

# **2025–26 Victorian State Budget**

**The Hon. Ros Spence MP**

Minister for Carers and Volunteers

11 June 2025



Families,  
Fairness  
and Housing

# Portfolio overview



**+\$74m**

provided since 2020  
to deliver more food relief  
to Victorians in need.



**560,000+**

hours of support provided  
by neighbourhood houses  
to communities in 2024-25.



**516**

grants provided to men's sheds  
across Victoria since 2015.



**+13,250**

unpaid carers supported annually  
with more than **260,000** hours of  
respite, counselling and support  
available in 2024-25.



**+3,500**

Victorians provided with  
no-interest loans through  
80 locations across the state.



# Key achievements over the past 12 months

In 2024-25, the portfolio has continued to strengthen economic and social participation and supports across Victoria:

- › More than **\$43 million** annually for the Neighbourhood House Coordination Program
- › Over **\$22 million** annually for the Support for Carers Program, and a further **\$9.5 million** each year to provide additional respite for unpaid carers
- › **116** grants provided through the first round of the **\$4.5 million** Community Food Relief Program
- › **\$3.7 million** annually for the Good Money Program, supporting thousands of Victorians experiencing financial hardship
- › Grants of up to **\$100,000** for **29** men's sheds
- › Recognising volunteers through the Volunteering Awards and funding a newly released State of Volunteering Report.





# Continuing to address food insecurity

## The 2025-26 Victorian State Budget delivers:

- › A significant investment of **\$18 million over 3 years** to strengthen food security across Victoria, including:
  - › continuing and expanding support for **6 regional foodshares** in Albury-Wodonga, Shepparton, Mildura, Bendigo, Warrnambool and Geelong; and shared services delivered through the Regional Food Security Alliance
  - › delivering a second, larger round of the **Community Food Relief Program** providing grants to frontline organisations
  - › **boosting charity freight services** in regional Victoria via Foodbank Victoria through its network of charity partners
  - › supporting **Foodbank Victoria's new GROW program** to divert surplus fresh farm produce to food relief services.



# Continuing to address cost of living pressures

## The 2025-26 Victorian State Budget also delivers:

- › **\$5.1 million over 4 years** to expand the Good Money Program, supporting around **1,500** additional Victorians each year facing financial stress with no-interest loans, budgeting advice and referrals.
- › The new investment will:
  - » deliver an additional Good Money store (bringing the total to **5**)
  - » expand Good Shepherd's No-Interest Loans Coordination Scheme, currently delivered by community providers at **80** locations across the state.
- › The program is delivered in a unique partnership between Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, Victorian Government and National Australia Bank.



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