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Media Release
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St. Kilda Legal Service receives record-breaking grant for new LGBTIQ legal service

St. Kilda Legal Service has received the largest single grant ever awarded by Victoria Law Foundation. The grant will be used to establish a specialist outreach legal service at the Victorian AIDS Council for people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (**LGBTIQ**).

“St Kilda Legal is excited to be working with the Victorian AIDS Council on this important project”, says Agata Wierzbowski, Principal Lawyer at St Kilda Legal.

The LGBTIQ community is disproportionately affected by vulnerabilities which increase the likelihood of mental health issues, misuse of alcohol and other drugs and homelessness. These can in turn create an increased need for legal assistance.

St Kilda Legal also recognises that the LGBTIQ community is less likely to access mainstream legal services due to the unique challenges the LGBTIQ community faces in relation to discrimination and stigma. Despite these factors, there are only limited LGBTIQ-specific legal services in Victoria.

“NSW and Queensland both have specialist LGBTIQ legal services, while Victoria does not. We hope that St Kilda Legal’s new specialist LGBTIQ legal outreach at the Victorian AIDS Council will go part way in addressing this service gap in Victoria”, says Ms Wierzbowski.

For further information and to arrange interviews please contact:

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