



WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION  
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT COALITION STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES  
THROUGH WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

C/O VICTORIAN LOCAL  
GOVERNANCE  
ASSOCIATION (VLGA)  
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## Summary of highlights

### **2010 Victorian Local Government Women's Charter Awards**

for local governments and community organisations nominated by their local governments

AND

### **2010 Sally Isaac Young Woman Community Activist Award**

Enquires: WPILG Coalition Secretariat (Linda Bennett E: [linda@vlga.org.au](mailto:linda@vlga.org.au))

Local government	Application highlights	Contact
	<b>Winners</b>	
<p><b>Yarra</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter 2006 and 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender Equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of dedicated women's health planner position</li> <li>• Long standing action to prevent violence against women including women help cards, White Ribbon Day, etc.</li> <li>• Gender reporting online, toolkit and staff training workshop</li> <li>• Committee for women with special focus on women of CALD communities</li> <li>• Professional development for women strategy</li> <li>• Audit and analysis of impacts of gender in council grants program</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisation has good representation of women in senior positions</li> <li>• GLBTI (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex) awareness training for staff</li> <li>• Part of UNESCO Coalition of Cities against Discrimination</li> <li>• Multicultural Policy recognises Women Charter</li> <li>• Welcome statement to refugees and asylum seekers</li> <li>• Multicultural planner positions support CALD participation</li> <li>• Aboriginal Partnerships Plan and Advisory Group includes women</li> </ul> <p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of Human rights Charter to support encouraging active participation</li> <li>• Community safety strategy identifies inclusion and participation as a priority</li> <li>• Pre- election workshops for women especially of CALD communities</li> <li>• Yarra Women of the Year to be added to Yarra Australia Day Awards</li> <li>• Yarra Women's Honour Roll for female staff</li> <li>• Use of events to promote women's participation (e.g. IWD)</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application) Yarra Committee for Women</p>	<p>Maryanne Clarke</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:maryanne.clarke@yarracity.vic.gov.au">maryanne.clarke@yarracity.vic.gov.au</a></p>



<p><b>Baw Baw</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter 2007</p>	<p><b>Gender equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-election workshops held 2007/2008 resulted in significant gender equity improvements on Council</li> <li>• A designated council committee to support increase in women's participation</li> <li>• Family and carer friendly workplace initiatives</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish high level cross portfolio Council links with women leaders including aboriginal leaders, to encourage participation</li> <li>• Invite schools to join local democracies program with councillors and officers visiting schools</li> <li>• Recruit councillors and officers as mentors for women of diverse under-represented backgrounds</li> </ul> <p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure transparency, right to know and participation as key drivers of council policies and practices</li> <li>• Support women's opportunities and resources to participate in the formation, implementation and evaluation of local public policies</li> <li>• Ensure meeting procedures are welcoming to women's participation</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application) Creation of a "culture of expectation" at Baw Baw through family friendly initiatives and other subtle policy changes which ensure that the best person for the job has every opportunity to participate and contribute</p>	<p>Cr Diane Blackwood</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:diane.blackwood@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au">diane.blackwood@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Special Commendations</b></p>		
<p><b>Whitehorse</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter September 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities and event to raise awareness of women contribution during YoWiLG</li> <li>• Employment flexibility audit and study</li> <li>• Policy review for fairness, equity and flexibility building on Human Rights Charter to</li> </ul> <p><b>CONTINUED....</b></p>	<p>Tony De Fazio Manager Civic Services</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:tony.defazio@whitehorse.vic.gov.au">tony.defazio@whitehorse.vic.gov.au</a></p>



