# ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



FAIR GO FOR PENSIONERS COALITION (FGFP) VICTORIA INCORPORATED



Report designed, updated, compiled and coordinated by Ann Davies

Thanks to Donna Sensi and Unitarian Church for printing this report

Photo this page Andrea Firehock Media Unit Australian Manufacturing Workers Union

# **CONTENTS**

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019	1
CONTENTS	3
PRESIDENTS' REPORT	
VICTORIAN STEERING COMMITTEE	
TREASURERS REPORT	
FINANCIAL STATEMENT	
LIVING ON FRESH AIR	
SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT	
PHOTOS	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	
WHO WE ARE	



# PRESIDENTS' REPORT

Throughout the past year FGFP continued to work towards achieving our agreed priorities and to staying true to who we are.

If we needed hard evidence to show why we need to keep doing this we need look no further than to current facts and statistics from ACOSS, as detailed below.

In spite of these facts and a punishing budget that further entrenches disadvantage the May election saw the return of the Morrison led LNP government.

- More than 13.2% of Australians are living below the poverty line this is 3 million + people and includes 739,000 children, more than 1in 6
- Many are in deep poverty on average \$135.00 a week below the poverty line
- 700,000 people have been in income poverty for at least 4 years
- Of those receiving Newstart 183,943 are over 55 years
- The poverty rate for those who rely on Newstart is 55%
- Nearly 1 million, 968,000 who rely on wages as their main source of income are living in poverty
- Data from Centre for Future of Work in May 2018 showed that for the first time less than half of all people employed were in paid full time employment with leave entitlements

From ACOSS Fact Sheets data correct as of 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

These facts speak for themselves and have not changed for the better for many years, as previous ACOSS reports and indeed FGFP documents and reports demonstrate. They are particularly shocking in a country like Australia – we know this level of poverty and struggle for so many is not due to a lack of resources. We have the resources – shamefully there is a lack of political will to distribute these resources equitably for the benefit of all.

The activities, lobbying, activism and events outlined below are all informed by and highlight FGFP commitment to this fairer distribution of resources and respect for all members of our diverse community. We must end discrimination that is used against parts of the community on the basis of race, gender, religion, class and other arbitrary divisions.

More than ever we must fight on.

### Representations to Government, Parliamentarians and Candidates

In July 2018 letters were sent to sitting members and candidates of all parties prior to the state and federal elections, seeking a response to FGFP claims.

Between July 2018 and June 2019 delegations from the VSC were able to attend eleven meetings with ministers, parliamentarians and/or members of their staff. Parliamentarians who agreed to meetings were from the ALP, Greens and Reason Party. Some of these gave an opportunity for further meetings where our claims were reinforced and questions and issues were re-put.

All letters and meetings continue to reinforce and put forward our state and federal claims.

### Submission to Royal Commission Into Aged Care Quality and Safety

Lew wheeler undertook the writing of this submission on behalf of FGFP, as it was agreed by all that this is a crucial issue and one we needed to have input into. This is reinforced in these words, part of the introduction to the submission.

"Aged care is a human rights and justice issue. Residents have the basic human rights of all to live in dignity with respect, and when needed have access to aged care services and support, free from exploitation, violence and abuse."

"The experiences reported here have been told by FGFP affiliates, including members own experiences as carers and by hundreds of Victorians listened to during FGFP awareness raising activities carried out over the past 5 years."

Lew Wheeler FGFP submission endorsed April 2019 by VSC

The VSC congratulated Lew on the submission and it, with its 73 recommendations was resoundingly endorsed by the VSC.

We await the outcomes from the Royal Commission.

# 2018 UN International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) – 4<sup>th</sup> October including the Launch of "Up in the Air": A Civil and Caring Society

FGFP hosted a 2018 IDOP seminar sponsored by the generosity of the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (Retired Members Division).

We thank Frank Cherry for his organisation, the AMWU for their sponsorship and Kath Cherry whose generous catering again gave us a delicious lunch.

This meeting launched the background paper "Up in the Air": A Civil and Caring Society and the recommendations for action from the paper. It gives a blueprint for how we can achieve a more just society, with detail and analysis of all policy areas that impact on our lives and especially the lives of the most vulnerable. The paper was given a resounding endorsement from the meeting.

Lew Wheeler is congratulated for her outstanding work in conceiving, researching and writing this significant document.

