

Media Release

Sharon Knight MP

Parliamentary Secretary for Human Services



Tuesday, 14 March, 2017

\$500,000 AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY GRANTS ANNOUNCED

Another five local government areas throughout Victoria have been awarded Age-Friendly Community Grants.

Parliamentary Secretary for Human Services Sharon Knight said \$100,000 grants will go to Indigo Shire Council, Corangamite Shire Council, Mildura Rural City Council, Horsham Rural City Council, and Coinda Village Inc to help older Victorians live happier and healthier lives.

Consultations will now begin in those areas with older people and organisations who support them on how to establish projects that promote age-friendly environments to support older people in their community.

Age Friendly Victoria grants are aimed at rural and regional communities, who have high proportions of people aged 60 and above.

The ABS forecasts that by 2031 people aged 60 and over will make up 29.6 per cent of the rural and regional population, compared to 22.4 per cent in the Greater Melbourne area.

This is the second round of the program - last year's successful applicants were East Gippsland, Macedon Ranges, Mitchell, Moorabool, Mount Alexander, Murrindindi, and Wellington Shire Councils.

Past projects include the development of an online hub of activities and services for older people, subsidised driving lessons, more community transport group and health and wellbeing sessions.

More information can be found at www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/get-involved/age-friendly-victoria

Quotes attributable to Parliamentary Secretary for Human Services Sharon Knight

"We are working to build age-friendly communities to help older Victorians live happier and healthier lives."

"We have seen great results from previous Age-Friendly Community projects that help older residents access information and stay connected with their community."