RESPECT VICTORIA, RESPECT BALLARAT GRANTS PROGRAM 2026 - 2028

Program Guidelines

RESPECT VICTORIA

March 2026

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pay respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge that Aboriginal self-determination is a human right and recognise the hard work of many generations of Aboriginal people.

We are committed to safe and inclusive workplaces, policies, and services for people from LGBTIQA+ communities and their families.

Contact us to receive this document in another format. Please email: respectballarat@respectvictoria.vic.gov.au.

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In this document, 'Aboriginal' refers to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. 'Indigenous' or 'Koori/Koorie' is retained when part of the title of a report, program or quotation.

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Available at Respect Ballarat funding | Respect Victoria[2]

[1] https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/
[2] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/respect-ballarat/funding-approach

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

Respect Ballarat is a community approach to violence prevention that aims to lower the rates of gendered violence in the city over 10 years.

Since May 2024, Respect Victoria has been working alongside the Ballarat community to build a place-based approach to 'saturate' the city with initiatives that challenge conditions that give rise to gendered violence and reduce its prevalence over time.

This includes building on existing primary prevention and early intervention work, exploring new opportunities to address violence, identifying where there may be gaps and mobilising communities in all the places that Ballarat people live, work, learn and play.

The Respect Ballarat grants will support multi-year projects and initiatives that address the gendered drivers of violence, with a primary focus on – but not limited to – intimate partner violence. This funding supports Ballarat communities to drive the change they want to see and make their city safer for everyone. It builds on decades of local prevention work and advocacy.

Gendered violence is happening across every postcode in the country, driven by norms, attitudes, structures and behaviours that support inequality, disrespect and violence. While gendered violence, particularly men's violence against women, is experienced across Australia, local context shapes how it shows up in different communities. Place-based approaches work best when local communities come together to drive change. Respect Ballarat, including this grants program, supports tailored, local approaches designed by and for the people of Ballarat.

Respect Ballarat was funded following the deaths of Samantha Murphy, Hannah McGuire and Rebecca Young. It is for them, their families, and far too many other women, children and members of the community that this work moves forward.

The Hon. Ingrid Stitt MP

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Program overview

Respect Ballarat: A community model to prevent gendered violence, will contribute to a vision for Ballarat where everyone is respected, safe and free from violence.

The Respect Victoria, Respect Ballarat Grants Program 2026–2028 offers grants up to $400,000 for up to two years to address the root causes of gendered violence in the City of Ballarat.

Grants are available to eligible not-for-profit community organisations and local government through five grant streams:

1. Early years (including pre- and postnatal) setting
2. Community sport setting
3. Workplaces setting
4. Education setting
5. Settings Leads

A total of $3.759 million (GST exclusive) is available for primary prevention and early intervention[3] projects that are to be completed by 30 June 2028. All applications must be submitted via the DFFH Grants Gateway by no later than 4pm on 10 April 2026.

Direct submissions and late applications will not be accepted.

This Grants Program is delivered by Respect Victoria, as the coordinating agency for Respect Ballarat.

Respect Victoria

Respect Victoria[4] is the dedicated organisation for the prevention of family violence and violence against women in Victoria.

Our vision is a Victoria where everyone is:

- safe
- equal
- respected.

Respect Victoria was established in 2018 by the *Prevention of Family Violence Act.* We are committed to stopping violence from occurring in the first place, by changing the conditions that drive it. We do this by:

- leading and supporting evidence-informed primary prevention across Victoria, and
- acting as a catalyst for transformational social change.

Our evidence-informed primary prevention work includes:

- driving quality, sustained uptake of prevention work across the state
- building knowledge and evidence about what works to prevent violence by:
    - keeping prevention on the policy and public agenda
    - supporting social change and educating the community that violence is preventable.

[3] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/prevention/how-do-we-prevent-violence/intervention-response-recovery
[4] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au

Respect Ballarat

Since May 2024, Respect Victoria has worked alongside the Ballarat community on a place-based approach to preventing gendered violence.

Respect Ballarat aims to 'saturate' Ballarat with primary prevention and early intervention programs and activities. 'Saturation' involves concentrating and coordinating multiple activities that mutually reinforce each other to create significantly more impact than relying on a single method or setting alone.

