



Heidi Victoria MP

Member for Bayswater District
Minister for the Arts
Minister for Consumer Affairs
Minister for Women's Affairs



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MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 18 June 2014

\$19,500 to support young volunteers in Bayswater District

Member for Bayswater District, Heidi Victoria MP today announced \$19,500 to support volunteer programs for Heathmont College and Ringwood Secondary College.

Ms Victoria today said that funding for the Victorian Coalition Government's *Advance* volunteer program helps schools to support students take part in volunteering.

"The *Advance* program engages over 20,000 secondary school students each year to help build local partnerships and support young people to give back to their local communities".

"Through volunteering programs students develop the skills needed beyond education and into their working lives".

Minister for Youth Affairs Ryan Smith said that the funding was part of the Coalition Government's \$4.42 million volunteer program that supports over 420 Victorian schools.

"The *Advance* funding helps young people develop skills and training across a range of sectors, including animal welfare, culture, conservation, emergency services, events, human rights, and sport and recreation, that will help them transition from school to work," Mr Smith said.

"This is a great Coalition Government initiative that provides young Victorians with exciting opportunities so that they can be involved and make a difference in their communities.

Advance is part of the Coalition Government's Youth Statement, *Engage, Involve, Create*, which supports young people to make a difference in their communities.

For more information visit www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au