### **Conference Working Group**

It was endorsed at the VSC that a conference be held to build on the background paper Up in the Air": A Civil and Caring Society and its recommendations. A conference working group was formed with Lew Wheeler as convenor and the date of July 10<sup>th</sup> 2019 set. Much work was done in the months leading up to the conference with a diverse range of speakers and panellists confirmed. It was an outstanding success. The conference and its outcomes will be a key part of FGFP next Annual Report.

### 2018 Seniors Festival Celebration Day - October 2018

This event was again well-attended and FGFP volunteers staffed the stall answering questions from the many in attendance. There was much interest in the information available on aspects of poverty and inequality such as unemployment, Age Pension, affordable housing, Centrelink, health services and in particular the myth that older Australians are economic burdens.

The thousands of information resources widely distributed on the day had been revised and produced during this reporting period. Thanks to Lew Wheeler for the updating of these.

As always Kath Cherry's hand made toys and cards were a huge success.

### **Concessions Campaign**

The concession working group, with strong leadership from Roger Wilson continued its activism, lobbying and advocacy. The group was a key driver of meetings with candidates and MPs, including the Minister for Energy Lily D'Ambrosio. At these meetings key claims re concessions and energy were put including:

- That utility concession rates be standardised throughout the year in recognition that cooling systems in summer are as important to health and well being as heating systems in winter
- That all utility concession rates are increased and council rates, charges and fees be waived for pensioners and other concession card holders.
- That public transport across Victoria for pensioners and other concession card holders be free or at least free during off peak hours.



### **Newstart and Centrelink**

Facts earlier in this report show it is impossible to live on Newstart Allowance. Simple humanity means it must be increased. It would also make economic sense.

Groups and individuals such as The Business Council of Australia, Deloitte Access Economics and the Governor of the Reserve Bank believe increasing Newstart would be good for the economy.

A \$75.00 a week increase would cost 3.3 billion. This would boost the economy as it would be going to people who would spend every cent of it.

From ACOSS Fact Sheets data correct as of 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

In March 2019 FGFP was invited by the CPSU to join a Centrelink and Medicare Roundtable, with members from organisations who know the devastation caused by staffing cuts and privatisation of these departments by the federal government.

These cuts and privatisation have meant thousands of calls go unanswered, robodebt letters continue to be generated and pensioners are left waiting 6 months for claims to be processed.

The roundtable is an alliance of organisations who have a wealth of knowledge and experience about the social security system and who can advocate for and demand change.

The VSC endorsed FGFP joining the roundtable.

### AUWU Forum 12th October 2018

FGFP participated in this AUWU Forum, being represented in a panel discussion by Ann Davies and having information resources available on a stall. The theme of the forum was "From Stigma to Dignity", with a focus on busting the myths around those in receipt of Centrelink payments. There was also a strong focus on the inadequacy of Newstart, Supporting Parent Benefit, Pensions and other payments.

FGFP will continue working in partnership with these and other affiliates to bring about change until we have a socially just and equitable social security system.

### We Are Not April Fools Demonstration 11th April 2019

This well attended demonstration protested against the Federal Government's inequitable budget and its cuts to services and income support effecting the most vulnerable in our community. Those who spoke emphasised the need for action to bring about change, redistribute wealth and give a true fair go to all, including First Nations Peoples, ethnic and other minority communities, those experiencing homelessness and all others who are vulnerable.



On Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup> 2019 protest and demonstrate against this Federal Budget that demonises the poor and vulnerable – we know it is just plain wrong.

Meet at 10.00am at Federation Square with banners, pots & pans and other noise makers. Aged pensioners
Unemployed people
Single parents with their children

- Vicious funding cuts to welfare, health and education payments and services mean declaring war on the living standards of low-income groups and the poor.
- It is unjust and unfair.
- Join Fair Go for Pensioners Coalition and fight the cuts and fight for our rights.
- Demand Federal and State governments improve our living standards not continue to attack them.

Authorised by Fair Go for Pensioners Coalition Inc. (FGFP) A0061591N Victoria Example of publicity flyer

### Housing

The fight continued for safe, secure, affordable housing for all with the recognition that the way to achieve this is with a strong system of available public housing, owned and managed by the state government.

FGFP VSC members took part in a meeting with the CEO and staff of the DHHS. This meeting was to follow up from a meeting with former Minister for Housing Martin Foley with the aim of gaining answers to our many unanswered questions. There was also a meeting with current Housing Minister Richard Wynne, where again questions were asked based on previous letters and meetings.

