

The information below is for community organisations seeking grant funding. If you are an individual seeking support from Vinnies, please call us on **13 18 12**.

Applications for Vinnies Victoria Bushfire Community Grants program are available to help communities on the journey to recovery.

Recovery from a natural disaster is a marathon, not a sprint. Vinnies is committed to standing beside all Victorians throughout this long process.

One-off grants are available for projects of up to \$20,000 and are available for organisations in bushfire-affected areas, providing funding for recovery projects that benefit multiple people.

Please read the below information, and the [terms and conditions](#), before applying for a grant.

APPLY NOW

What are the grants for?

Vinnies Victoria's Bushfire Community Grants are available to fund local projects in bushfire-affected areas, helping multiple people to recover. The Black Summer bushfires affected each community differently and we know each community's recovery needs are different.

Grant-funded projects will take many forms, and we are open to innovative ideas. Your community group or organisation could apply for repairs to shared facilities such as a community hall; local assistance programs for bushfire-impacted families; funding to get an impacted community services back on its feet; recreational activities to bring the community together and promote healing; or counselling and educational programs linked to the experience of the fires. These are just a few examples.

Who is eligible?

You must be a registered community group or organisation in order to apply for a Vinnies Victoria Bushfire Community Grant. Your organisation must be located in Australia and be directly assisting people in an identified bushfire-affected area in the Victorian region.

We especially welcome grant applicants who can demonstrate they'll make a difference for the most at-risk and disadvantaged groups.

Grants will not normally be given to organisations that have already received funding from an alternative source for the same program, unless this forms part of a wider project (particularly where local groups are working together).

For the full eligibility criteria, please see the [terms and conditions](#).

How do I apply?

Please complete the [online application form](#) or [download application form](#) to be considered for Vinnies Victoria's Bushfire Community Grants program. Applications will remain open whilst funding is available.

If you have any questions about your application, please contact relief@svdp-vic.org.au

FAQs

Can I apply for a Bushfire Community Grant as an individual?

Vinnies Victoria's Bushfire Community Grants will only be awarded to registered community groups and organisations that can demonstrate their capacity to work in, with and for the community. If you are an individual seeking a bushfire grant please click [HERE](#) for further information.

How many grants are available?

A total of \$500,000 has been allocated to the Vinnies Victoria's Bushfire Community Grants program with one-off grants available for projects up to the value of \$20,000.

How will you judge grant applications?

Each application will be assessed by a committee comprising Vinnies staff from across the organisation as they are received. They will assess each application according to a scoring matrix, and each application will be fairly judged according to these same criteria. The committee's decisions will be final and at their sole discretion.

If I am successful in applying for a grant, will Vinnies be involved in delivering the program/project?

No. The delivery of the program will be the responsibility of the applicant, and we do not expect Vinnies to be closely involved. However, you will be asked to participate in marketing activity relating to the grant in collaboration with Vinnies, and to provide reporting back to us on how you have used the grant funds and provided benefit to your community.

What are the grant application deadlines?

Applications for Vinnies Victoria's Bushfire Community Grants will remain open while there is funding available.

How can I request bushfire funding or assistance in areas other than the Victorian region?

Please call us on **13 18 12**.

Where can I find further information about Vinnies' bushfire relief work?

Please visit www.vinnies.org.au/bushfire

Terms & Conditions

One-off grants are available for projects of up to \$20,000

Eligibility

The organisation that is applying must:

- 1.1. Be located in Australia.
- 1.2. Be directly assisting a community that is based in an identified bushfire-affected area in the Victorian region.
- 1.3. Be capable of providing receipts or alternative evidence to support the expenditure of the funds awarded.
- 1.4. Have a bank account in the name of the applying community group or organisation.
- 1.5. Be committed to valuing diversity and promoting equality.

The project that the funding relates to must be an activity or program that delivers a wider community benefit. This can include but is not limited to:

- 2.1. Physical repairs to community infrastructure properties.
- 2.2. Assistance packages to bushfire impacted families.
- 2.3. Continuation of community services where these have been prevented from operating due to the impact from the bushfires.
- 2.4. Recreational and respite programs.
- 2.5. Counselling and educational programs that are linked to experiences of fires.
- 2.6. The project must demonstrate that is a response required due to the impact of the bushfire.
- 2.7. The project must demonstrate that it is responding to an identified need within the community.
- 2.8. The project must be able to define the community outcomes.
- 2.9. The project must not have already received funding from an alternative organisation delivering the same outcomes unless the applicant can demonstrate it forms part of a wider project application.

Receipt and use of funds

Funds will only be deposited into the account of a registered community group / organisation.

The account of the applicant for receipt of payment must be registered for GST. Applicants that do not have an account that meets this criterion may be deemed ineligible to receive a grant.

Funds must only be used for expenses related to supporting the primary activity of the organisation named in the application and funds must be used for the purpose described in the application. If expenses incurred differ from the application, request for approval must be submitted in writing.

The grant is provided in the form of a directed donation and no liability is assumed for any aspect of the grant or equipment purchased.

Grants will not be awarded for applications requesting coverage of expenses, travel or personal activities where the organisation named in the application is not involved.

Grants will not be awarded for cash payments to individuals (this includes depositing into individual bank accounts).

Requests for grants to finance goods and or projects that have already been purchased or completed will not be accepted.

Grants will not be awarded for organisations funding political activities, sponsorships or fundraising appeals.

The grant is provided with the express requirement of any marketing activity being co-branded between the applicant and St Vincent de Paul Society.

All successful applicants must provide evidence of use of the funds. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing to the St Vincent de Paul Society and will be reviewed on a case by case basis. The Society may withdraw funding if evidence is not provided.

Other

The community organisation is expected to be willing and able to work with the St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria. The community organisation receiving a grant will participate in marketing activity relating to the grant in collaboration with the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Prior approval of the use of the St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria name, trademark and logo is required. Logos, graphic files and brand guidelines will be supplied on request if successful.

The delivery of the program will be the responsibility of the applicant. The Society will not participate in or be responsible for the delivery of the program.

All questions on the application need to be answered in full. Any incomplete applications will not be assessed.