Respect Ballarat is a nation-first approach to preventing gendered violence.

Program objectives

Respect Victoria, Respect Ballarat Grants Program objectives are:

- Contribute to a reduction in rates of intimate partner violence in Ballarat through supporting and coordinating primary prevention and early intervention[5] work, aiming to 'saturate' Ballarat with concentrated prevention action.
- Resource community-led, mutually reinforcing primary prevention and early intervention activities in priority settings through dedicated grant streams across early years (including pre- and postnatal); community sport; workplaces; and education settings.
- Support priority people – new parents, especially fathers; leaders (both existing and emerging) young people; and men – to develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours that promote equality and reduce gendered violence.
- Resource prevention activities informed by research and evidence, the key guiding framework here is Our Watch's *Change the story*[6], with activities addressing the gendered drivers of violence.
- Contribute to the evaluation of place-based saturation models, building evidence on what works to prevent gendered violence.

Program principles

Respect Ballarat is guided by a set of principles developed in collaboration with the local co-design working group[7]. These principles provide a framework that shapes what and how work is done. Projects funded through this grants program need to demonstrate or consider an alignment to the following principles[8].

- Platform prevention as everyone's responsibility
- Take a meaningful intersectional approach
- Embed lived experience perspectives
- Start with community strengths and strengthen with evidence
- Learn and partner to build sustainable, long-term change
- Strengthen connection and belonging.

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[5] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/prevention/how-do-we-prevent-violence/intervention-response-recovery
[6] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/change-the-story-framework
[7] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/respect-ballarat/what-we-have-learned
[8] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/respect-ballarat/principles

Program outcomes

The outcomes of the Respect Victoria Respect Ballarat Grants Program are organised under **Domains of Change**. These Domains are:

- Increased knowledge and understanding of gendered violence and its causes. For example,
  - people understand the different forms of violence and the causes of this gendered violence.
- Increased skills and confidence to take action that reduces gendered violence. For example, skills to:
  - identify and safely call out sexist jokes, slurs and controlling behaviours
  - implement programs in the workplace.
- Positive changes in attitudes that promote equality and reduce gendered violence. For example, people:
  - hold attitudes valuing equality in partner relationships
  - believe that all partners have a right to consent.
- Positive changes in personal behaviour that focus on promoting equality and respect. For example, men:
  - choose differently before engaging in harmful expressions of masculinity
  - engage in more explicit consent conversations in their intimate partner relationships.
- Positive changes in the way a person acts in relation to others' behaviours, that promotes equality and respect. For example:
  - parents encourage healthy and diverse expressions of gender for children
  - leaders actively encourage respectful behaviours and inclusion
- Positive changes to organisational policies, structures and culture that promote equality and reduce gendered violence. For example:
  - business and community leaders are equipped to deliver prevention messaging
  - organisations introduce family violence leave.
- Positive shifts in social and institutional policies, regulation, and cultures that promote equality and reduce gendered violence. For example:
  - local council commits to policies designed to increase respectful behaviours in community
  - local faith leaders agree on improved measures for supporting accountability that supports equality in their communities.
- Improvements in prevention infrastructure, resources and ways of working. For example:
  - increased investment by institutions in prevention and early intervention training
  - new and different partnerships in Ballarat that support prevention and early intervention.

Grant applications **must** outline how their primary prevention and early intervention activity will lead to **at least 2 Domains of Change listed** above, noting that some projects may lead to multiple Domains of Change.

How to apply

Submit the application via the DFFH Grants Gateway[9].

Applications are **due by 4pm on Friday, 10 April 2026**.

Key dates for the Respect Victoria, Respect Ballarat Grant Program

About applications	Dates	Task
Applications open	Monday 2 March 2026	• Make sure your organisation and the proposed activity meets the eligibility criteria. • Read the program guidelines (this document). • Attend the information session (optional but recommended). • If you have queries, email the Respect Victoria team: respectballarat@respectvictoria.vic.gov.au
Information session	10am Tuesday 17 March 2026	This is an online session (details to follow).
Prepare and submit your application	Monday 4pm 2 March to Friday 10 April 2026	• Register or log in to the DFFH Grants Gateway[10]. • Complete the online application. • Applications in development can be saved as a draft and completed later. Answer all questions and attach mandatory documents.
Applications close	4pm Friday,10 April 2026	Incomplete or late applications are **not** accepted.