	<p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively seeking employer of choice accreditation through Victorian Government and ALGWA 50:50 program</li> <li>Briefing senior managers about the features and implications of the above</li> <li>Support form Women in Business Expo included marketing in Chinese to encourage maximum participation</li> </ul> <p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intention to partner with WPILG Coalition to build best practice for women’s participation in the 2012 elections</li> <li>Whitehorse Disability Advisory Committee</li> <li>Support women with disability to undertake a women in leadership training program</li> <li>Twice yearly Whitehorse Women’s Forums for information , advice, networking</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application): 2010 Year of Women in Local Government Program</p>	
<p><b>Darebin</b></p> <p>Adopted Women’s Charter July 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formation of gender equity working group in 2008, a cross council group to increase women’s representation , capacity to advocate and leadership skills, uses intranet and e-bulletin</li> <li>Gender equity and diversity training as part of corporate training calendar</li> <li>Intention to integrate gender equity into all planning frameworks</li> <li>Workforce pay equity for home care workers</li> <li>Enterprise agreement 5 increased parental leave payments and introduce new career structures for female dominated occupations within council</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and audit of council committees and advisory groups to determine diversity for age, gender, ethnicity</li> <li>Council Plan has dedicated strategy to support women’s participation and inclusion and this is translated into practical actions</li> <li>Inclusion of women centre/spaces in new municipal developments</li> </ul> <p><b>CONTINUED....</b></p>	<p>Mandy Bathgate</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:mbathgate@darebin.vic.gov.au">mbathgate@darebin.vic.gov.au</a></p>



	<p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darebin Women’s Forums 2009 invited input and identified community issues from women</li> <li>• Darebin Women’s Advisory Committee formed and has role of supporting council in its gender lens work, advocating and acting on the themes identified by women in community</li> <li>• Darebin women e-list allows women to keep connected to activities, events, issues</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application): Workforce equity – Darebin Council taking a lead to improve pay equity for Home Care Workers.</p>	
<p><b>Honorable Mentions for encouragement</b></p>		
<p><b>Nillumbik</b></p> <p>Adopted Women’s Charter September 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design a ‘stand for council’ campaign prior to the 2012 elections and distribute information to women using information from Nillumbik Women’s Network</li> <li>• Family and carer friendly workplace</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design opportunities to acknowledge, support and promote women's contributions</li> <li>• Awareness of issues facing local women including with disabilities</li> <li>• Support for the Nillumbik Women’s Network</li> </ul> <p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use ‘Think (Human Rights) Charter’ among staff to promote the right and opportunity to participate in public life</li> <li>• Publicise local opportunities and resources for women</li> <li>• Intention to review process and procedures to improve ease of participation in council meetings and events</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application): Staff development program for female staff</p>	<p>Allison Watt Manager Governance and Communications</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:Allison.Watt@nillumbik.vic.gov.au">Allison.Watt@nillumbik.vic.gov.au</a></p>



<p><b>Melbourne</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter July 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEO gender equity audit – overcoming the 'fact gap' to attract and retain female talent</li> <li>• Introduction of my mentor – challenging women to make it happen:</li> <li>• Self-paced professional development program for women at work</li> <li>• Research into needs of employees who are carers and subsequent actions to support them</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff diversity census 2010-2012 to inform the workplace diversity strategy and action plan (including how gender influences employee experiences)</li> <li>• Diversity challenge for management team 2009</li> <li>• Establishment of several employee Resource Groups with issues in common (e.g. carer responsibilities, women in leadership, etc0) to network, advocate, hold information session for corporate teams.</li> </ul> <p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate and support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vietnamese Women's Group</li> <li>Horn of Africa Women Playgroup</li> <li>Parenting after Violence Group</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application): My Mentor: challenging women to make it happen!</p>	<p>Mike Dawson-Smith</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:mike.dawson-smith@melbourne.vic.gov.au">mike.dawson-smith@melbourne.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Moonee Valley</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter March 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage regional initiatives to prevent violence against women</li> <li>• Intention to seek resources for targeting women's leadership development including mentoring within council</li> <li>• Specify and advocate for unique health and well-being needs of women</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for women specific programs e.g. to encourage swimming for African women in community</li> <li>• Conduct quarterly gender audits and annual report</li> </ul> <p>Collect and produce gendered data in community wellbeing fact sheets <b>CONTINUED</b></p>	<p>Alli Coelho</p> <p>Coordinator of Health and Social Planning</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:acoelho@mvcc.vic.gov.au">acoelho@mvcc.vic.gov.au</a></p>