The sell off of public housing estates to developers continued, along with their closure and tenants being moved on – away from their communities and facilities and no information of when they would return or where they would return to.

Shamefully when FGFP asked questions seeking full details and information about the process and cost of this we continued to be told these could not be given due to "commercial in confidence".

The work continues, with Friends of Public Housing (FOPH), tenant action groups, community legal centres and other community housing groups mobilising for a just housing system for all.

A huge thank you to fellow executive officer Treasurer Graham Stoodley who once again has combined his activism and tireless work with always clear and accountable financial reports.

To fellow EC members and VSC members including sub committee convenors and national representatives we thank you for all the hours of volunteer work, combined with your unwavering commitment to the true meaning of "a fair go".

We are also indebted to Vera Considine for her willingness to step in and take the minutes at VSC meetings and monitor the email account when Ann Davies was on leave. This was a real commitment and an invaluable support to all involved with FGFP.

We continue to benefit from the generous and ongoing support and solidarity of the AMWU and we give you particular thanks.

### To the Future

FGFP will continue to fight for a compassionate, egalitarian society based on the values of fairness, justice, diversity and sustainability.

We must work together with affiliates and like minded community groups to achieve our identified priorities and set new challenges and priorities for the year ahead.

### We will:

- Campaign for sustainable, full time jobs with proper entitlements to redress the inequality of the casualisation of the workforce
- Work to reduce poverty by gaining an increase to the Newstart Allowance and in the longer term to gain a living wage for all.
- Campaign to reverse privatisation of Centrelink and other services urging a return to public provision of welfare and all essential services.
- Continue to defend public housing and campaign to reverse the privatisation of public housing, increasing funding for a reinvestment in public housing.
- Follow up recommendations made in the FGFP publication" Up In The Air" Recommendations Statement published in September 2018
- Follow up recommendations from The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

We need to continue to use our collective strengths to further our aims and we need to analyse these aims and discuss and plan how our actions can be even more relevant and effective.

John Speight

**President** 

Ann Davies George Zangalis

Co Vice Presidents

# VICTORIAN STEERING COMMITTEE

### 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019

### **Executive Members**

### President & Chair

John Speight – Australian Metal Workers Union (Retired Members Division)

### Vice-Presidents

Ann Davies – member Individual Section

George Zangalis - Ethnic Community Broadcasting Association of Victoria

### Treasurer

Graham Stoodley - member Individual Section

### Secretary

Vacant

### Public Officer

Ann Davies - member Individual Section

### FGFP Victoria Representative FGFP National Executive

Lew Wheeler – member Individual Section July – November 2018

Brian Oates - Southern Migrant Resource Centre November 2018 until

leave of absence from February 2019

Alan Bloome - Maritime Union of Australia (Victorian Veterans) February

2019 to current

### Committee members & representative organisations

Claude Antolli – Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial Church

Shane Bell – Australian Metal Workers Union (Retired Members Division)

Owen Bennett – Australian Unemployed Workers Union retired October 2018

George Catsourakis – Democritus Workers Club

Frank Cherry OAM – Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (Retired Members Division)

Alan "Ugly" Chung – The Pen retired April 2019

Keith Coffey - Rail, Tram & Bus Union (Retired Members)

Jamie Chancellor – Friends of Public Housing retired April 2019

Vera Considine – member Individual Section

David Cragg - Victorian Trades Hall Council

Barbara Knowles – Friends of Public Housing from May 2019

Christopher Lancucki AM - Polish Community Council of Victoria,

Sylvie Leber - Council of Single Mothers and their Children Victoria retired April 2019

Anne Maxwell – Australian Unemployed Workers Union from November 2018

Joe Montero – The Pen

Colin Ormsby – Australian Metal Workers Union (Retired Members Division)

Nikolaus Rittinghausen – Ethnic Community Council Victoria

Fiona Ross – Friends of Public Housing

Elaine Speight – member Individual Section

Alan Warriner – Combined Pensioner and Superannuants Association retired August 2018

Pat Warriner – Combined Pensioner and Superannuants Association retired August 2018

Roger Wilson – Maritime Union of Australia (Victorian Veterans)

Shirley Winton – Independent and Peaceful Australia Network

# TREASURER'S REPORT

The independence of Fair Go for Pensioners (FGFP) Coalition Victoria Incorporated remained the gold standard for social justice. It meant again operating on a shoe-string budget. A FGFP benefactor would be marvelous.