Please note:

- For streams 1 – 4, applicants may apply for up to 1 application per stream.
- For stream 5 (Settings Leads), applicants may apply for up to 2 applications (one for Community Sport and one for Early Years).
- Applicants may choose to apply for more than one funding stream.
- Each application must stand alone and not be reliant on another application to achieve project outcomes.
- Applicants applying for a stream 1 – 4 grant and a Settings Lead, must ensure that budgets and staffing allocations are distinct and do not duplicate cost across two applications.
- Announcements of successful applications will be made in May 2026.

[9] https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au
[10] https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au

- It is anticipated that projects will commence by 1 July 2026.

Application details

Applications involve:

- Responding to all questions on the online application
- Detailed budget spreadsheet using the provided template[11] – attached to the online application.
- Project overview (including key project outcomes, outputs, activities, and risk management) using the provided template[12] – attached to the online application.

Grant streams

Grant stream 1: Early years

Grant stream 1	Details
Priority place	Early years setting (including pre- and postnatal)
Priority people	New parents, especially fathers Children and young people
Examples of organisations that may be funded	Organisations: • with experience and expertise engaging parents and especially fathers to support healthy and respectful relationships • that work in the early years setting (including pre- and postnatal)

Examples of activities that may be funded	Activities could include work with parents, carers and children to:
	• Support an understanding of how gender roles influence parenting
	• Promote the equal sharing of care roles and responsibilities
	• Reduce traditional gendered ideologies for children
	• Engage with parents and educators to build an understanding of body safety and consent
	• Support and build more:
	  ○ family-friendly community spaces
	  ○ inclusive parenting groups
	  ○ opportunities for fathers to connect.

Minimum grant	$50,000 for projects delivered over 1 year $100,000 for projects delivered over 2 years
Maximum grant	$400,000
Grant period	Up to 2 years

[11] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/respect-ballarat/funding-approach
[12] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/respect-ballarat/funding-approach

Number of applications an applicant may make	1 application
Estimated number of grants funded	Up to 4 grants
Estimated total funds available for Early Years stream	$1.6 million

Grant stream 2: Community sport

Grant stream 2	Details
Priority place	Community sport setting
Priority people	• Leaders (existing and new) • Men
Examples of organisations that may be funded	Organisations with experience and expertise engaging leaders, particularly men, from across community sport settings in Ballarat.
Examples of activities that may be funded	Projects or initiatives that directly engage community sport leaders, including: • coaches • presidents • boards • other decision-makers. Projects should promote gender equality and respect and include activities such as: • strengthen and build on existing prevention work happening in community sports in Ballarat, with a focus on engaging leaders, particularly men. • develop and implement a local approach to working with leaders in community sports. This should support leadership development, prevention knowledge-building, partnerships and a meaningful commitment to preventing gendered violence in clubs. • consider how leaders can implement policies that support safe, inclusive and respectful environments for women and gender diverse people across all roles in sporting organisations and clubs.
Minimum grant	$50,000 for projects delivered over 1 year $100,000 for projects delivered over 2 years
Maximum grant	$400,000
Grant period	Up to 2 years
Number of applications an applicant may make	1 application

Estimated number of grants	At least 1 grant
Estimated total funds available for Community Sport stream	$400,000

Grant stream 3: Workplaces

Grant Stream 3	Details
Priority place	Workplace settings with a focus on industries with a predominately male workforce.
Priority people	• Leaders (existing and new) • Men
Examples of organisations that may be funded	Organisations with experience and expertise engaging leaders from workplaces across Ballarat, and working with men.