	<p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify ways to support residents participation in Neighbourhood renewal project e.g., for women, provide interpreters and face to face meetings outside formal structures</li> <li>Support Moonee Valley Intercultural and Interfaith Community Advisory Committee</li> <li>Identify opportunities to advocate and provide for communities who are disadvantaged, including women, e.g., application for funding "Right On: leading and living Human Rights locally (offering residents human rights training as facilitators)</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application) Moonee Valley Women's Health Initiative (WHI)</p>	
<b>Award Participants</b>		
<p><b>Boroondara</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter August 2010</p>	<p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake to develop a 3x3 action plan in 2011</li> <li>Current activity includes events which celebrate women's achievements.</li> </ul>	<p>Dr. Helen Molnar</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:helen.molnar@boroondara.vic.gov.au">helen.molnar@boroondara.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Hobsons Bay</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter July 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender Equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intention to hold a women's forum and ensure follow up of actions identified at the forum</li> <li>Intention to establish an action plan</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target council invitation lists to include diversity of women</li> <li>Diversity training for councillors</li> <li>Intention to recruit women councillors and senior officers to mentor women for civic leadership</li> </ul> <p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use Human Rights Charter to promote participation in public life</li> <li>Family friendly scheduling of meetings etc.</li> <li>Publicise and promote the Women's Charter to community</li> </ul> <p><b>CONTINUED....</b></p>	<p>Suzanne Patterson</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:spatterson@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au">spatterson@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au</a></p>



	<p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application): Inaugural Hobsons Bay Women's Forum 2010</p>	
<p><b>Maribyrnong</b>  Adopted Women's Charter July 2008</p>	<p><b>Gender Equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for family friendly employment practices including specific family violence provisions and organisation policy review to ensure this</li> <li>• Affordable council and community based Child care and playgroups</li> <li>• Region wide initiatives to prevent violence against women</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated diversity as an integral aspect of health and well-being across all areas of council policy</li> <li>• Initiation of a gender lens working group to trial a tool for local government use</li> <li>• Gendered Facilities Audit includes gender equity, impacts of built environments, community cohesion and women's participation</li> </ul> <p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth leadership forum and network</li> <li>• Creation of a community engagement framework which outlines commitment to engaging community in decision making</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application) Maribyrnong Respect and Equity Project : preventing violence against women</p>	<p>Emma Wilkinson Respect and Equity Coordinator</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:emma.wilkinson@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au">emma.wilkinson@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Maroondah</b>  Adopted Women's Charter October 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charter Champions appointed</li> <li>• Audit of Council policies and funding to identify gender issues and rectify if any</li> <li>• Ensure family friendly organisations</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure policies and communications include recognition of community diversity</li> <li>• Pay attention to access for women with disabilities</li> </ul> <p>Seek partnerships with schools in a "growing local democracy" initiative to include inviting diversity in political participation and women's leadership. <b>CONTINUED....</b></p>	<p>Marianne Di Giallonardo Director Corporate Services</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:marianne.digiallonardo@maroondah.vic.gov.au">marianne.digiallonardo@maroondah.vic.gov.au</a></p>



