, we want to make sure no one is left behind.”

Attorney General and Minister for Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence Mark Speakman said communities across NSW have stepped up like never before to support and care for each other, and to stay connected during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“These grants will help ensure critical support for some of our most vulnerable, including women and children impacted by domestic and family violence and other hardships during the pandemic, thanks to the many dedicated frontline services working across the state,” Mr Speakman said.

Eligible not for profit non-Government organisations must be currently located in, or service communities in NSW.

As part of the \$43.2 million package, almost \$18 million worth of grants have supported communities in the 12 LGAs of concern, including grants for local councils, non-Government and grassroots community organisations, and a program engaging the innovation sector.

Applications close at **11am on Monday, 11 October**. For more information, visit: <https://multicultural.nsw.gov.au/grants/>.

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