Examples of activities that may be funded	Projects or initiatives that engage directly with workplace leaders in Ballarat with an emphasis on engaging men in building:
	• knowledge and a commitment to the prevention of violence
	• leadership styles that promote:
	  ○ equality
	  ○ inclusion
	  ○ respect.
	Projects could work with a predominately male workplace or develop an approach to engage leaders across Ballarat.
	Projects are encouraged to work alongside and support existing work in Ballarat that aims to:
	• educate
	• understand
	• prevent gendered violence in workplaces.
	Activities could include:
	• strengthening prevention work with leaders in workplaces that:
	  ○ already have a commitment to prevention
	  ○ are beginning work with a workforce that has minimal engagement with prevention
	• support workplace leaders to engage meaningfully with prevention
	• support men in leadership roles to:
	  ○ self-reflect
	  ○ build their capacity to understand and challenge sexism
	  ○ take a gender transformative approach to leadership

	• support implementing workplace policies, and supporting tailored approaches for workforces or organisations
Minimum grant	$50,000 for projects delivered over 1 year $100,000 for projects delivered over 2 years
Maximum grant	$400,000
Grant period	Up to 2 years
Number of applications an applicant may make	1 application
Estimated number of grants	Up to 2 grants
Estimated total funds available for Workplaces stream	$800,000

Grant stream 4: Education

Grant Stream 4	Details
Priority place	Education settings, including: • primary schools • secondary schools • higher education • TAFE/community education.
Priority people	• Children and young people • Men • New parents (especially fathers) • Leaders (existing and new)
Examples of organisations that may be funded	Organisations with experience working with: • schools • higher education • young people disengaged from the school system. Organisations and community groups who work with communities in Ballarat and provide: • community education opportunities • run workshops or campaigns • provide direct support to communities.
Examples of activities that may be funded	Activities funded could include:

	• initiatives to build on or bring together existing work in schools and higher education that focus on prevention and gender equality, including:
	  ○ initiatives that work with parents and the broader community
	• tailored approaches to prevention and early intervention for work with specific communities:
	  ○ ideally aligned to priority people, building on local promising practice
	• campaigns, marketing, narrative and communications projects that:
	  ○ build on existing work
	  ○ reach new audiences
	  ○ are sustainable
	• community mobilisation initiatives that bring together local communities to:
	  ○ learn
	  ○ upskill
	  ○ take action on prevention.

Minimum grant	$50,000 for projects delivered over 1 year $100,000 for projects delivered over 2 years
Maximum grant	$400,000
Grant period	Up to 2 years
Number of applications an applicant may make	1 application
Estimated number of grants	At least 1 grant
Estimated total funds available for Education stream	$400,000

Grant stream 5: Settings Leads

Grant Stream 5	Details
Focus	Applicants may apply for funding to employ one Settings Lead role. In total, grants will cover 2 roles: • Early Years Setting Lead • Community Sport Setting Lead. Settings Leads will provide a vital component of the local prevention system through promoting a whole-of-setting approach. This will achieve greater reach and impact through connecting:

	• settings • people • best practice. These coordination roles will provide backbone support to: • coordinate action across the setting • support consistency of practice • build capacity • embed sustainability and shared ownership of prevention efforts.
Priority places	• Early Years (including pre- and postnatal) • Community Sport
Examples of organisations that may be funded	Organisations that work in early years (including pre- and postnatal education and care) and can engage across the early years sector. Organisations with experience and expertise engaging across community sport settings in Ballarat.

Examples of activities that may be funded	Support, coordinate and enrich whole-of-setting primary prevention and early intervention practice within the early years and community sport settings and collectively across Ballarat (activity funded through these grants and existing activity). This includes:
	• Coordination and implementation of strategic approaches and programs within and across a setting, to support a whole-of-setting change.
	• Leadership engagement to gain:
	  ○ leadership buy-in
	  ○ investment and commitment for Respect Ballarat activities and outcomes.
	• Capacity Building coordinating learning and development across the settings at all levels from:
	  ○ leadership
	  ○ staff
	  ○ volunteers
	  ○ community.
	• Policy development and change, embedding prevention through policy and practice.
	  ○ Settings uptake and support engaging and recruiting settings to participate in Respect Ballarat initiatives, while supporting and overseeing effective implementation.

Maximum grant	$320,000
Grant period	Up to 2 years

Number of applications an applicant may make	2 applications (one application per Settings Lead role)
Estimated number of grants	2 One grant per Setting Leads role
Estimated total funds available for Settings Leads stream	$640,000

Eligibility criteria

Eligibility overview

To be eligible for funding through the Respect Victoria, Respect Ballarat Grant Program:

- An eligible organisation must submit the application (see Eligible organisations).
- The proposed project aligns with one of the Funding Streams and at least 2 of the Domains of Change (from the listed Domains of Change, see Program Outcomes).
- The funding being sought must be for an eligible activity (see Eligible activities and Eligible costs sections).

