## Heidi Victoria MP

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July 2013

## **Grant helps to support Wantirna carers**

The Wantirna Carers Support Group has received a welcome financial boost to further its programs, Bayswater District MP Heidi Victoria has announced.

Under the Victorian Government Disability Self Help Grants program, one-off payments of amounts up to \$5000 are provided to assist disability self-help groups.

Wantirna Carers Support Group falls into this category as a self-managed group of people, who meet on a monthly basis to provide support to each other and better understand caring for people with a disability.

"Grant funding is provided for a variety of practical purposes including general expenses, running costs, and minor works or equipment," Ms Victoria said.

There are several criteria for funding, and goals can include:

- increasing the capacity of people with a disability to live independently in their own community, and/or
- increasing the opportunities for self-help groups to provide information and education on the experiences of people with a disability.

"These grants are especially important, as they empower local disability self-help group members," said Ms Victoria.

"They value coming together to share very personal experiences and helping each other to navigate what is often a complex set of issues related to disability.

"Importantly, as the groups are generally very local or very focused the benefits of the funding flow directly to supporting those involved and their local community."

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