Since reporting at the Annual General Meeting for 2017-18, the 'fourth industrial revolution' tightens its grip with the 'dictates of the globalising market economy': industries continued being trashed by governments, labour markets made more flexible with more people entering 'precariat' work; further growth of non-employing businesses; years of wage stagnation continued as did unemployment; when needed most public housing privatisation ramped-up destroying both access to secure, stable and actual affordable housing and strong local Estate communities; and other types of so-called affordable housing was out of reach for so many, especially for younger Australians and single older women.

The state continued to shift from public welfare provider towards a promoter of emerging markets and competition. Harsh demeaning messaging was used not only to blame individuals who were doing it tough but also to punish them as inequality grew.

Again it is a privilege to be part of a coalition that has for the past 12 years continued with intelligent and experienced activism derived from working peoples' knowledge of how political economy affects them and all people.

A much less compassionate society calls for these skills even more now and FGFP has them with grit and much good humour.

Thanks to many are due. The work of FGFP has been made possible by the very many hours of volunteer work carried out by a strong Executive, its hard working Working Groups and members of the Victorian Steering Committee. You are all legends as are those listed below and listed in the Acknowledgements Section of this report.

FGFP acknowledges the generosity of the affiliated organisations and individuals for funds donated so willingly to support our work - we thank you most warmly. Affiliated organisations: AMWU (Retired Members Division); CPSA (Combined Pensioners and Superannuants of Victoria), ECCV (Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria), MUA (Veterans Victoria); MUPMC (Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial Church), RBTU (Retired members). Individuals members with special thanks for the funds raised during this financial year for the 2019 state-wide conference held10th July. Individual donations: Claude Antolli, George Catsourakis, Kath Cherry, Frank Cherry, Keith Coffey, Ann Davies, Elaine Speight, Graham Stoodley, Lew Wheeler, Shirley Winton, Roger Wilson.

Special thanks to: those who filled our hit Xmas hamper; Elaine Speight for donations from her gorgeous hand-made quilt; and Kath Cherry our fund raising super whizz for donations from her gorgeous hand-crafted goods.

Also special thanks to the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (AMWU) for their continued generosity in providing access to its facilities for meetings, functions and for office space, and logistics support for rallies and demonstrations.

We are indebted to AMWU (Retired Members Division) for members' ongoing strong support including volunteering hours of work, financial and in-kind support, and sponsorship of the 2018 UN International Day of Older Persons. Thank you so much for sharing your human rights campaigning skills with FGFP.

We are also indebted to the Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial Church (MUPMC) for their ongoing support and for offering photocopying services. Donna Sensi, MUPMC Administrative Officer extraordinaire was ready to assist at short notice.

A final big thank you to Sam Wallman - Trades Hall Art Studio - for the great art work produced for the 2019 conference - a poster example is given below.



Fair Go for Pensioners (FGFP) Coalition Victoria Incorporated Annual Report covers the period of the financial year 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 as required by Consumer Affairs Victoria. The organisation has operated successfully and has ended the financial year with \$3,444.44 in the bank as at 30 June 2018.

# **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

# Statement of Income and Expenditure as at 30 June 2019

Out 1 51 2 15 15 20 1 20 1 20 1			
Statement of Income and Expendi Bank as at 1 July 2018	ture as at 30 June 20	19	\$1,232.80
Revenue year to 30 June 2019			\$3,444.44
Donations in cash or cheque - Unions & organisations - Individuals  • Single donations • Out-of-pocket Note Taker x 5 meetings x \$40 =	\$633.65 \$200	\$1,955.00 \$0,833.35	
<ul> <li>Donated funds from fund raising</li> <li>Xmas hamper</li> <li>Patchwork quilt</li> <li>Soft toys</li> <li>Interest</li> </ul>	activities \$360.00 \$304.00 \$312.70	\$0,976.70 \$0,000.90	
Total Revenue		40,000.00	\$4,998.75
Expenditure  Campaigns (include printing/publishi  2018 Seniors Festival  2019 Conference to 28 June 2019	\$42.00	\$893.37	<b>,,,,,,</b>
Administration	\$200.00 \$172.94	\$572.94	
Miscellaneous		\$088.00	
Bank fees – no charge			
Total Expenditure			\$1,554.31
Bank as at 30 June 2019			\$3,444.44

