



Marrickville Legal Centre

From the inner west,
serving NSW

September Update

MLC has been experiencing unprecedented demand for assistance in the community. In the last month, we have received over 2,100 attempts to contact our services for assistance by telephone alone. Of those, we have only had the capacity to assist 487 clients. Adequate legal assistance funding is critical to ensuring access to justice and equality before the law for everyone in the community. We welcome the emergency funding to MLC provided by Inner West Council, as well as the Federal Government's announcement of \$3.9 billion funding to the legal assistance sector.



This year, we celebrate 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.

To help us with our anniversary celebration, we kindly request that you share:

- **Your connection to MLC:** How long have you been connected to Marrickville Legal Centre? In what capacity (e.g., client, volunteer, donor, partner)?
- **Memorable moments:** Do you have any favourite memories /anecdotes from your time with MLC you would like to share?
- **Impact:** How has working/volunteering with MLC impacted on your life?

In addition, if you have any photos related to your experiences with MLC or any other MLC memorabilia, we would be grateful if you could share them by reaching out to MLC's Fundraising and Communications Officer, Mickey Arai at marai@mlc.org.au.

Bridging the access to justice gap

MLC welcomes the recent announcement that the Australian Government will providing \$3.9 billion in funding to support frontline legal assistance services, including community legal centres, through the new National Access to Justice Partnership.

Legal assistance is essential to help the most vulnerable in our community, particularly victims and survivors of family, domestic and sexual violence.

MLC provides advice and representation to people escaping family violence – this includes family law, criminal law, AVO and civil matters. Our catchment services a community of over 1.2 million people and we have been experiencing unprecedented demand for assistance in the community.



We have long been calling for additional funding to better resource services to deliver these critical services.

Our Domestic Violence Support Lawyer, Sophie Driver, spoke to channel 10 about what this funding would mean for the centre and the clients we assist.

Inner West Council provides emergency funding to MLC to support renters

Inner West Council is providing an emergency one-off grant of \$125,000 to our centre in response to the soaring demand for legal services in the community. This funding will support renters facing unjust evictions, fighting excessive rent increases and individuals escaping domestic violence.

The funding will bolster the centre's capacity to provide critical legal advice and representation, ensuring that renters in the Inner West are not left to face these challenges alone. Mayor Darcy Byrne emphasised the council's commitment to standing with tenants during the escalating rental crisis. We thank Inner West Council for their contribution and ongoing support of our centre and the community.

Work with us

We are (still) looking for an experienced **family lawyer** to join the legal team at Marrickville Legal Centre. 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 graphic designer** who can help us design print and digital marketing collateral. 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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