

# Media Release

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP  
Premier

Victorian  
Labor

**DELIVERING  
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Tuesday, 13 November 2018

## HONOURING OUR GREEK SENIOR CITIZENS

Premier Daniel Andrews surprised a Port Melbourne Greek senior citizens club today by visiting their weekly meeting to announce that a re-elected Labor Government will invest \$3.4 million in a historic boost to multicultural senior citizen organisations.

Labor will provide each and every one of Victoria's 862 multicultural senior citizen groups with a \$4,000 grant in 2019 to assist them in holding activities for their members, including excursions, cultural dancing, singing, and religious feast day celebrations.

The historic funding boost will see \$780,000 flow directly to 195 Greek organisations across Victoria, supporting the role that these groups play in building a sense of community and pride in Greek culture, language and heritage.

The multicultural senior citizen grants can also be used for much needed equipment upgrades that would assist groups to hold future events that benefit the social wellbeing of older culturally and linguistically diverse Victorians, including commercial kitchen appliances, fridges, and barbecues.

Over 70 different ethnicities and religious groupings are represented across Victoria's multicultural senior citizen groups, reflecting the diverse multicultural fabric of our state.

This investment honours the sacrifices made by older migrants who, in many cases, came to Australia, worked hard for decades away from their immediate family, and built a brighter future for their children and our state.

This announcement builds on Labor's commitment to invest in a strong public health system, with \$27.1 million for multicultural aged care, including \$1.5 million towards an upgrade of facilities at Fronditha Care.

Only Labor recognises the vast contribution of older multicultural Victorians and is willing to make the investments that really matter.

Eligibility for the grants will be open to all multicultural senior citizen groups funded as part of the *Victorian Budget's 2018/19 Senior Citizens Organisational Support Grants* program.

### Quotes attributable to Premier Daniel Andrews

*"Older migrants came to Australia and worked hard all of their life to build a better future for their children. In doing so they helped to build this nation—as Premier of Victoria, I say thank you."*

*"Like Labor Prime Minister Gough Whitlam and Labor Premier Steve Bracks before me, I will always stand with our multicultural communities."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Albert Park Martin Foley

*"The Greek community has made a significant contribution to our local area and this support will allow them to celebrate and share their culture and heritage even more."*

### Quote attributable to Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos

*"Our seniors have worked hard all their lives - they deserve to spend their twilight years in the best of health and spending lots of time with friends and family."*

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