Eligible organisations

To be eligible to apply for a grant your organisation must be an incorporated not-for-profit community organisation and:

- have a current Australian Business Number (ABN).
- have no outstanding reports from previous state government funded grants.
- be based in the City of Ballarat municipality.

If you are partnering with organisations from outside the area, the lead applicant must still be based in the City of Ballarat.

Organisations that do not meet these criteria are not eligible to apply for funding but might consider partnering with an eligible organisation under an auspice agreement. Information on auspice arrangements is provided in the next section.

Auspice arrangements

If your organisation is not incorporated or does not have an ABN, you may consider partnering with another organisation that meets the eligibility criteria who will accept legal responsibility for the grant. This is known as an auspice arrangement. If the application is successful, your organisation will deliver the activity, but the auspice organisation will be responsible for:

- signing the grant funding agreement with Respect Victoria
- ensuring the legal and financial requirements of the grant and funding agreement are met
- receiving and distributing grant funds under the funding agreement

- ensuring all project activities are completed
- submitting reports and financial acquittals on behalf of your organisation.

If you want to propose an auspice arrangement the application must include:

- a letter of support from the auspice organisation
- a memorandum of understanding outlining roles and responsibilities between the 2 organisations.

More information on auspice arrangements is available from the DFFH Grants Gateway[13].

Eligible activities

We fund activities that are evidence informed, address the drivers of gendered violence[14] and include:

Category	Examples

Direct participation programs	• Participatory programs, with multiple touch points over time, and a focus on education, training and learning, and practicing new skills and behaviours. Examples of skills and behaviours, include
	  ○ bystander action
	  ○ seeking consent
	  ○ responding to backlash.
	• Supporting peer-to-peer conversations with a focus on ongoing reflection and critical thinking aimed at changing attitudes and social norms.
	• Extend the reach of existing local proven approaches to violence prevention to an expanded audience.
	• Community arts projects using creative mediums to challenge gendered stereotypes and promote respectful relationships, including:
	  ○ visual
	  ○ performance
	  ○ literary
	  ○ media arts.

Communication and social marketing campaigns	• Communications and resources that are tailored to people and place developed through participatory processes.
	• Campaigns that promote:
	  ○ healthy masculinity
	  ○ challenge rigid gender roles
	  ○ encourage equal, healthy and respectful relationships.
	• Campaigns targeting marginalised communities.

[13] https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au
[14] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/prevention/drivers

Organisational development, including the development of strategy, policy, leadership, workforce and the culture	• Workplaces can prevent violence through robust policies, supporting gender equality, addressing the root causes of violence such as harmful attitudes and behaviours by: ○ providing education and training for all staff, promoting respectful workplaces cultures, healthy masculinities, taking action where there are concerns with regards to gender inequality, facilitating equitable leadership and creating safer environments for all staff. ○ creating a cultural shift where disrespectful behaviour is challenged and people feel safe to speak up, reducing tolerance of sexism, discrimination and harassment.
Community mobilisation and strengthening	• Community mobilisation efforts including: ○ creating a cultural shift where disrespectful behaviour is challenged and people feel safe to speak up, reducing tolerance of sexism, discrimination and harassment. ○ community-led action to identify and address local issues, through developing shared action plans and advocacy ○ collective action to challenge limiting gender stereotypes and promote safe and healthy relationships ○ collective activity that promotes diversity, respect, safety and inclusion for specific communities ○ supporting community groups to design and lead action with their peers that aims to shift attitudes and create environments where violence is not tolerated ○ intersectional approaches to engage a diverse range of advocates to address violence from multiple angles, i.e. by people who are respected within Ballarat communities, and who hold formal and/or informal positions of leadership and influence ○ partnership building that provides new opportunities to align primary prevention and early intervention efforts across Ballarat and, through aligning these efforts, extends the reach and impact of this work.
Advocacy and activism	• Building and growing partnerships and coalitions addressing the causes of gendered violence. • Supporting local leaders, changemakers, community members and people of influence to upskill and become prevention role models. • Supporting community to understand and identify how the gendered drivers manifest within their daily lives to create change and lead localised action. • Creating inclusive and participatory pathways for greater diversity in prevention action.
Early interventions	• Activities that aim to change the trajectory for individuals at higher-than-average risk of experiencing violence or using violence, particularly interventions for children and young people who

	have experienced family violence. Please note this grant program will not fund early intervention activity that is currently funded through other Victorian Government departments.

