



The Hon Darren Chester MP

Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister for Defence Personnel

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 7 July 2020

\$4.2 MILLION TO SUPPORT ADVOCACY SERVICES FOR VETERANS

ADVOCACY services for veterans today received a boost with more than 160 ex-service organisations (ESOs) across Australia sharing in \$4.2 million of funding under the Australian Government's Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST) grants program.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Darren Chester said the government is committed to providing support to local communities and the advocacy services offered by ESOs are particularly important while we experience unprecedented times with the coronavirus pandemic.

"The BEST grants program will fund a range of essential support measures offered by ESOs, advocates and welfare practitioners for them to continue to provide advice and assistance to the veteran and defence community," Mr Chester said.

"Congratulations to all the successful applicants for this round and thank you to the whole ex-service community across the country who always put veterans and their families first.

"I encourage the veteran community to continue to stay in contact with the DVA and other local veteran community groups during this time to ensure they are receiving the most appropriate care and support."

The Australian Government funds the BEST grants program through the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). The program delivers appropriate localised support and resources to veteran and defence communities across Australia.

For more information on BEST grants visit the grants page on the DVA website www.dva.gov.au/grants.

The full list of successful applicants are in the tables below.

ENDS

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Rachel Tharratt: 02 6277 7820
DVA Media: 02 6289 6466

Office of the Hon. Darren Chester, Canberra ACT.

Funding under the *Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST) Grant Program*— Round 22 (2020–21)

Australian Capital Territory

Recipient	Electorate	Amount
The Returned and Services League of Australia, Woden Valley Sub-Branch Inc.	Bean	\$82,669.88
The Legacy Club of Canberra Inc.	Canberra	\$9,265.75
Vietnam Veterans and Veterans Federation ACT Inc.	Fenner	\$51,079.24

New South Wales

Recipient	Electorate	Amount
Australian War Widows NSW Ltd	Bradfield	\$70,383.85
Mudgee & Districts Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Association Inc.	Calare	\$10,302.14
Rooty Hill Sub-Section of the NAA Incorporated	Chifley	\$4,039.00
Coffs Harbour Legacy Welfare Fund	Cowper	\$17,488.00
Veterans Centre Mid-North Coast Incorporated	Cowper	\$15,477.93
Illawarra Sub Branch Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (NSW Branch) Inc.	Cunningham	\$4,084.38
The Partners of Veterans Association of Australia - New South Wales Branch Inc.	Cunningham	\$1,973.98
Ourimbah-Lisarow RSL Club Ltd	Dobell	\$1,200.03
Eurobodalla Vietnam Veterans Inc.	Gilmore	\$5,540.00
Nowra RSL Sub Branch	Gilmore	\$2,623.89
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia St Marys Outpost Sub-Branch Inc.	Lindsay	\$115,537.65
Dungog RSL Sub-Branch	Lyne	\$2,342.75
Forster Tuncurry RSL Sub-Branch	Lyne	\$7,730.54
Wingham RSL Sub-branch	Lyne	\$824.42
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Macarthur Sub-Branch Inc.	Macarthur	\$2,910.00
Veterans Centre - Sydney Northern Beaches Inc.	Mackellar	\$47,906.40

Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans and Associated Forces Inc.	Macquarie	\$8,296.65
Windsor & District RSL Sub-Branch	Macquarie	\$1,428.42
Castle Hill and District RSL Sub-Branch	Mitchell	\$12,680.70
Armidale Legacy Club	New England	\$5,414.00
Tamworth Legacy Club	New England	\$19,164.00
Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch	New England	\$30,807.93
Newcastle and Hunter Region Vietnam Veterans Inc.	Newcastle	\$6,663.53
Newcastle Legacy	Newcastle	\$30,348.00
Wallsend and District RSL Sub-Branch	Newcastle	\$507.56
City of Lismore RSL Sub-Branch	Page	\$4,264.00
Far North Coast Legacy	Page	\$27,337.79
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia-Far North Coast (NSW) Sub-Branch Inc.	Page	\$21,850.45
Veterans' Advocacy Centre Inc.	Page	\$45,337.58
Vietnam Veterans' Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Association of Australia (NSW Branch)	Parramatta	\$204,496.89
Hunter Legacy Appeals Fund	Paterson	\$3,842.79
Port Stevens Veterans Network	Paterson	\$62,721.55
Returned Services' League (Maitland Sub-Branch) Incorporated	Paterson	\$1,078.68
Ballina RSL Sub--Branch	Richmond	\$13,159.46
Tweed Heads and Coolangatta RSL Sub Branch Inc.	Richmond	\$44,592.85
Lachlan Legacy	Riverina	\$4,450.00
Brisbane Water (NSW) Legacy	Robertson	\$11,737.46
Terrigal Wamberal RSL Sub-Branch	Robertson	\$2,000.00
Vietnam Veterans', Peacekeepers' & Peacemakers' Association of Australia, Central Coast Sub-Branch Inc.	Robertson	\$24,631.66

