Information for candidates

Each year, the Harvard Club of Victoria’s Non-Profit Fellowship (NPF) Program makes it possible for the CEOs of up to three non-profit community service sector organisations to attend the week-long course Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management (SPNM) at Harvard Business School. This world-renowned program (see page 3 of this document) focuses on building participants’ managerial and strategic decision-making skills: skills that are in increasing demand within Australia’s non-profit sector. In 2019, SPNM will run from Sunday 14 July to Saturday 20 July.

An HCV Non-Profit Fellowship covers the recipient’s SPNM course fees (tuition and case materials, accommodation, and meals), as well as travel to and from Boston. The Fellowship award is also intended to cover a short study tour, so that Fellows may visit and develop connections with North American non-profits operating in the same sector as their own organisations. Fellows and/or their organisations must meet any costs over and above the Fellowship award (A$14,000 in 2019).

The HCV Non-Profit Fellowship Program is funded by donations from members of the HCV community, together with moneys raised through the HCV’s events program.

Eligibility
To be eligible to apply for an HCV Non-Profit Fellowship, you must be the CEO (or equivalent), of a Victorian-based non-profit organisation operating within the community service sector (annual revenue: A$3 million and above). Preference will be given to applicants from organisations with a primary service focus in one or more of the following areas:

- Alcohol and drug dependency
- Children, youth and families
- Disability
- Family violence
- Housing and homelessness
- Indigenous services
- Mental health
- Refugee resettlement

For additional eligibility criteria, see accompanying application form (part 1).
Selection process
- Applications are received and read by the HCV NPF Selection Committee, which includes former HCV Fellows.
- The Committee prepares its shortlist, and the applications of all shortlisted candidates are forwarded to the Harvard Business School (HBS) Social Enterprise Programs Admissions Committee for consideration.
- Shortlisted candidates whose applications have been approved by HBS (i.e. up to six candidates) are invited to attend an interview with the HCV NPF Selection Committee.

Please note that this process is run by Alumni volunteers, so we ask for patience when responding to enquiries, and for respect for our time.
Please note also that we cannot make any exceptions to the eligibility criteria. Please read all information materials FULLY before contacting us with questions.

Interviews (to be held on Saturday 30 March 2019)
In awarding HCV Non-Profit Fellowships, the Selection Committee favours candidates who:
- have a track record for effecting positive change in their organisations and in the broader community service sector;
- can identify significant challenges facing their organisations and the community service sector, and can articulate ideas and plans for addressing these;
- can demonstrate through their life and career journeys a strong commitment to the community service and non-profit sectors;
- have demonstrated, both in their written applications and in their interviews, strong communication skills;
- lead significant organisations that play a significant role in the Victorian community service sector;
- participate in community service sector leadership activities, through peak body committees and the like; and
- have, in applying for an HCV Non-Profit Fellowship, taken the effort to prepare a strong written application and to make preliminary plans for visits to appropriate non-profit organisations in North America (see page 1 of this document).

Returning Fellows
All HCV Non-Profit Fellows are expected to join the HCV, and to contribute their professional expertise to the HCV Non-Profit Fellowship Program from time to time. Fellows may be asked to assist with program-related promotional and communication activities and may also be invited to participate in the Fellowship selection process. To assist in the continuous improvement of the program, Fellows are expected to give feedback on their Harvard experience, immediately after returning from the SPNM program, twelve months later, and then two years later.

Lodging your application
Completed application forms should be emailed to Mandy Croker (mandy@harvardclubofvictoria.org.au). Only electronic applications will be accepted. The closing date for applications is Sunday 10 February 2019; applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on this date.

SPNM course dates for 2019 are: Sunday 14 July – Saturday 20 July.
Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management (SPNM)

Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management (SPNM) is a flagship executive education leadership program offered each year at Harvard Business School, through its Executive Education program and Social Enterprise Initiative. Designed for CEOs and executive directors of non-profit organisations, and taught by a team of Harvard University faculty, from HBS as well as from other Harvard graduate schools, SPNM utilises case studies sourced from a wide variety of social enterprises.

During the week-long program, participants build their understanding of core management concepts; gain insights into how these concepts can be applied strategically; and explore strategic approaches to implementing change within an organisation. Areas of specific focus include products, services and markets; financial management and control; and change leadership.

SPNM gives non-profit leaders the opportunity to step back from the day-to-day pressures of the workplace in order to examine and reflect upon the missions of their organisations, and to rethink existing approaches to achieving them. At the same time, participants make tangible progress in respect of specific challenges whose resolution they consider crucial to their organisations’ success.

Participants have the opportunity to connect with around 140 other non-profit leaders, from a broad range of sectors and geographies.

