



Grants Program Newsletter
Edition 17, July 2019

About the 2019 Grants Round

Application Update

All 2019 Grants Round applications have been assessed with careful and detailed consideration and we have made our recommendations on applications for funding. We are now **awaiting final determination by the Attorney-General.**



We anticipate making an announcement and advising applicants on the outcomes **by end August / early September**. Until this time we cannot release any information and we thank all applicants for their patience.

About the Round

Learn about this year's Grants theme of *Designing Justice Differently: Using human-centred design and technology*.

[Learn More](#)

Feature Report



Keeping Women Out of the Justice System **First Year Outcomes**

In 2017 we identified *Keeping Women Out of the Justice System* as a priority funding theme and allocated **almost \$2 million to three innovative projects**. In 2018 we funded a further two projects focusing on this theme.

Last year these projects commenced delivering their much needed services. They have built important partnerships and have demonstrated passion, integrity and agility to ensure best outcomes for the women they work with.

Together they have made a commitment to **pursue changes informed by women's lived experience and improve justice outcomes for women**.

Read our report on their first year achievements.

[Read Report](#)

Grantee Event

Dr Dominique Allen of Monash University will be presenting some of the

findings from her project on the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)* which we funded.

You are invited to attend. Details below.



Positive and Proactive: A New Model for Enforcing Anti-Discrimination Law

In 2010 Victoria introduced Australia's most modern anti-discrimination law. It contains simplified definitions of unlawful discrimination, a commitment to substantive equality, and a dispute resolution process which is focused on resolving claims early and informally.

New empirical research from Monash Business School's Dr Dominique Allen on the law's dispute resolution process reveals many challenges remain for individuals who bring a discrimination claim.

Dr Allen, from the Department of Business Law and Taxation, will be joined by Associate Professor Belinda Smith from the University of Sydney to discuss how the system can more effectively tackle discrimination. They will offer proactive measures drawn from the experience of other areas of law and enforcement models in other countries.

Date

22 August 2019

Time

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Location

Monash University, Law Chambers
555 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, VIC

RSVP essential.

[Register](#)

Grant Happenings

The Torch Project



Photo credit: James Morgan Photography

Have you seen The Torch tram around? The tram is drawing attention to the

high incarceration rates among Indigenous Australians.

We provided a grant to The Torch in 2018 to fund a Women's Arts Officer in Prisons and Community. This project will provide art and cultural support to incarcerated women, allowing them to develop skills and explore Post Release vocational opportunities.

Comings and goings

Our Grants Officer, Katrina Webster, commenced parental leave in early July. Helen Papadimitriou has stepped into the role until July 2020. We also introduce Dale Jennings who provides the Grants Program with part-time admin support to keep it humming along.

Please contact [the team](#) if you have any grants related questions.

New Reports

Sporting Change

Springvale Monash Legal Service

In 2016 we provided a grant to Springvale Monash Legal Service to **combine sport-based engagement strategies with legal education** at Narre Warren South P-12 College. Their aim was to decrease young people having negative interactions with the justice system.

In 2018 we funded them to replicate this successful service at Cranbourne East Secondary College.

Some of their achievements and note-worthy outcomes include:

- 98% of participants reported that learning about legal rights and responsibilities had **significantly and positively impacted their life**.
- 94% reported **increased knowledge of possible consequences** if they or someone they knew got in trouble with the law.

- 93% reported a **changed attitude towards Police, PSOs and other people in authority.**

Evaluation Report

Complex Communications Needs Federation University

Completed at the end of 2018, this two year research project was funded to identify strategies to assist justice agencies to enhance their response to people with complex communication needs (CCN).

The research participants included seven persons who identified as having CCN and four parent/advocates of people with CCN.

A 93 page report on their findings has been published and includes ten recommendations to further inform the justice system response to persons with CCN.

Read Report

Partners In Care: The Benefits of Community Lawyers Working in a Hospital Setting Inner Melbourne Community Legal

A new report has been published on the cross-site evaluation of our **Health Justice Partnership (HJPs)** funding between Inner Melbourne Community Legal and three metropolitan Melbourne hospitals; Royal Women's, Royal Melbourne and The Children's Hospital.

The report details the findings and methodology of their partnership and **identifies five essential requirements for CLCs to have successful HJPs with major metropolitan hospitals.**

In addition, it outlines the benefits of cooperation between community lawyers and health professionals in the coordination of care for vulnerable patients.

Our Grants Program has invested significantly in supporting the sector to demonstrate the effectiveness of the HJP model and is very proud to share this report.

[Read Report](#)

***Legal Responses to One Punch Homicide in Victoria:
Understanding the impact of law reform***
Kate Fitz-Gibbon, Monash University

This research project was the **first to critically analyse whether Victorian homicide laws enabled a just response to one punch homicides** prior to 2014 reforms.

The research findings have contributed to **improved understandings of the reforms required nationally to improve legal responses to alcohol-fuelled violence.**

Combining in-depth interviews with case analysis, the research examines both the outcomes of the law (in terms of conviction and sentencing) as well as the process and practice of the law in reaching those outcomes.

[Read Report](#)

Are you a grantee and have something you wish to share? Send us an email.



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