Woy Wot Ettalong/Hardys Bay RSL Sub-Branch	Robertson	\$2,577.75
Returned & Services League NSW Cardiff Sub-branch	Shortland	\$9,090.00
Legacy Club Services	Sydney	\$148,949.73
RSL DefenceCare	Sydney	\$245,656.06
Illawarra Veterans Entitlement Service Incorporated	Whitlam	\$28,999.53

Queensland

Recipient	Electorate	Amount
Moreton District PAWS Management	Blair	\$4,658.67
RSL QLD Esk Sub-Branch	Blair	\$2,075.00
RSL QLD Ipswich Railway Sub-Branch	Blair	\$2,696.69
RSL QLD Ipswich Sub-Branch	Blair	\$6,710.95
RSL QLD Toogoolawah Sub-Branch Inc.	Blair	\$2,065.00
Veterans' Advocacy Community of Practice Brisbane West Inc	Blair	\$77,077.40
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Manly-Lota	Bonner	\$23,052.79
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Redlands Sub Branch	Bowman	\$54,864.50
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch)	Brisbane	\$289,717.40
Defence Force Welfare Association (Queensland Branch) Inc.	Brisbane	\$2,702.32
Veterans Care Association Inc.	Brisbane	\$36,675.11
Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans Association Queensland Branch Inc.	Dickson	\$23,806.55
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Pine Rivers District	Dickson	\$8,313.10
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Samford Sub-Branch	Dickson	\$27,537.26
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia (Queensland Branch) Brisbane North	Dickson	\$404.60
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch Inc.	Fairfax	\$6,236.00
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Gladstone Sub Branch	Flynn	\$8,535.17

Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Beenleigh & District	Forde	\$7,438.47
The Legacy Club of Brisbane Limited	Griffith	\$118,956.55
Armed Services Assistance Centre Inc.	Griffith	\$81,238.00
Australian War Widows Queensland	Griffith	\$7,550.75
National Servicemen's Association of Australia (Queensland) Inc.	Griffith	\$26,157.98
Returned & Services League Of Australia (Queensland Branch) Townsville Sub Branch	Herbert	\$23,854.75
The Oasis Townsville Limited	Herbert	\$7,705.15
Totally and Permanently Disabled Ex Servicepersons Association (Townsville) Inc.	Herbert	\$24,124.00
Townsville Sub-Branch Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Inc.	Herbert	\$1,662.97
Vietnam Veterans' Federation Townsville Inc.	Herbert	\$14,305.10
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Hervey Bay Sub-Branch	Hinkler	\$56,123.96
Veterans of Australia Association Inc.	Hinkler	\$69,393.82
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia (Queensland Branch) Hervey Bay City Sub-Branch	Hinkler	\$11,780.00
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Bundaberg Sub Branch	Hinkler	\$6,821.98
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Wide Bay & Burnett District Sub-Branch	Hinkler	\$17,304.16
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Atherton Sub Branch	Kennedy	\$13,312.57
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Edmonton Sub-Branch	Kennedy	\$7,964.13
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Gordonvale Sub-Branch	Kennedy	\$8,106.99
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Cairns Sub Branch In	Leichhardt	\$6,707.59
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Sandgate Sub Branch	Lilley	\$34,372.35
Returned and Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Banyo Sub Branch	Lilley	\$4,950.00
The Partners of Veterans Association of Australia - Queensland Branch Incorporated	Longman	\$471.93
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (Queensland Branch) Inc.	Longman	\$2,507.93

Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Nanango Sub Branch	Maranoa	\$1,173.06
RSL QLD Blackbutt Sub-Branch	Maranoa	\$2,425.00
RSL QLD Yarraman Sub-Branch Inc.	Maranoa	\$1,975.00
Currumbin Palm Beach RSL - The Ron Workman OAM Veterans' Support Centre	McPherson	\$28,585.49
Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia Queensland Branch Inc.	Moncrieff	\$105,680.20
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Sherwood Indooroopilly Sub-Branch	Moreton	\$9,099.21
Centenary RSL Sub-Branch	Oxley	\$1,564.00
RSL QLD Redbank Plains Sub-Branch	Oxley	\$975.00
RSL QLD Redbank Sub-Branch	Oxley	\$2,795.00
Wounded Heroes Association Inc.	Oxley	\$12,790.00
Returned and Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Redcliffe Sub-Branch	Petrie	\$131,436.34
The Returned and Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Greenbank Sub-Branch	Rankin	\$10,753.53
Kenmore Moggill RSL Sub-Branch	Ryan	\$1,284.00
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Gaythorne Sub Branch	Ryan	\$44,898.55
The Australian Army Aviation Association Inc.	Ryan	\$2,247.25
Veterans Support and Advocacy Service Australia Inc.	Ryan	\$5,586.78
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Cooroy Pomona Sub-Branch	Wide Bay	\$6,048.47
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Gympie Sub-Branch	Wide Bay	\$11,613.68
RSL QLD Boonah Sub-Branch	Wright	\$3,900.00
RSL QLD Gatton Sub-Branch Inc.	Wright	\$2,105.00
RSL QLD Grantham Ma Ma Creek Sub-Branch	Wright	\$500.00
RSL QLD Helidon Sub-Branch	Wright	\$5,525.00
RSL QLD Kalbar Sub-Branch	Wright	\$7,073.21