Signed on behalf of the Officers Graham Stoodley

Treasurer Dated this 31st day of October 2019

# FGFP ANTI-POVERTY RECOMMENDATIONS STATEMENT LIVING ON FRESH AIR

# LIVING ON FRESH AIR

### LIVING ON FRESH AIR - ACT NOW

FGFP calls on the Victorian Government to make caring for the most vulnerable. Victorians a key policy priority to reduce increasing levels of poverty in wealthy Victoria. FGFP urges the government to find additional funds to:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive Victorian anti-poverty strategy by coordinated action across the whole-of-government as a matter of urgency. Include in this anti-poverty strategy:
  - Prevention of homelessness policies, gregrams and services
  - Address the current and future housing needs of pensioners and other people on low incomes
  - Provision of job creation programs administered by public services.
  - Access to affordable education and training inducting skills development administered by accredited public providers in culturally responsive ways
  - Protection of food security
  - Connected and affordable public transport
  - Provision of concessional programs related to the actual increases in cost of living for vulnerable people
- Maintain current fewels of funding for Victorian state concessions (including hardship programs) and increase concessions for utilities, council rates and public transport travel
- 3. Adopt the findings of the Essential Services Commission's Hardship Inquiry
- 4. Establish poverty reduction targets for reporting against annually in Parliament
- Establish an expert group from government, community services sector and unions to assess the current situation in Victoria and provide recommendations for consideration by the Victorian Parliament in the 2018 autumn session of Parliament.
- 6. Advanced strongly for a new and improved Mational Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Passianers, Concession Card and Seniors Card Holders
- 7. Advacate strongly for a comprehensive national anti-poverty strategy to provide political leadership on behalf of superable Victorians

Anyone can end up marginalized and vulnerable. The question is why do we think people should be driven into poverty when it happens?

Act now with FGFP and let your local Victorian State politicians know that you want the elimination of poverty to be a key policy priority of the Victorian Government from 2016.



# SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Statistics are included, however this is not merely a technical report on the website and Facebook page, as this can't be separated from what FGFP does and its policy and ambitions. These areas will be touched on in the context of the report. They are crucial to improving the performance of this media.

Over two years both the website and Facebook page have achieved some success. This is not to say that the possibilities have been exhausted. They haven't. But a good base on which to expand on has been established. At the time of writing, the website has 5,515 registrations and the Facebook page over 1,416 followers. The number for the website must be accepted with a bit of caution. Most are not regular readers, and some will have signed on for other reasons. Even with this considered, it has become an important means of communication for FGFP.

To improve and take this to a new level, we must come up with and apply an effective strategy.

We can use our strengths in the best way possible.

- An enormous amount of collective experience and knowledge, and therefore the capacity to provide leadership and direction.
- A network of contacts that reach out into a variety of organisations.
- Commitment to achieving a better future and therefore something to offer.

We must set appropriate goals and use these strengths to achieve them.

The whole organisation can do this by participating in our December 2019 planning meeting, where FGFP use of social media will be a key agenda item.

We need lively material; especially what people are doing must be presented. Showing interesting activities that FGFP members are participating in must have a priority. FGFP must report. Our media must be used to show that FGFP is serious, an activist organisation that has some punch.

If there is a will, we can do all these things.

These are the characteristics that draw people in. With them, more people will read what we have to say, because it touches them. The media will be better placed as a means to get more members and more people prepared to do things.

A huge thank you to Sylvie Leber, for her coordination and management of the facebook page until May 2019 and for her fearless and invaluable contribution representing CSMC.

Joe Montero

Social Media Administrator

# **PHOTOS**



Thanks to the senior.com.au and sbs.com for images

## **2019 BUDGET DEMONSTRATION**









# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

FGFP continues to receive very generous support given by community groups, unions, faith groups and individuals. This support has been through both donations of funds and in-kind support. The latter ranges from art and design work, handcrafted cards and dolls, making of placards, photography and catering for functions, through to office supplies and stamps, bulk photocopying, driver and logistics support, printing materials, provision of office space and meeting facilities, to sponsorships and hundreds of hours of volunteer work.

All funds and in-kind support are much appreciated and without this very generous assistance FGFP Victoria would sink. Our volunteers both representing organizations and those from FGFP individual section are collectively a special group of committed people and we thank you most sincerely for your tireless efforts and activism.

We also want to thank the many hundreds of supporters who attended our rallies and other events and not only came out onto the streets to fight against poverty and inequality in Victoria as elsewhere in Australia but also to stand with FGFP to fight for a fair, just, diverse, compassionate and sustainable society.

