A new initiative to enable young people to participate in sport and recreation participation opportunities was announced today.

Reclink Australia will support hundreds of Victorians who are experiencing disadvantage including homelessness, mental health and drug issues after the announcement today by Hon Tim Pallas Treasurer Victoria of $4 million over 4 years for the new evidence based ActiVIC program. Recent research by Latrobe University found ‘for every $1 dollar invested in the Reclink Australia structured sport program, it generates an $8.94 return in social value’.

Funded through the Victorian Community Support Fund the ActiVIC program will provide over 1,800 people with the opportunity to participate in a diverse range of sports and recreation programs.

The ActiVIC Program launched by Victorian State Treasurer Tim Pallas MP, Minister for Sports John Eren and Labor member for Geelong, Christine Couzens MP on Thursday 12 April 2018 at 11 am - 12.30 pm at Royal Geelong Yacht Club & Foreshore Geelong, was attended by participants and community representatives. The Launch event included sporting activities such as Sailing, Beach Volleyball & Beach Soccer.

Quotes attributable to John Ballis CEO Reclink Australia

‘Reclink Australia extends our sincere appreciation to the Victorian State Treasurer Tim Pallas MP and the Dan Andrews Government for funding the ActiVIC program which will be delivered in partnership with a broad range of community agencies, and sport and recreation providers in multiple locations across Victoria.’

Quotes attributed to participants in a Reclink Australia program.

‘This is where my life was at then and this is where I’m at now. Now I couldn’t have done this without active sport and I couldn’t go without help and camaraderie.’

‘It’s not just about playing sport. It’s actually about providing opportunities for people to progress.’