

# 2025–26 State Budget

## The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP

Minister for Youth

5 June 2025



Families,  
Fairness  
and Housing

# Portfolio overview

**The Youth portfolio provides meaningful opportunities for young Victorians to reach their full potential by:**

- › supporting young people, including First Nations, regional and multicultural young people, to lead healthy lives and achieve their goals
- › increasing young people's involvement in their communities, including through programs and activities designed to meet their needs
- › listening to young people on the issues that matter most to them, including through the Victorian Youth Congress and Victorian Youth Parliament.



# Key achievements over the past 12 months

## Over the past 12 months, the Youth portfolio has:

- › Delivered YouthNav, an online life skills toolkit codesigned with Victorian young people.
- › Rebranded the long-standing FReeZA program to Amplify to deliver a fresh, modern approach for youth events.
- › Launched Future Ready for young people to gain real-world skills through hands-on learning, mentoring, and leadership programs.
- › Awarded **181** multi-year grants through the Amplify, Engage! and Future Ready programs, providing events, skill building, mentoring and leadership opportunities.
- › Boosted community infrastructure through the completion of **3** Scout hall projects so far in 2024-25 and **2** youth hubs in Nillumbik and Geelong with local councils.



# YouthNav

Get the skills to  
**navigate**  
to your future

# Key achievements over the past 12 months

## Over the past 12 months, the Youth portfolio has:

- › Invested in First Nations young people through our continued partnership with the Koorie Youth Council and delivery of the Marram Nganyin Aboriginal Youth Mentoring Program.
- › Delivered targeted programs for youth facing disadvantage and additional barriers to achieving their goals, including:
  - › Community Support Groups providing individual support to more than **2,500** multicultural young people and their families
  - › Le Mana Pasifika engaging **1,000** Pasifika young people
  - › Living Learning supporting **72** young people experiencing mental health challenges to re-engage in education.
- › Continued working across government to implement *Our promise, your future: Victoria's youth strategy 2022–2027*, including launching YouthNav, opening 2 youth hubs and upgrading YACVic's youth engagement toolkit.

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# Continuing to invest in Victorian young people

The 2025-26 Victorian State Budget continues our Government's investment in programs to improve outcomes for young people:

- › **\$20.0 million** over 2 years through the *Investing early in young Victorians* package, including funding for:
  - › Community Support Groups boosting youth engagement and providing culturally appropriate programs and referral pathways
  - › Le Mana Pasifika engaging Pasifika young people and their families in schools, local services and other settings
  - › AOD wraparound supports for multicultural young people
  - › Regional Presence Project supporting regional young people
  - › Youth infrastructure projects, including Scout hall upgrades.
- › **\$7.5 million** over 2 years to continue the innovative Living Learning program, providing mental health and wraparound supports to re-engage young people in education.



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