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Travellers Aid honoured with Melbourne Award for Access and Inclusion

Monday 11 November 2024.

On the evening of Saturday 9 November, Melbourne Town Hall was filled with remarkable individuals and groups who are committed to making our city an inclusive, creative, and forward-thinking place. Since 2002, the Melbourne Awards has provided a platform for these individuals and groups to be recognised. There are eight key award categories;

- Aboriginal Melbourne – ganbu guljin*
- Access and Inclusion
- Arts and Events
- City Design
- Community
- Knowledge and Innovation
- LGBTIQA+
- Sustainability
- *ganbu guljin means ‘one mob’ in Woi-wurrung language. This name is intended to better recognise the important work of Aboriginal communities.

Travellers Aid received the prestigious Melbourne Award in the Access and Inclusion category. This accolade acknowledges Travellers Aid’s dedicated efforts in making Melbourne an inclusive, accessible city for all its residents and visitors, to ensure that everyone can access, participate and engage in all of the things that a lot of us take for granted.

Travellers Aid, a registered charity and social enterprise, strives daily to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate in Melbourne's vibrant community. From providing access and inclusion services at Melbourne's major train stations, events and most recently extending its services during a four-month pilot at Melbourne Airport, the organisation is committed to creating a city that is not only livable but also fair and accessible to all.

> "Our team shares a united vision and purpose: to ensure that everyone can access, participate, and engage in the city's offerings," said Elias Lebbos, Chief Executive Officer of Travellers Aid. "Being recognised for our contributions toward making Melbourne one of the world's most inclusive and accessible cities is an honour."

Acknowledging fellow Access and Inclusion nominees, Accessible Accommodation and Access with Ash, Travellers Aid CEO Elias Lebbos highlights the importance of collaboration in driving positive change and expanding access across the city.

> "Accessibility is within everyone's ability. Working alongside organisations with similar goals amplifies our impact and brings us closer to a truly inclusive community,".

This award reflects Travellers Aid's ongoing commitment to providing services that enable individuals of all abilities to connect, engage, and participate in their communities.

The Melbourne Awards demonstrate the profound impact that social enterprises and community-focused organisations can have on a city's fabric, promoting inclusivity and enriching lives.

For further details on Travellers Aid's services or their education programs, please contact:

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