Eligible costs

- Costs directly related to project delivery, and in line with best practice prevention. These costs may include:
    - project delivery, training, workshops, resource development
    - communications and engagement costs, for instance campaign and advertising costs
    - local travel
    - event organisation, for instance venue hire, catering etc for workshops.
- Monitoring and evaluation activity costs. In line with best practice prevention applicants are asked to allocate 10% of the project budget to monitoring and evaluation activities.
- If you are not applying for salary costs you may be eligible to apply for the following costs:
    - partnership development activity
    - participation in project oversight and coordination activities, for example the Community of Practice, Project Impact Group.
- Reasonable staffing costs (salaries aligned to the SCHADS [Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services] award and on costs) for staff directly contributing to project activities.
- **On costs** include:
    - Superannuation
    - professional development leave entitlements
    - work cover.
- Reasonable **overhead** costs specified as a percentage of the overall project budget. Examples of **overhead** expenses include:
    - costs of management and oversight of project staff and activities
    - general operational costs including, rent, utilities, office supplies and insurance.

Ineligible activities

Grant money cannot be used for:

- Activities outside of the City of Ballarat municipality.
- Activities included in your application that are:
    - the funding responsibility of another state or federal government department, or
    - that receives philanthropic funding for the same period and in the same location. The only exception here are activities that build on the Ballarat Foundation Respect Ballarat Grants or can demonstrate a scaling up of effective local practice.
- specialist family violence service activities, such as:
    - support for people experiencing violence or
    - interventions for people using violence.
- Standalone research or projects mainly focused on building the evidence base solely through research.

- Individual evaluation of an organisation's activities that are outside the scope of this funding.
- Activities not directly related to:
    - primary prevention
    - early intervention.
- One-off awareness-raising events without a clear plan for impact or follow-up.

Ineligible costs

The following costs **cannot** be included in grant applications:

- funding interstate or overseas travel expenses
- gambling or alcohol related expenses
- donations and activities linked to political parties or candidates
- infrastructure or capital works
- retrospective funding prior to the contract signing date, including costs related to proposal preparation.

Assessment process

All applications to the Respect Victoria, Respect Ballarat Grants Program undergo the following assessment process:

- **Eligibility** assessment**:** All applications are assessed against the eligibility criteria listed above. The eligibility assessment determines whether the application should proceed for merit assessment. **Note:** Only complete applications received through the DFFH Grants Gateway before the deadline are reviewed.
- **Merit assessment:** Eligible applications are assessed against the merit assessment criteria, detailed below.
- **Assessment panel:** A panel that includes representatives from Respect Victoria and prevention practice experts will review all applications.
- **Awarding of grants:** The Minister for Prevention of Family Violence has delegated to the CEO of Respect Victoria the ability to make the final decision based on the recommendations of the assessment panel.
- **Application outcome:** Respect Victoria will notify all applicants of the outcome of their application by email.

All decisions made in relation to the assessment and the selection of successful applications are final.

Merit assessment

All aspects of your application will inform the assessment. This includes:

- Detailed budget spreadsheet (uploaded as attachment 1)
- Project overview, including risk management (uploaded as attachment 2)
- All responses to the merit assessment questions.

Eligible applications are assessed against the Merit Assessment criteria listed below.

Criteria	Description	Weighting
1.Evidence based	The proposed project draws on evidence and best practice, particularly *Change the story* (Our Watch) and challenges the drivers of gendered violence[15]. (See full list of evidence in the Glossary) For proposed early intervention activities, applicants are required to refer to a previous independent evaluation that demonstrates effectiveness of the proposed approach.	30%
2. Demonstrated skills and capacity to deliver the proposed project	Application demonstrates: • skills, resources and expertise in the primary prevention and/or early intervention of gendered violence. • readiness to launch the project • evidence of the necessary infrastructure, staffing, skills and capacity to undertake the proposed project Also, the applicant has the knowledge, capability and procedures in place to appropriately respond to disclosures of family and/or sexual violence.	30%
3. Ballarat led and tailored to place	Applications must come from organisations based in the City of Ballarat municipality and demonstrate how the proposed project is tailored to addressing gendered violence in Ballarat, including: • meeting community need • addressing an identified gap in local primary prevention and early intervention. Applications are strongly encouraged to identify project partners and how partnerships are to be initiated, strengthened or expanded, and describe the key roles of each partner.	25%
4. Sustainability	Application demonstrates how project impact will extend beyond 30 June 2028, through: • building on previous project evaluation findings • building on and connecting with community mobilisation activity • strengthening current partnerships and developing new partnerships	15%

