



**Geoff Lee**

Acting Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans  
Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Sunday, 1 March 2020

### **HELPING NSW SENIORS STAY SOCIAL**

Organisations in NSW can now apply for funding for programs which help keep our seniors social and connected with the community.

Acting Minister for Seniors Geoff Lee said \$600,000 is available across the State as part of the Seniors Staying Social Grants.

“We want to provide more opportunities for our seniors to get out of the house and try new activities while having great conversations with people they have never met before,” said Mr Lee.

“Loneliness and social isolation can have adverse effects on our senior’s mental health, so we are looking to encourage programs which foster inclusion and encourage positive social outcomes for people over 65.”

Funding could go towards enhancing an existing program, expanding a program to suit a wider audience or creating new programs to combat social isolation.

“Our seniors can make new friends while trying out activities for the first time which can challenge their minds or help them stay fit and healthy,” said Mr Lee.

“Activities which are already helping NSW seniors stay social include ocean swimming clubs, walking groups, table tennis clubs, dancing groups, art classes, and walking basketball teams.”

Social inclusion is a key priority of the NSW Ageing Strategy and is part of the NSW Government’s key commitment to meet the needs of our ageing population.

Applications close on 19 April 2020.

For more information: [www.facs.nsw.gov.au/inclusion/seniors/seniorsstaying-social](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/inclusion/seniors/seniorsstaying-social)

**MEDIA: Nick Marshall-McCormack | 0448 725 289**