



Marrickville Legal Centre

From the inner west,
serving NSW

October Update

The MLC team has had a dynamic start to the first quarter of the Financial Year, delivering over 600 advice sessions since July 2024. During this period, we've saved our clients over \$65,000, including write-offs. With the current cost-of-living pressures, every dollar saved makes a significant difference for our community.

In between advising clients and preparing legal tasks, our team has been supporting each other by participating in the R U OK? National Day of Action, ensuring our colleagues know there's always someone to talk to when they're struggling.

We also launched our [new-look website](#), featuring our new Online Merch Store where you can purchase exclusive MLC merchandise. All profits from the store go towards providing #JusticeForUsAll.



Celebrating 45 years of MLC!

As we reflect on the past four and a half decades, we would love to hear your stories and experiences. Your contributions, whether as a client, volunteer, supporter, or partner, have been invaluable in shaping the Centre into the vibrant and impactful organisation it is today.

We're collecting memorable moments, stories, photos and memorabilia so that we can share them through our social media platforms and in our newsletter. If you'd like your stories to be shared, please send them through to MLC's Fundraising and Communications Officer, Mickey Arai at marai@mlc.org.au.

Client stories



Zahra* approached MLC seeking assistance to divorce her spouse. The parties had one child under 5 years of age. Zahra had left the relationship due to extensive physical and sexual violence. There was a police Apprehended Domestic Violence Order in place.

During the course of representing Zahra with her divorce, other legal issues were raised relating to parenting, fines with Revenue NSW and traffic matters, all of which our domestic violence support lawyer was able to assist Zahra resolve.

Having a consistent legal representative benefitted Zahra who had only been in Australia for about 18 months and who was unfamiliar with the Australian legal system. A divorce order was granted, and Zahra was able to move forward with her studies and continue to gain independence.

**Names changed to protect client confidentiality*



James* is a community housing tenant who lives with complex PTSD and autism, and experiences significant difficulty in dealing with bureaucratic systems. James was referred to our Tenancy Service by his support workers for advice and assistance in relation to a number of long-standing repairs issues, including pervasive mould.

We provided advice to James over the phone and in writing and attended a virtual meeting with James and his support team. With James' consent, we made contact with the community housing provider on James' behalf. We sought James' input on these communications so that he could participate in this process. We met with James and the community housing provider face to face and agreed on a date for an inspection of the premises so that the repairs issues could be assessed and a schedule of works proposed. The landlord offered to relocate the tenant to a hotel while the repairs were being carried out.



MLC's Online Merch Store now open!

With the recent revamp of our website, we're excited to announce the launch of our MLC Merch Store. Now you can shop with a purpose and support our mission to provide free legal services to the most vulnerable in our community.

All proceeds go towards keeping the Centre's doors open and helping to provide access to #JusticeForUsAll. \$10 shipping fee included is in the price.

Check out our merch store [here](#).



Celebrating our people

At the end of each quarter, MLC celebrates a staff member who demonstrates our organisation's values. Congratulations Chris Anderson, who was nominated by his colleagues for exemplifying our value of 'Access to Justice'. Chris goes above and beyond to support clients, puts in the time to explain things in detail and assist clients with their submissions to give them the best possible chance of success. Chris never sees access the justice as a challenge. When he sees an injustice, he fights hard for our clients and is always determined to ensure justice prevails.

Join the MLC team

We are (still) looking for an experienced **family lawyer** to join the legal team at Marrickville Legal Centre. Hours are flexible and pay is negotiable. This is an exciting opportunity to join our passionate team and deliver family law services in Sydney's inner west, south & south west. For more details, please [click here](#).

We are also looking for a **volunteer photographer** who can attend and take photos at MLC and community events. If you're interested and would like more information, please reach out to MLC's Fundraising and Communications Officer, Mickey Arai at marai@mlc.org.au.



Warmly,
MLC Team



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Marrickville Legal Centre
338 Illawarra Road
Marrickville, New South Wales 2204
Australia

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