

WBF Vulnerable Victorians Program

The WBF Vulnerable Victorian Program will support funding proposals which focus on the **alleviation of disadvantage and poverty** for Victorians. For the next three to five years the Program is particularly focused on contributing to better housing and employment outcomes.

What we know:

The Foundation considers housing insecurity and homelessness to be major contributing factors of poverty and disadvantage. There are currently 120,000 Victorian households living in rental stress and more than 22,000 who are homeless on any given night. While there are many different experiences of homelessness, at the heart of the issue is the absence of a home, a safe place to live, a connection to family and friends, security and the choices having a home enables people to make.

Poverty is frequently determined by the ability to gain and retain paid employment. Unemployment poses a threat to young people and families achieving an adequate standard of living and the emotional and social impacts can contribute towards family violence, breakdown of family connections, loss of self-respect, substance abuse, mental illness and increased representation in the justice system. The importance of creating a sense of purpose, empowerment and inclusion through employment for young people cannot be underestimated and is therefore a key focus for the Vulnerable Young Victorians program for the Foundation.

Priority outcomes and promising approaches were identified through a three part process: review of key literature, discussion with thought leaders in the sector, and review of previous grant outcomes. In this way, areas of need and approaches with high potential for impact that are in keeping with the intentions of the Foundation were identified.

Program Goal: Vulnerable Victorians have reasonably paid employment opportunities and safe and stable housing.

Priority Outcomes of the Vulnerable Victorians Program:

- **Work readiness:** vulnerable Victorians are ready for work, possessing personal attributes such as literacy and numeracy capabilities, and employability skills (e.g. problem solving, team work, self-management, etc.) which equip them to adapt to the workplace
- **Employment opportunities:** work opportunities that suit their skills, provide work-integrated learning opportunities and pay a realistic wage, are available to vulnerable Victorians
- **Housing availability:** appropriate and safe housing is available to Vulnerable Victorians, including ongoing, crisis and refuge services

- **Transition from supported care:** vulnerable Victorians are provided gradual and flexible transition from supported care along with appropriate post-care supports
- **Connected:** vulnerable Victorians have meaningful connections with effective supports, including friends, community, support services, agencies and where appropriate, family members.

Promising Approaches:

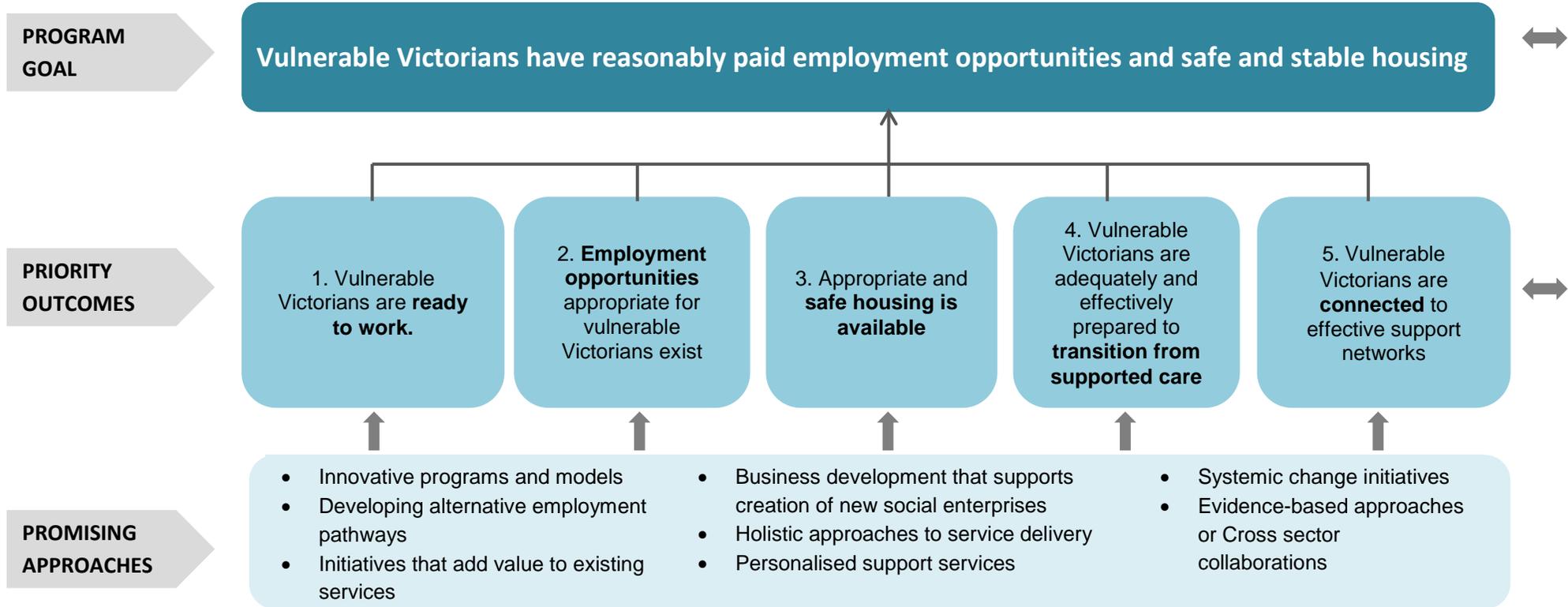
- Initiatives that address systemic change
- Cross sector collaborations that reduce barriers to engagement with services
- Evidence based approaches
- Business development that supports creation of new social enterprises to create employment or housing options
- Holistic approaches to service delivery
- Personalised support services
- Innovative programs and models (e.g. developing alternative employment pathways)
- Initiatives that add value to existing employment or housing services

Eligibility for the Vulnerable Victorians Program:

The WBF can only consider requests from organisations that:

- Have a Public Benevolent Institution endorsement from the ATO
- Operate in Victoria and who will use the grant for the benefit of Victorians

The William Buckland Foundation – Vulnerable Victorians Program



PROVING & IMPROVING

ELIGIBILITY

Organisations that operate in Victoria who have an ABN and are incorporated and will use the grant for the benefit of Victorians.

Applicants are required to be a Public Benevolent Institution or Public Benevolent Society.

PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

Grant funding available approximately \$1.5m per year

- Collaborations – **Invitation Only** long term support
- Signature grants – **Invitation Only** leadership style grants (\$150K plus)
- Open large grants (\$50k - \$150k) over 4 years

Impact Investment Opportunities

- Program related Impact Investments will be considered by the Trustees

We will measure outcomes for Vulnerable Victorians including:

- ✓ Employability levels of vulnerable young people increase
- ✓ Evidence of increase in entry level jobs
- ✓ Shorter waiting lists to access appropriate housing
- ✓ Increase in affordable housing stock
- ✓ More successful transition from care outcomes
- ✓ Improved service delivery in employment and housing services
- ✓ Better engagement in services and community organisations for vulnerable young people

How to follow the map:

Eligibility – [Start of the process]

Granting support – [Granting approach WBF provides to the program and grantees]

Preferred and promising approaches – [WBF is particularly interested in supporting these types of activities that have either shown promise or been shown to produce the priority outcomes of the program. Other approaches will be considered.]

Priority outcomes – [Those outcomes considered necessary to achievement of the program goal. Grantees should articulate their program theory to show how their proposed activities will contribute to one or more of the program's priority outcomes. Each priority outcome will be accompanied by a suite of indicators.]

Program goal – [**Vulnerable Victorians have safe and stable housing and access to appropriate employment opportunities.**]