



**Anna Burke MP**

Federal Member for Chisholm

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Promoting Human Rights Education in Whitehorse**

The Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC) in Box Hill will be awarded a total of \$130,000 over three years to promote human rights education throughout Whitehorse and South East Melbourne, Federal Member for Chisholm Anna Burke announced today.

Ms Burke said ECLC will receive the funding to deliver the 'Human Rights are Aussie Rules' program, which applies the language of sports to teach human rights principles to children and young people.

"This is a program which promotes human rights education in a way that raises awareness of rights, responsibilities and freedoms in our community," Ms Burke said.

"By using the metaphor of sport and fair play, ECLC teaches children about human rights principals and helps reduce the incidence of racial, religious and gender based bullying in our schools.

"Comparing fair play on the sporting ground to fair play in life helps to communicate concept of equality and justice to young people.

"We know that education is the key to promoting and understanding human rights in Australia; it helps to strengthen communities, particularly those like Whitehorse where the cultural, racial and religious background of people is so diverse.

"This funding means ECLC will continue to deliver this program, contributing to a better understating of human rights here in Whitehorse.

"I congratulate the Eastern Community Legal Centre for devising such an innovative program and for their success in attracting Federal Government funding.

"The Gillard Government is committed to positive and practical action in relation to human rights."

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