3CR Melbourne Community Radio

3ZZZ Melbourne Ethnic Community Radio

Claude Antolli Roselyne Antolli

Australian Council of Trade Unions

Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (AMWU)

Victorian Branch staff:

State Secretary Tony Mavromatis

AMWU staff: Carol, Chris, Jenny, Mick, Ali

AMWU (Retired Members Division)

Australian Unemployed Workers" Union

Owen Bennett John Burne Rita Camilleri

Joseph A Caputo OAM JP

George Catsourakis

John Catterina

Frank Cherry OAM Kath Cherry

Keith Coffey

Vera Considine

Len Cooper

David Cragg

Combined Pensioners &

Superannuants Association of Victoria

Council of Single Mothers & their Children

Victoria

Council on the Ageing (COTA) Victoria

Darebin Progress Association

Jenny Davidson Ann Davies

Chip Eling

Ethnic Communities" Council of Victoria

Pas Forgione- ACOSS Carina Garland VTHC

Akuol Garang ASRC

Vic Guarino Jeff Fiedler

Marion Harper

Howard Haverley FOPH

Vicki Herbert Ronda Held COTA Luke Hilakari

Heather Hill

**IPAN** 

Sean Kenney Mary Kotsakis George Kotsakis

Christopher Lancucki AM

Carole Lander

Marion Lau OAM JP

Kenneth Mooney Paul McCourt

Father Bob Maguire

Maritime Union of Australia (Veterans)

John Mathieson

Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial

Church

Leanne Petrides

Polish Community Council of Victoria

Rail, Bus and Tram Union

Janine Reilly

Alan Richardson

Nikolaus Rittinghausen

Fiona Ross

Donna Sensi

Kris Spark

Elaine Speight John Speight

Graham Stoodley

Donna Swan

Les Twentyman OAM

LT Fund

Victorian Trades Hall Council

Mary Walsh Alan Warriner

Pat Warriner

Rob Watts

Lew Wheeler Perce White

Roger Wilson

George Zangalis

FGFP support/working together

Anti-Poverty Network SA

Public Dental Health Campaign Fix Pension Poverty Campaign

Housing for the Aged Action Group

Housing for the Aged Coalition

# **NOTES**



# FAIR GO FOR PENSIONERS (FGFP) COALITION VICTORIA INCORPORATED

A0061591N

### **WHO WE ARE**

Fair Go for Pensioners (FGFP) Coalition Victoria Incorporated was established in Victoria in 2007. It is an independent not-for-profit coalition of community-based organisations, unions, faith groups, peace groups and individuals advocating for social justice for pensioners, single parents and their children, unemployed people, affordable housing for renters in all housing types, especially public housing tenants and other low-income groups marginalised by financial hardship, poverty and inequality. FGFP is non-party political.

### WHAT WE DO

FGFP advocates for and mobilises pensioners, single parents and their children, unemployed people and other low-income groups and their supporters to gain significant improvements in income and related services for those living in poverty or in financial hardship.

Our work includes direct action, advocacy, community organising, building the coalition, media, public education and research and is underpinned by human rights and activism. We work towards a just society where everyone counts and gets a fair go at life.

### **COALITION MEMBERS**

Representative organisations on FGFP Victorian Steering Committee include Australian Unemployed Workers' Union, Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union (Retired Members Division), Council of Single Mothers and their Children, Combined Pensioners & Superannuants Association of Victoria, Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria, Friends of Public Housing Victoria, Democritus Greek Workers League, Housing for the Aged Action Group, Maritime Union of Australia (Victorian Veterans), Independent Peaceful Australia Network, Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial Church, Polish Community Council of Victoria, Rail Tram and Bus Union Victoria, The Pen, Les Twentyman Foundation, Victorian Trades Hall Council. FGFP joins other community groups including churches, faith groups and peace groups on a single issue or a range of issues and/or endorse our annual activities. FGFP also has an individual section established in December 2013.

### For more information contact

### **VICTORIA**

John Speight – President 0425 753 754

Ann Davies – Vice President & Public Officer 0409 192 668

George Zangalis – Vice President 0417 777 542

Email: fgfpcoalition@gmail.com

Web: www.fairgoforpensioners.com

Facebook (direct link): <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fair-Go-For-Pensioners Coalition/240292362816033">https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fair-Go-For-Pensioners Coalition/240292362816033</a>.

Postal Address:

C/o AMWU, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Reception 251 Queensberry St Carlton South Vic 3053

FGFP coalition acknowledges the owners of the land on which we meet the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We wish to pay our respect to their Elders -past, present and future.