[15] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/prevention/drivers

	• embedding activity into 'business as usual', including training and developing staff and participants, as well as resources and policies	

Notification of application outcomes

Applications for the **Respect Victoria, Respect Ballarat Grant Program** close at **4pm, Friday 10 April 2026**.

After this time the panel works through the assessment process.

All applicants receive written notification of the outcome of their application, via email. If you are successful, we may advise you of any specific conditions attached to the grant.

Respect Victoria announces the successful grant recipients in **May 2026**.

Funding Agreements are distributed shortly after that and the **signed agreements returned to Respect Victoria within 14 days.**

Conditions of funding

There are conditions that must be satisfied before Respect Victoria will allocate a grant. Successful applicants are required to:

- Participate in a 'learning together' approach which may include:
  - communities of practice
  - training and workshops
  - support with monitoring and evaluation, intersectional practice and community engagement (and mobilisation) activities.
- Participate in the Respect Ballarat Local Impact Group.
- Develop a detailed Project Plan including a project logic and a monitoring and evaluation plan to measure change against the Respect Ballarat Theory of Change, which will be made available to successful applicants.
- Commence the project as soon as possible after entering into a Victorian Common Funding Agreement with Respect Victoria.
- Report against their planned activities and expected outcomes as detailed in their Funding Agreement:
  - 1-year projects should be delivered and acquitted by no later than 30 June 2027, with periodical reporting requirements throughout the life of the project
  - 2-year projects should be delivered and acquitted by no later than 30 June 2028, with periodical reporting requirements throughout the life of the project.
- Agree to project details being published online, including:
  - project name
  - description
  - grant amount
- Ensure the project activity complies with relevant legislation, regulations, by-laws, mandatory codes and requirements of any Commonwealth, State, Territory or Local Authority. It is your

responsibility to be aware of laws and protocols that regulate the way you must conduct your work.

- Follow the *Acknowledgement and publicity guidelines for Victoria Government funding support*[16]. This includes the requirement for funded organisations to invite a government representative to attend public events connected to the funded activity. In addition, applicants must agree to acknowledge Respect Victoria and the Respect Ballarat initiative.

Insurance requirements

You need to provide evidence of insurance coverage as an attachment to your online application. You must have public liability insurance and any other insurance that is relevant to the activities of your project.

Funding agreements

If successful, you must enter a legally binding Funding Agreement with Respect Victoria within 14 days. If a funding offer is not accepted during this period, it may be withdrawn.

The Funding Agreement is based on the Victorian Common Funding Agreement (VCFA). The VCFA outlines:

- the grant's terms and conditions, including use of funds
- key deliverables and due dates
- reporting requirements.

You need to deliver the funded activity as set out in the Funding Agreement. You also need to meet all reporting and other requirements on time. For more information, visit the VCFA[17] webpage.

Payment of grant funds

Respect Victoria pays successful organisations via a payment schedule that has regular payments, generally in line with the completion of agreed project milestones and deliverables as outlined in the Funding Agreement.

Milestone payments are made via electronic funds transfer (EFT) once deliverables are met, in line with the VCFA.

Goods and services tax (GST)

- GST is paid if the grant is funding a good or service, and if the recipient organisation is registered for GST.
- GST is **not** paid if the recipient organisation is not registered for GST.
- GST is **not** paid if the recipient organisation is a government entity (for example, school, local council).

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[16] https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-10/Acknowledgement-and-Publicity-Guidelines.pdf
[17] https://www.vic.gov.au/victorian-common-funding-agreement

- GST is **not** paid if the grant is **not** funding a good and/or service.

More information and help

General details of Respect Ballarat can be found on the Respect Victoria website: Respect Ballarat | Respect Victoria[18].

