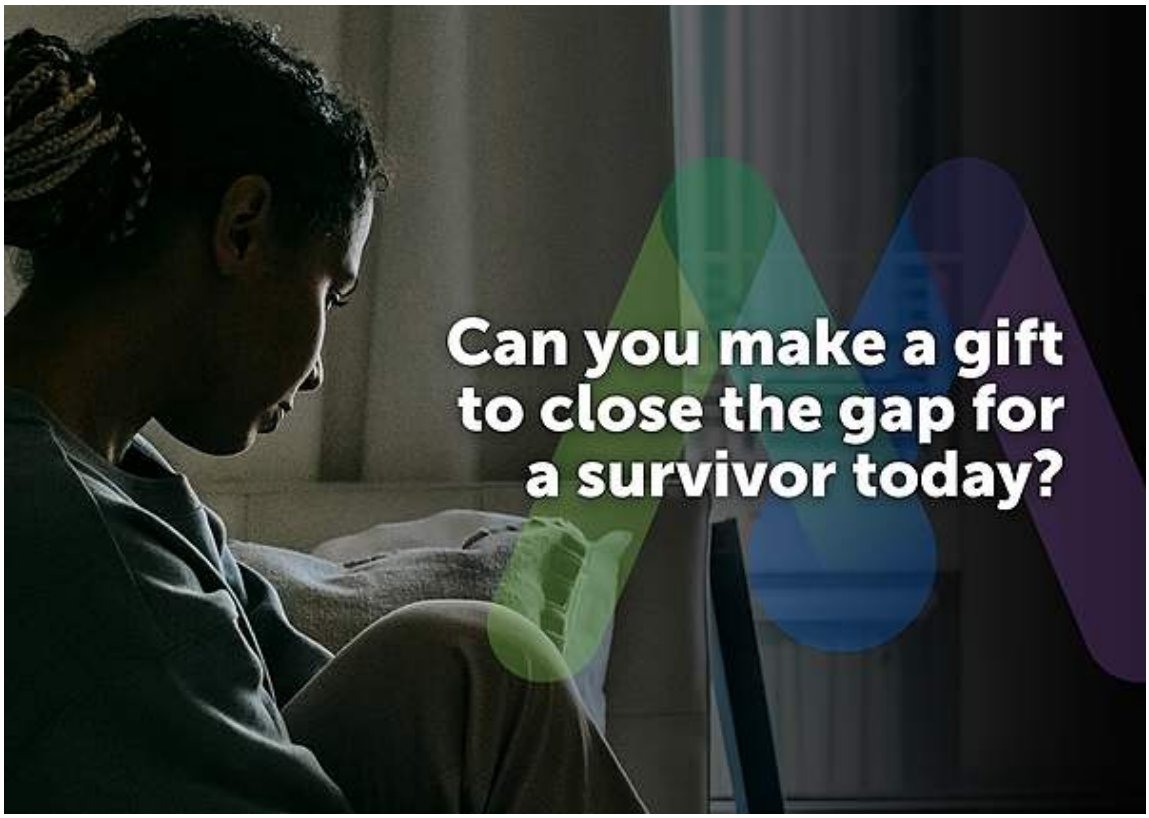
Marrickville Legal Centre
From the inner west, serving NSW

MLC NEWS
September Edition

MLC News - September Edition

In this month's edition of MLC News, we highlight the importance of our Domestic Violence Support Legal Service, explain the Unfair Dismissal application process step-by-step, and recognise our Volunteer of the Month Jeremy Hardy.

Help us close the justice gap for survivors today



Did you know that one in four women in Australia has experienced violence from a current or former partner?

MLC's Domestic Violence Legal Service offers integrated support that helps survivors access legal assistance and practical support during some of the most challenging moments of their lives.

Demand for this service has increased **13% in the past year alone**, reflecting a growing need across our communities. As this demand continues to grow, so does our need for support.

Safety is everyone's business: domestic and family violence affects individuals, families, workplaces, and communities.

That’s why we're inviting you to help us extend this vital support to more people experiencing domestic and family violence across our communities.

Help us close the justice gap for a survivor this week:

Make a gift today

The Unfair Dismissal application process step-by-step

What happens after you file a Form F2 (Unfair Dismissal Application) with the Fair Work Commission?

Our Employment team have created a factsheet to explain the Unfair Dismissal application process step-by-step.

Check out the factsheet here

Vollie Vox: Jeremy Hardy

Volunteers are the lifeblood of Marrickville Legal Centre, helping us connect more people in the community to justice. Vollie Vox is our monthly series spotlighting one outstanding volunteer.

This month we're celebrating Jeremy Hardy, who has volunteered with Marrickville Legal Centre's Youth Legal Service as a Volunteer Solicitor since 2020. Jeremy was nominated for his enthusiasm, professionalism, attention to detail, and dedication to reducing barriers to accessing justice.

What inspired you to start volunteering at MLC, and what keeps you coming back?

I have always considered a legal qualification to be a great privilege and one that affords us the opportunity to make a positive impact in our communities. I started at MLC as a way to express gratitude for that privilege by sharing it with those who may not have been afforded it themselves, or whose circumstances otherwise preclude them from being able to access justice.

How do you feel your role makes a difference for our clients and community?

A lot of people come to MLC feeling overwhelmed and unsure where to turn. Helping someone understand their rights and available options can often give them the confidence to take the next step. If a client leaves with a better understanding of their situation and a clearer path forward, I feel like I have helped make the legal system more accessible and less daunting.

What skills have you gained while volunteering at MLC?
Volunteering has made me a better communicator. It has refined my ability to break down complex legal issues into plain English and focus on what really matters to the person I am advising – all very transferable and desirable in the commercial context too. As someone who started at MLC as a relatively junior lawyer, it was also a great way to develop experience engaging directly with clients at an early stage and in a supportive environment.

What's something that surprised you when you first started volunteering at MLC?
I was surprised by how varied the issues are that come through the door. I feel like I am always learning something new with each client. I was also struck by how much difference a single conversation can make to someone's confidence and peace of mind, especially when facing an unfamiliar or intimidating legal process.

How would you describe MLC to someone thinking about getting involved?
MLC is a place filled with talented, generous people who genuinely care about helping their community. It is a welcoming and supportive environment, and volunteering here is a great way to use your skills, learn from other highly experienced practitioners, and make a meaningful contribution at the same time.

Ordinary Member, Extraordinary Impact

You don’t need to be a lawyer to help strengthen access to justice.

By becoming an Ordinary Member of MLC, you join a community of people who believe everyone deserves access to legal support, regardless of income or background. As a Member you can:

- Vote at general meetings, and help shape MLC’s direction
- Attend member events, seminars, and networking opportunities
- Receive MLC’s Annual Report and stay informed about our impact
- Contribute to discussions about MLC’s Constitution, governance, and future.

Join us today and help strengthen access to justice in our community.

Become an MLC Member today

Thank you for all of your support so far! If you haven't yet, please make sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and TikTok to get more updates on the Centre and our services.

Warm regards,

The MLC team

Share Follow Website

Marrickville Legal Centre
338 Illawarra Road
Marrickville NSW 2204

To unsubscribe, please click here.