	<p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicise Council's support for Victorian Human Rights Charter</li> <li>Ensure resources and funding for child care, transport, meeting expenses, photocopying to support women's participation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application) Women Talking about their communities DVD based project for neighbourhood renewal</p>	
<p><b>Moreland</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter August 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender Equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusive allocation of sporting grounds</li> <li>Events which bring women together</li> <li>Ensure women and girls participate in councils community committees</li> </ul> <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reach out to community diversity through active women and girls as a strategy</li> <li>Audit infrastructure designing to ensure female friendly designing</li> <li>Support housing options for older asset rich, income poor citizens (often women)</li> </ul> <p><b>Active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support women in business</li> <li>Annual honouring women awards</li> <li>Governance workshops to target increased women's participation in council governance structures</li> </ul> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application) Sports Ground and Pavilion Allocation Policy to improve gender equity in sport</p>	<p>Nalika Pieris</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:npieris@moreland.vic.gov.au">npieris@moreland.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Yarra Ranges</b></p> <p>Adopted Women's Charter July 2010</p>	<p><b>Gender Equity</b></p> <p>Intention to plan and host pre-election workshop for women before the 2012 elections Establish a women's in local government working group Ensure family and carer friendly conditions for employees and councillors Promote relevant resources on website, e.g. A gender Agenda</p> <p><b>CONTINUED....</b></p>	<p>Rebecca McKenzie Director Corporate Services</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:r.mckenzie@yarraranges.vic.gov.au">r.mckenzie@yarraranges.vic.gov.au</a></p>



	<p><b>Diversity</b>  Intention to hold a regular networking event to bring women leaders together  Recruit councillors and senior officers as leadership development mentors for women of diverse communities  Ensure women's participation is a key theme in community engagement exercises  Participate in Eastern Interfaith and Multicultural Forums to inform council strategy for encouraging a diversity of women's participation.</p> <p><b>Active citizenship</b>  Encourage community dialogue on the Women's Charter and its implementation  Promote Council support for the Human Rights Charter  Create an annual award to recognise women's excellent leadership in community  Act on initiatives to support respectful relationships and to prevent violence against women</p> <p><b>Initiative</b> (further detail on application):  Completed draft 3 year Charter action plan with timelines</p>	
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Community organisation	Application details	Contact
	<b>Winners</b>	
<p><b>Women Matter 2</b> (nominated by Whittlesea City Council)</p>	<p>Following a multiculturally diverse women’s roundtable discussion about women in politics in 2008, with the Women Matter in Local democracies project, the Women Matter 2 (WM2) community network was formed.</p> <p>Meeting since late 2009, the core group of up to 12 women has achieved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A stable and core group of women of diverse CALD communities and all abilities who come together to create WM2</li> <li>• Designed terms of reference for WM2 and will seek incorporation</li> <li>• Undertake community consultation</li> <li>• Responses to Victorian Government policy drafts</li> <li>• Built advocacy skills of women participating, e.g. to present and advocate to local government</li> <li>• Commenced to seek involvement of young women through schools</li> <li>• Planned a community forum “Let’s Talk” (October 2010, outcomes not available at time of printing)</li> </ul>	<p>Cr. Kris Pavlidis Whittlesea City Council</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:kris.pavlidis@whittlesea.vic.gov.au">kris.pavlidis@whittlesea.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Darebin Women’s Sports Club</b> (nominated by Darebin City Council)</p>	<p>The Sports Club aims to encourage women and girls to be involved in all facets of many kinds of sport, including playing, coaching and administration and officiating. A culture of safety, friendship and fair play, alongside a competitive spirit guide the Club.</p> <p>A women only club, it covers the sports of Australian Rules football, soccer, cricket, and recreational football and eight ball. It encourages female participation on non-traditional sports and builds body image, self-image, and reduces peer pressure and feelings of inadequacy which can inhibit women and girls participation in sport.</p> <p>Even beyond its focus on gender diversity in sport, it supports cultural, ability and age diversity among its members. It supports women and girls who are experiencing hardship and</p>	<p>Mandy Bathgate</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:mbathgate@darebin.vic.gov.au">mbathgate@darebin.vic.gov.au</a></p>



