

Project Grants Awarded in 2010

The Legal Services Board provided funding to the following projects in the 2010 Project Grants.

Applicant Name	Project Title	Project Description
Footscray Community Legal Centre	Taxi Driver Legal Project	This pilot project will deliver specialist services to taxi drivers with legal problems arising from motor vehicle accidents. It will target its services to low-income drivers, many of whom are recent migrants with limited English language skills. The project will gather data to inform the Victorian Government in drafting its proposed Taxi and Hire Car Bill. The project will assess the need for stricter regulation of the taxi industry, to provide all drivers with adequate insurance against third party property damage. The project will also scope the need for ongoing legal services for taxi drivers.
Swinburne University of Technology	Appropriate Dispute Resolution for Victorian Owners Corporation Internal Disputes	The Owners Corporation Act 2006 legislation includes early conflict resolution schemes through use of appropriate dispute resolution (ADR) The proposed project will track how ADR is being used by a sample of metropolitan and regional owners corporations. Data collected will be utilised to suggest improved ADR approaches for owners corporation internal disputes. The project will also develop a publicly available online consumer tool on mediation techniques for owners corporation internal disputes.
Springvale Monash Legal Service Inc	Safe Spaces – Working with Police/Youth Conflict	The Community Sector Toolkit aims to contribute to the promotion of a 'do no harm-type' approach with agencies who are undertaking or considering community policing projects and/or alternate interventions into police/youth relations. The toolkit will work towards a full understanding of potential benefits as well as dangers, so that agencies may make educated and considered decisions about how to do or not to do that work.
Drummond Street Relationship Centre	Culturally determined barriers, the prevalence and nature of Domestic Violence within the Australian Indian Community	This project will investigate the issue of Family Violence in the Indian community of Victoria. A partnership between Drummond Street Relationship Services and Australia India Society of Victoria Inc, will research why there seems to be a lack of meaningful engagement by Indian women with current domestic violence services in order to guide current services.
Relationships Australia Victoria	North West Vietnamese Men's Group	This project will establish a Vietnamese Men's Behaviour Change Program aimed at addressing men's violence within this community. The group will run for 15 weeks with a male and female Vietnamese speaking facilitator. The majority of the men will be court mandated, from a refugee background, and evaluations indicate they would be highly unlikely to access other services. The program content has an initial focus on torture, trauma and cultural issues and then addresses themes covered in mainstream groups such as the safety of women and children, and men taking responsibility for violent behaviour. The project will be accountable to an established reference group of local organisations.
Hume Riverina Community Legal Service (Upper Murray Family Care)	Strongwill	An interactive website utilising gaming technology to guide players through a series of scenarios to elicit information to help them develop the information for establishing their Will, Power of Attorney and Enduring Guardianship.

Applicant Name	Project Title	Project Description
Advocacy and Rights Centre Limited	Get Smart – Avoiding the Debt Trap	<p>The project will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitate and deliver legal education regarding credit and debt, targeting young people. 2. Trial a regionally focussed debt identification and bulk debt negotiation scheme in collaboration with regional financial counselling and social services to enable the effective resolution of debts to common creditors. 3. Build and strengthen networks between financial counselling and legal/social service providers who have a role in the resolution of credit and debt matters.
Human Rights Arts and Film Festival	Human Rights Arts and Film Education and Outreach Program	<p>In 2010/11, Human Rights Arts and Film Festival will expand its Education and Outreach Program. The purpose of the program is to introduce students to human rights in an interactive and engaging way. Human Rights Arts Film Festival will travel to schools to deliver a film based program on human rights.</p>
Immigrant Women's Domestic Violence Service	Better Access and Equity to the Legal System: Raising Awareness in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities of their Legal Rights about Family Violence	<p>The project will provide education on family violence and their legal rights to women in selected CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) communities in a culturally sensitive way. The project will select one community leader from each of the three CALD communities (Turkish, Indian and Sudanese) identified. The leaders will be trained on various aspects of family violence and laws pertaining to protection rights. Each trained leader will then provide up to five information sessions in various settings within their community. The community information would be conducted in smaller informal settings with a focus on hard to reach and isolated clientele.</p>
Islamic Women's Welfare Council	Faith and Justice in the Family: Equilibrium	<p>Equilibrium is a statewide community education program to increase Muslim women's understanding of family violence and Victoria's new Family Violence Protection Act 2008. This project will pilot an education module for Muslim women on rights and protections available to them, and one for community welfare professionals on working with culturally and linguistically diverse women in a culturally appropriate manner. The education modules come out of previous research conducted by the Council into family violence within the Muslim community.</p>
Arts Access Victoria and Arts Law Centre of Australia	Raw Law Stage Two: Community Information Sessions and Workshops	<p>Raw Law Stage Two is a community legal education project which takes Raw Law (a guide explaining legal issues for artists with disabilities) directly to the individuals and communities it targets. The project will deliver 20 face to face information sessions on Raw Law across the state with a priority focus on regional/rural hubs and outer metropolitan areas.</p>
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre	Empowering Asylum Seekers through Legal Access	<p>The Project will improve access to justice for asylum seekers in Victoria and throughout Australia. This will be achieved through the design and development of a combination of written guides, online resources and outreach sessions. These guides will educate and empower asylum seekers to properly understand and engage with the refugee determination process and ensure that they are aware of the avenues available to them.</p>