For more information or questions regarding the grants program, please email: respectballarat@respectvictoria.vic.gov.au.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Drivers (or causes) of violence	The social conditions that lead to violence. There are 4 main causes/drivers of gendered violence: 1. Condoning of violence against women 2. Men's control of decision-making and limits to women's independence in public and private life 3. Rigid gender stereotyping and dominant forms of masculinity 4. Male peer relations and cultures of masculinity that emphasise aggression, dominance and control. Source: Our Watch | Change the story[19]
Early intervention	Early intervention (also called secondary prevention) is violence prevention work that aims to change the trajectory for individuals at higher-than-average risk of using or experiencing violence. Source: Our Watch | Change the story[20]
Gendered violence (also referred to as gender-based violence)	Gendered violence is violence used against someone because of their gender. It describes violence rooted in gender-based power inequalities and gender-based discrimination, and includes transphobia. While people of all genders can experience gender-based violence, the term is most often used to describe violence against women and girls. Gendered violence can occur in many different contexts, including intimate relationships, families, workplaces, education settings, sporting clubs or other community spaces, and online.

[18] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/respect-ballarat
[19] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story
[20] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story

	Source: Adapted from Partners in Prevention | Key terms in the prevention of violence against women[21]
Intimate partner violence (IPV)	Violence by an intimate partner that includes: • physical • sexual • emotional abuse • controlling behaviours. Source: World Health Organization This includes violent behaviour in: • current or past marriages • domestic partnerships, or • in the context of dating. Violence against women, in a heterosexual relationship, is the most common form of intimate partner violence. Source: Adapted from Our Watch | Change the story[22]
Primary prevention	An approach that seeks to prevent all forms of gendered violence and family violence before they occur in the first instance.
Setting	Environments or places in which people work, learn, live and play. Settings generally have physical boundaries, include a specific group of people, and ways to deliver interventions that can focus on individual behaviour change, and the changes in the broader context. For example, changes to policies, social norms – creating environments where the 'healthy choice is the easy choice'. Source: Adapted from Our Watch | Change the story[23]
Whole-of-setting approach	Holistic efforts to address the causes of violence across a setting, including: • consistent approaches • resource sharing • coordination • setting-wide infrastructure and shared approaches to evaluation and learning. Source: Adapted from Our Watch | Change the story[24]

[21] https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au
[22] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/change-the-story-framework
[23] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/change-the-story-framework
[24] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/change-the-story-framework

Evidence

Our Watch | Change the story framework[25]

Our Watch | Changing the landscape: A national resource to prevent violence against women and girls with disabilities[26]

Our Watch | Changing the picture: A national resource to support the prevention of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their children[27]

Our Watch | Educating for equality – resource[28]

Our Watch | Men in focus[29]

Our Watch | Prevention of gender-based violence and the early years – policy guide[30]

Our Watch | Respect and equality in TAFE[31]

Our Watch | Respectful relationships education[32]

Our Watch | Workplace Equality and Respect[33]

Our Watch | Evidence Brief: Settings for primary prevention[34]

Rainbow Health Australia | LGBTIQ Family Violence Prevention Project[35]

Sexual Assault Services Victoria | Supporting Young People to Understand Affirmative Consent[36]

Sport and Recreation Victoria | Safe and Inclusive Sport: Preventing gender-based violence[37]

Sport and Recreation Victoria | Safe and Inclusive Sport: Preventing gender-based violence[38]

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[25] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/change-the-story-framework
[26] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/changing-the-landscape
[27] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/changing-the-picture
[28] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/universities/resources/educating-for-equality
[29] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/men-in-focus
[30] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/submissions/prevention-of-gender-based-violence-and-the-early-years-policy-guide
[31] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/tafe
[32] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/education
[33] https://www.ourwatch.org.au/workplace
[34] https://assets.ourwatch.org.au/assets/Submissions/OurWatch-Evidence-brief-2-prevention-settings.pdf
[35] https://rainbowhealthaustralia.org.au/pride-in-prevention
[36] https://www.sasvic.org.au/syptuac
[37] https://sport.vic.gov.au/resources/safe-and-inclusive-sport-preventing-gender-based-violence
[38] https://sport.vic.gov.au/resources/safe-and-inclusive-sport-preventing-gender-based-violence