	disadvantage, and has gained the support of local government as well as recognition at community and statewide level in non-traditional sports for women.	
<b>Special Commendation</b>		
<b>Boroondara Netball Association</b>  (nominated by Boroondara City Council)	The Boroondara Netball Association was formed in 1996 and it aims to provide “a pathway to the top” for girls and women on all levels to achieve their personal best through junior development, umpiring, coaching and talent identification. The vision is that women improve their health, confidence, community spirit and leadership through participation in the sport. The BNA has raised funds not only for its own goals but to support students of a school in Zambia.	Dr. Helen Molnar  E: <a href="mailto:helen.molnar@boroondara.vic.gov.au">helen.molnar@boroondara.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Award Participants</b>		
<b>Nillumbik Women's Network</b>  (nominated by Shire of Nillumbik)	Formed in 2007, the network of 130 people welcomes women and men. It has undertaken significant roles in building women’s participation and health and well-being through its own work and the strong partnerships it has developed.  Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project coordination of the VicHealth funded ‘Saying no to violence: a community responsibility’</li> <li>• Launch of Nillumbik says No to Violence: a how-to guide for communities</li> <li>• Conducted forums and events of interest to the community, e.g., for girls about body image and for parents and teaches about where boys are heading; for older women about housing options and so on</li> <li>• Provided information and access services for women</li> <li>• Celebrated International Women's Day since its formation</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	Allison Watt Manager Governance and Communications  E: <a href="mailto:Allison.Watt@nillumbik.vic.gov.au">Allison.Watt@nillumbik.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Tatiana Tapatynor and Russian Playgroup</b>	Tatiana Tapatynor is a community volunteer who initiated and found support for a playgroup for Russian parents and children which now welcomes 20 children and 25 adults regularly. The	Anita Marsden City of Melbourne T: 9340 1422 OR E: <a href="mailto:mike.dawson-">mike.dawson-</a>



(nominated by City of Melbourne)	playgroup provides not only play but also friendship, connection and information useful to newly migrated families. Tatiana is “a woman who simply recognised a need and did something about it!”	<a href="mailto:smith@melbourne.vic.gov.au">smith@melbourne.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Women's Health East</b> (nominated by Maroondah City Council)	<p>Women’s Health East is a not-for-profit organisation covering seven municipalities in eastern Melbourne. The project nominated for the award is Investing in Women which includes the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social inclusion for health and community services managers</li> <li>• Train the trainer workshops for health and community services workers</li> <li>• Investing in women community grant program</li> <li>• Ongoing evaluation and capacity building to embed “investing in women” in the east.</li> </ul>	<p>Marianne Di Giallonardo Director Corporate Services</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:marianne.digiallonardo@maroondah.vic.gov.au">marianne.digiallonardo@maroondah.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<b>Women's Health West</b> (nominated by Moonee Valley City Council)	<p>Women’s Health West has strongly and proudly worked to improve equity and justice for women in Melbourne's diverse western region. The program which is nominated for the award is the Lead on Again program for women of CALD communities aged 16-24 years. The lead On Again aims to increase knowledge, skills, leadership capacity and provides ongoing support and mentoring for the young women.</p>	<p>Alli Coelho Coordinator of Health and Social Planning</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:acoelho@mvcc.vic.gov.au">acoelho@mvcc.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<b>Women's Information, Support and Housing in the North</b> (nominated by Moreland City Council)	<p>The work of WISHIN is guided by social justice, social diversity and housing as a fundamental right. It supports single women with or without children who are at risk of homelessness. It is managed by a voluntary committee of women from the northern region.</p> <p>WISHIN can bring attention to the issues in creative ways, e.g., the women’s car sleepout in August 2010 which raised awareness of women’s situation during national Homelessness Week. WISHIN makes a strong contribution to the ability of Moreland City Council to advocate for and pursue housing issues in the municipality.</p>	<p>Nalika Pieris</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:npieris@moreland.vic.gov.au">npieris@moreland.vic.gov.au</a></p>



