

## MISSION

### GPV believes that:

- All children must be protected and given every opportunity and all possible support to fulfil their potential
- The needs of families are becoming more complex and the support grandparents can offer to their own family and to other families is significant.
- Grandparents have unique understanding and attitudes that should influence decisions about child wellbeing, and that through acting together grandparents can become strong advocates.
- Grandparents have a responsibility to engage in public discussions and to act to ensure the wellbeing of all children

### GPV aims to:

- Link grandparents across the state
- Identify, articulate and promote the needs of grandchildren and grandparents
- Represent the views of grandparents in public consultations, and influence policy and practice affecting families
- Share ideas and information about what works well in supporting families.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Grandparents Victoria  
14 Youlden Street  
Kensington, VIC, 3031

(03) 9372 2422

[www.grandparents.com.au](http://www.grandparents.com.au)

Email: [director@grandparents.com.au](mailto:director@grandparents.com.au)

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

- \$25 Single or Couple Ordinary Member (\$45 for two years)
- \$45 Organisation Membership (\$80 for two years)
- \$500 Single or Couple Life Member
- Donation – the costs of campaigns and some other activities are not fully covered by memberships

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_



**GRANDPARENTS  
SHAPING THE FUTURE**



**GPV is a statewide non-profit organisation  
of grandparents working together to  
shape a positive future for all children.**

## HISTORY OF GPV

On 29 April 2001 the first gathering to discuss the feasibility of forming a grandparent organisation was held, and in June 2001 Grandparents Victoria Inc. was registered with the Department of Consumer Affairs in Victoria.

From humble beginnings, with only four core members before that first meeting in 2001, GPV has flourished.

Early in its history GPV recognised it was not possible to achieve lasting improvements in the lives of children by working alone.

Furthermore, much of what is required to improve the circumstances of families necessitates changes to government policy and practice, so partnerships with other organisations were crucial.

Thus, GPV has crafted partnerships with a range of other organisations. These partnerships are shaped around a shared commitment and trust, making this quick action possible.

## KINSHIP CARERS VICTORIA

A milestone was reached in 2011, when GPV was funded by the Victorian Government to also establish a kinship care network across Victoria. For many years prior to this GPV had been supporting grandparents raising their grandchildren 24/7.

## GOVERNANCE

GPV is governed by a Board comprising 15 grandparents elected once every year.

## MEMBERS

GPV members are drawn from all walks of life and areas of Victoria. They enjoy the company of other grandparents bound by a commitment to improve the quality of life for all grandchildren in Australia.

Membership of GPV can be easily secured by calling the office and requesting a membership form, or see the reverse of this brochure.

## ACTIVITIES

### Campaigns

GPV regularly conducts campaigns on issues that affect grandparents and families. In the past this has included campaigns on:

- Access to education
- Children being denied access to grandparents
- Appointment of Centrelink Grandparent Advisors
- Government regulation of gambling

- Appointment of a National Children's Commissioner
- Improvements to the quality of aged care
- Stopping the East-West Link Tollway
- Value of children's play
- Involvement in various state and national election campaigns.

### Surveys

From time to time, GPV conducts surveys to ascertain the opinions of grandparents on a variety of topics.

### Action Research

GPV interacts with its members to find out what they see as the issues they face on a day-to-day basis. This interaction may take the form of research forums or informal gatherings.

### Newsletters

GPV regularly distributes newsletters on emerging issues that may be of interest to grandparents.

### Policy Development

GPV drafts its own policy positions and is represented on a number of committees that draft public policy and which are influential in making decisions regarding out-of-home care (OOHC).

### Celebrations

At least once a year, members get together at an event to celebrate the work of GPV and KCV. In the past these events have taken the form of a luncheon with a guest speaker. These events are free for GPV members.