Post-program evaluations are overwhelmingly positive, with past participants reporting that SPNM is a learning experience that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Follow-up discussions indicate that past participants are actively applying within their own organisations the conceptual knowledge, and the skills, gained from this world-renowned executive education program.

For information on SPNM, visit https://www.exed.hbs.edu/strategic-perspectives-nonprofit-management/.

For information on Harvard Business School’s Social Enterprise Initiative, visit https://www.hbs.edu/socialenterprise.
HCV Non-Profit Fellows for 2017 and 2018 reflect on the Harvard experience

Christine Mathieson – CEO, Expression Australia (formerly Vicdeaf) (2018 Fellow)
The course itself was an incredibly precious and valuable 7 days. Not just from the perspective of what I learned but the time for reflection and opportunity to question, challenge and validate my relationships, practices, leadership and decisions. The simple yet powerful phrase of ‘Hope is not a strategy’ framed up a lot of what I took from the course.

Sharon McGowan – CEO, Stroke Foundation (2018 Fellow)
... the Faculty were impressive in their depth of knowledge, their engaging lecture methods but particularly for their obvious commitment to positive societal change. It was clear that this course was very personal to each of the Faculty members and they were invested in the development of the attendees as a positive force for change.

Gerard Brody – CEO, Consumer Action Law Centre (2017 Fellow)
The SPNM was a wonderful experience that gave me the opportunity to meet and learn from some inspirational leaders. The teaching was first rate, and I particularly appreciated where the lessons were grounded in empirical research. The various frameworks and strategies presented were insightful, and I have already applied some of the thinking to my work. In particular, I’ve considered the need to invest resources, mechanisms and capabilities to enable Consumer Action to become more adaptive. Supporting an organisational culture which is questioning, experimenting and learning will be an important focus for me, particularly as new pressures are placed on service delivery.

Robyn Miller – CEO, MacKillop Family Services (2017 Fellow)
The ‘real life’ platform of the dilemmas and struggles of various organisations’ strategic planning and management helped me to reflect on our challenges with fresh eyes and to widen my vision and perspective. The focus on integrating theory and leadership practice through the deep engagement with colleagues from all of the world was a unique privilege. In short the program gave me both stimulation and plenty of food for thought, and also it reassured me that we are on the right track in terms of the strategic perspectives that we have taken at MacKillop. We have almost completed our strategic plan for the next three years, so the timing of the scholarship and the content of the course could not have been better.
HCV Fellows (2001–18)

2018
Joanna Fletcher, CEO, Women’s Legal Service Victoria
Christine Mathieson, CEO, Expression Australia (formerly Vicdeaf)
Sharon McGowan, CEO, Stroke Foundation

2017
Gerard Brody, CEO, Consumer Action Law Centre
Teresa Jayet, CEO, Mallee Family Care
Robyn Miller, CEO, MacKillop Family Services

2016
Antoinette Braybrook, CEO, Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service Victoria
Nigel Fidgeon, CEO, Merri Health
Lisa Griffiths, CEO, Oz Child

2015
Carmel Guerra, CEO, Centre for Multicultural Youth
Paul Ronalds, CEO, Save the Children
Simon Ruth, CEO, Victorian AIDS Council

2014
Micaela Cronin, CEO, MacKillop Family Services
Dr Stefan Gruenert, CEO, Odyssey House
Tony Keenan, CEO, Hanover Welfare Services

2013
Glenn Foard, CEO, Melba Support Services
Karen McCraw, CEO, Karden Disability Support Foundation

2012
Phil Hayes-Brown, CEO, Wallara
Scott Sheppard, CEO, Uniting Care Community Options

2011
Rohan Braddy, CEO, Mambourin
Peter Turner, CEO, Independence Australia

2010
Graeme Kelly, CEO, Vicdeaf
Licia Kokocinski, Executive Director, ADEC

2009
John Forster, CEO, Noah’s Ark

2008
Liz Bishop, CEO, St John of God Accord
Criena Gehrke, CEO, Arts Access Victoria
2007
Richard Dent, CEO, E. W. Tipping Foundation
Daryl Starkey, CEO, Karingal

2006
Judy Leitch, CEO, Wesley Mission Melbourne
Bryan Woodford, Managing Director and CEO, Yooralla

2005
Joseph Connellan, CEO, Supported Housing
Johanna Snelleman, CEO, Marillac House

2004
Tony Fitzgerald, CEO, Outlook
Douglas Kent, CEO, Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind

2003
Lynette Moore, Executive Director, Alzheimer’s Australia Vic
Roland Naufal, CEO, Villa Maria

2002
Estelle Fyffe, CEO, annecto – the people network
Nancy Hogan, CEO, Jewish Care (Victoria)

2001
Vici Funnell, CEO, Scope