Sally Isaac Young Woman community activist	Application details	Contact
	<b>Winner</b>	
<p><b>Catherine Reidy</b> (nominated by WHIN Women's Health in the North)</p>	<p>The focus of the nomination is Catherine's volunteer work for the GLBTI (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex) community, especially her "in school" work while she was a student . This ongoing project within schools is now known as 'Pridentity'. Her advocacy and commitment does not stop at support for GLBTI community issues for students now that she has left school, it expands to her commitment to equity for women, fair trade principles, social and affordable housing, and fundraising. Catherine, now 21, has been doing volunteer community activism work since the age of 14. She has changed lives and continues to do so.</p>	<p>Cath Lancaster or Helen Riseborough Women's Health in the North (WHIN) E: <a href="mailto:cathl@whin.org.au">cathl@whin.org.au</a></p>
	<b>Award Participants</b>	
<p><b>Nasro Yussf</b> (nominated by Moonee Valley City Council)</p>	<p>Nasro has been involved as a participant, then peer educator, mentor and advocate in important community groups and initiatives to support other young people. She is involved in a network which promotes multifaith cooperation, advocates for opportunities for young people of refugee and migrant backgrounds through peer facilitation with Western Young Peoples Independent Network (WYPIN), is a participant and then peer educator with young women's leadership development project in the west (Lead on again) and is active in Moonee Valley Youth Voice and the young Muslim Centre for Dialogue program amongst others.</p>	<p>Alli Coelho Coordinator of Health and Social Planning Moonee Valley City Council E: <a href="mailto:acoelho@mvcc.vic.gov.au">acoelho@mvcc.vic.gov.au</a></p>



<p><b>Firbank Grammar School Student Representative Council</b></p> <p>(nominated by Bayside City Council for Firbank Grammar School)</p>	<p>The SRC at Firbank was nominated for its efforts to raise \$4000 to support Kevian, a 15-year-old girl from Kenya, to attend secondary school for 4 years. The philosophy behind this project was about empowering women through education and women supporting women. The SRC worked independently to organise a whole school walkathon, including identifying business sponsorship. This effort also increased awareness of importance of active community as well as opening up Kevian's door to more opportunities in life.</p>	<p>Terry Callant Governance Manager Bayside City Council</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:tcallant@bayside.vic.gov.au">tcallant@bayside.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Kayla Groombridge, Yarram Yarram Landcare</b></p> <p>(nominated by Shire of Wellington)</p>	<p>Kayla has taken a leading role as unpaid community activist in protection of Gippsland's Tarra River and increasing broader community awareness of the need to act to stop environmental degradation. At 15 she was the driving force in a community project to clean up the river. Kayla's leadership in raising community awareness and encouraging people of all ages to share leadership roles to protect the environment includes work with individuals, community organisations and local government. She is now 16 and Yarram Yarram Landcare Network say that her advocacy and ability to inspire and organise has moved projects out of the 'too hard basket'.</p>	<p>Frances Ford Manager Community Wellbeing Wellington Shire</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:frances.ford@wellington.vic.gov.au">frances.ford@wellington.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Jessica Lenehan</b></p> <p>(nominated by Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission and the Neighbourhood Justice Centre)</p>	<p>Jessica, now aged 21, is a volunteer and community activist in the City of Yarra. She is a Youth Convenor for Amnesty International and volunteers at the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre as well as the Greens office. Jessica's work with the Everyday People, Everyday Rights project demonstrates her leadership qualities which include encouraging others to open their minds to new ideas, to get involved and have their say. She is a great role model for how to build the confidence and capacity of others to get involved and make a difference. Jessica's work is highly regarded by both the Neighbourhood Justice centre and the VEOHR Commission.</p>	<p>Jessie Lees Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission</p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:Jessie.lees@veohrc.vic.gov.au">Jessie.lees@veohrc.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Kristy Reaks</b></p> <p>(nominated by Mornington)</p>	<p>The nomination of Kristy focuses on her work with the Mornington Secondary College Police Drum Corp. Kirsty's leadership capacities have been recognised through the Drum Corp, of which she is Drum</p>	<p>Alison Leighton Manager Corporate Planning and Projects</p>