Veterans' Support Centre Lockyer/Brisbane Valley Inc.	Wright	\$26,107.00
---	--------	-------------

South Australia

Recipient	Electorate	Amount
ANZAC Remembrance Appeal-1965 Trust Fund Incorporated	Adelaide	\$113,301.17
Legacy Club of South Australia & Broken Hill Incorporated	Adelaide	\$30,701.50
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia - South Australian Branch Incorporated	Adelaide	\$3,197.63
Returned & Services League Plympton Glenelg Sub-Branch Incorporated	Boothby	\$8,614.01
Vietnam Veterans Federation South Australian Branch Incorporated	Boothby	\$1,624.19
Submarines Association of Australia South Australia Incorporated	Hindmarsh	\$1,000.00
Ex Service Persons' Pension Office	Mayo	\$1,756.68
Returned & Services League (Payneham)Sub-Branch Incorporated	Sturt	\$6,833.93

Tasmania

Recipient	Electorate	Amount
Devonport RSL Sub-Branch Inc.	Braddon	\$4,584.39
Hobart Legacy Inc.	Clark	\$6,503.83
Tasmanian Ex-Service and Serving Support Association (Tessa) Inc.	Clark	\$86,678.83
The Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen & Women	Clark	\$12,674.48
The Partners of Veterans Association of Australia - Tasmania Branch Inc.	Clark	\$4,651.80
Military Brotherhood Military Motorcycle Club Tasmania South Sub Branch Inc.	Franklin	\$15,459.00

Victoria

Recipient	Electorate	Amount
Ballarat RSL Sub-Branch Inc.	Ballarat	\$36,000.00
Central Victorian Veterans Support Centre	Bendigo	\$63,430.33
Geelong Surfcoast Veteran Centre	Corangamite	\$34,190.32

Portarlington & St Leonards RSL Sub-Branch Inc.	Corangamite	\$900.41
Torquay RSL Sub-Branch Inc.	Corangamite	\$2,540.00
Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association Victoria Branch Inc.	Deakin	\$21,835.19
Mornington Peninsula Legacy Club Inc.	Dunkley	\$19,868.78
Gippsland Veterans Welfare Centre	Gippsland	\$11,500.00
Goorambat Veterans' Retreat Incorporated	Indi	\$43,704.77
Hume Veterans' Information Centre	Indi	\$70,660.00
Berwick RSL Sub-Branch Inc.	La Trobe	\$9,438.45
Inner Melbourne Metropolitan Veterans Service & Support Centre	Macnamara	\$26,452.31
Swan Hill & District Veterans Information Centre	Mallee	\$11,408.02
Wimmera Veteran Centre	Mallee	\$12,973.02
Caroline Springs RSL Sub-Branch Inc.	Melbourne	\$2,966.37
Carry On (Victoria)	Melbourne	\$6,067.57
Melbourne Legacy	Melbourne	\$4,861.18
RSL of Australia General Appeals Patriotic Fund	Melbourne	\$249,962.01
Leongatha RSL Sub-Branch Inc.	Monash	\$8,735.02
West Gippsland Veterans' Welfare Centre	Monash	\$2,700.00
Echuca Moama Veterans Support Centre	Nicholls	\$7,900.00
Goulburn Valley Veterans Centre	Nicholls	\$9,886.54

Western Australia

Recipient	Electorate	Amount
City of Rockingham RSL Social Club Inc.	Brand	\$2,700.00
Returned Services League Armadale Sub-Branch	Burt	\$13,668.00
Australian Navy in Vietnam Veterans' Welfare Association of Western Australia Inc.	Cowan	\$3,864.71

Australian Special Air Service Association Incorporated	Curtin	\$9,600.00
Nannup RSL Sub-Branch	Forrest	\$1,098.50
Returned & Services League of Busselton Sub-Branch	Forrest	\$41,847.31
Combined Defence Force Support Association of WA	Fremantle	\$6,216.37
Buddy Up Australia Limited	Moore	\$3,300.00
Returned & Services League Ocean Reef Sub-Branch	Moore	\$14,181.00
The Returned & Services League of Australia WA Branch Incorporated (Greenbushes Sub-Branch)	O'Connor	\$619.95
The Legacy Club of Western Australia Incorporated	Perth	\$14,785.72
The Returned & Services League of Australia WA Branch Inc.	Perth	\$74,918.37
Partners of Veterans Association Western Australia Inc.	Perth	\$505.63
Western Australia Branch of the Partners of Veterans Association of Australia	Perth	\$721.36
Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Inc.	Tangney	\$6,667.09

Northern Territory

Recipient	Electorate	Amount
Veterans Australia NT Inc.	Lingiari	\$11,787.80
Palmerston RSL Club Inc.	Solomon	\$11,411.20

ENDS