Peninsula Shire)	Major, and being nominated for and winning the Order of Australia Association schools award in 2008. This, along with her voluntary work with OzChild, meant she received the Mornington Peninsula Shire Young Citizen of the Year in 2010.	E: <a href="mailto:alison.leighton@mornpen.vic.gov.au">alison.leighton@mornpen.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Lea Czikowski</b>  (nominated by Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission and the Neighbourhood Justice Centre)	Lea's community activism with a number of human rights organisations and in particular her work with the Everyday People Everyday Rights initiative in City of Yarra was the focus of the nomination. She recently returned from working as an AusAID volunteer, where she initiated community activities which still continue on an annual basis. The focus of the application is on her participation in and continued work as a facilitator with the above project. With other unpaid peer facilitators, she is planning craft based activities which raise awareness of human rights while increasing skills among minority groups in Yarra. Lea's work is highly regarded by both the Neighbourhood Justice centre and the VEOHR Commission.	Jessie Lees Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission  E: <a href="mailto:Jessie.lees@veohrc.vic.gov.au">Jessie.lees@veohrc.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Isla Swanston</b>  (nominated by YWCAVic)	Isla is 18 years old and has already had four and a half years' experience working with disadvantaged groups in a leadership capacity. In particular, she has advocated for children and young people in Out of Home care. This led to her work with YWCA and Artreach which aims to create better opportunities and skill development for young women, many of whom have experienced Out of Home care. She volunteers her time while she completes high school and raises her young child. She is a fantastic role model for other young women wanting to make a contribution to community while juggling complex lives.	Caitlin Telford YWCAVic  E: <a href="mailto:artreach@ywca.net">artreach@ywca.net</a>
<b>Josie Swords</b>  (nominated by YWCAVic)	Josie was nominated for her community engagement and activism including during her unpaid student placement with YWCAVic in 2009. She then went on to become an active member of YWCAVic and received the Student Leadership Award in 2009. In particular she has been an advocate, researcher and event manager with the Young	Holly Bracken YWCAVic  E: <a href="mailto:ywca@ywca.net">ywca@ywca.net</a>



	UNIFEM Melbourne Committee. She also volunteers with OPENaid International. She shows strong commitment to gender equity and leadership development for young women and girls. She is dedicated, motivated, and intelligent and a great role model for others.	
<b>Erin Young, Real Girl Productions</b> (nominated by YWCAVic)	Erin is the founder of Real Girl Productions and is passionate about empowering and making a difference for young women. Her achievements through Real Girl include Real magazine to promote positive body image, launch of Real website and facilitation of numerous workshops throughout the State for girls in secondary school. Erin is on the Australian Youth Affairs Council. Check out the Real website: <a href="http://www.realgirl.com.au">www.realgirl.com.au</a> .	Clare Griffin YWCAVic E: <a href="mailto:claregriffin@ywca.net">claregriffin@ywca.net</a>
<b>Emma Gee</b> (nominated by City of Boroondara)	Following an operation for a brain condition when she was 24, and a subsequent stroke, five years later Emma has turned her life around, is living independently and has founded 'Shoe Strings', a charity that encourages others to share their experience of stroke. An occupational therapist by training, she has commenced a Masters in Occupational Therapy, and started her own inspirational speaking business, 'Stepping up'. She has become a powerful advocate for others living with stroke and inspires others to walk a day in her shoes so that others who live with stroke get a better deal from service providers and the community generally.	Genevieve Moloney City of Boroondara E: <a href="mailto:genevieve.moloney@boroondara.vic.gov.au">genevieve.moloney@boroondara.vic.gov.au</a>

**2010 Local Governments Awards** 13 applicants

**2010 Community Organisation Awards** 8 applicants

**2010 Sally Isaac Young Woman Community Activist Award** 11 applicants

END 22 November 2010

