



# 2025 SOCIAL JUSTICE & EQUITY GUIDE

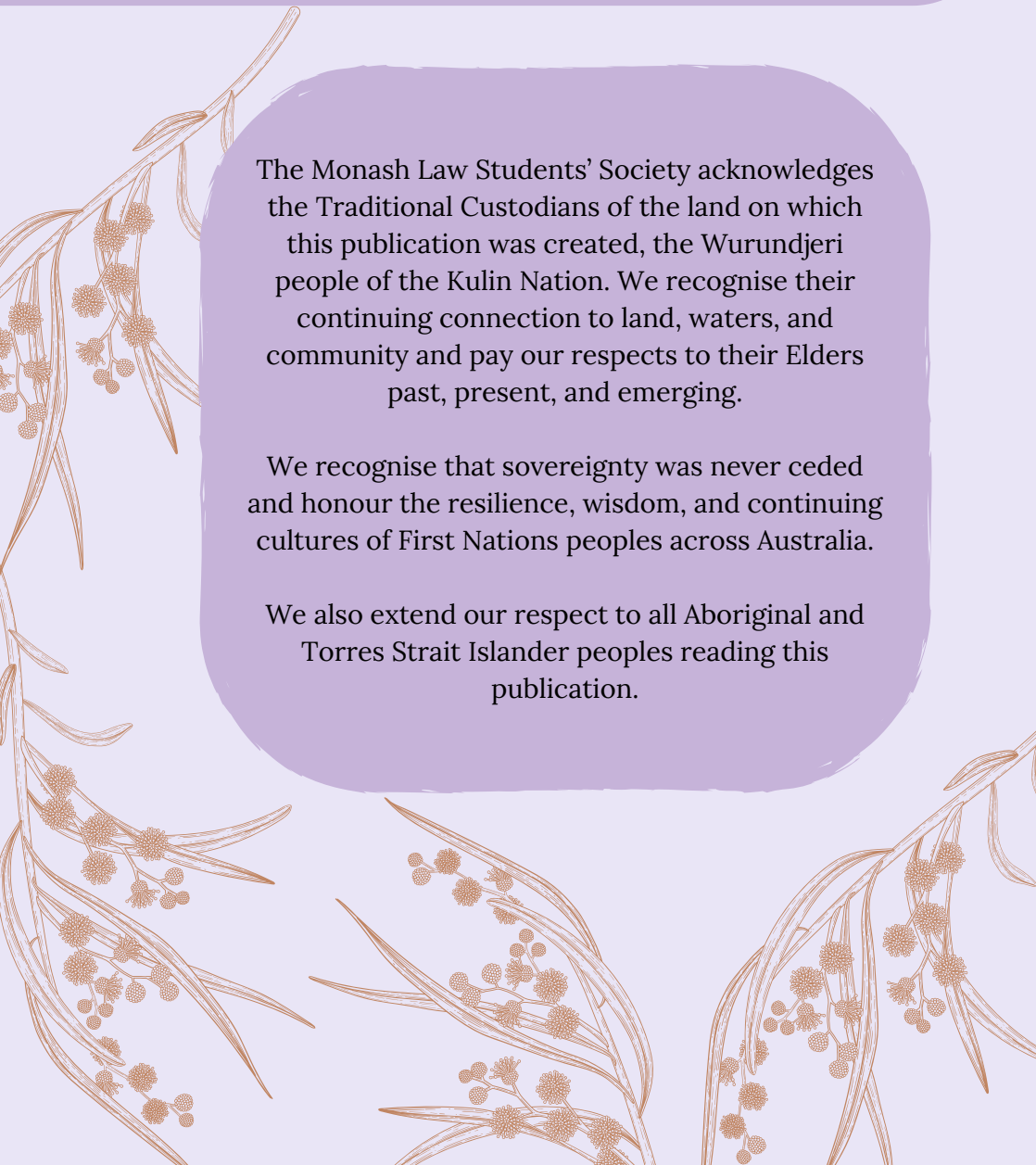


# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Monash Law Students' Society acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which this publication was created, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and community and pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

We recognise that sovereignty was never ceded and honour the resilience, wisdom, and continuing cultures of First Nations peoples across Australia.

We also extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples reading this publication.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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**Special thanks to:**

Fiona Li  
*Social Justice and Equity Publications Officer*

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*Social Justice and Equity Publications Subcommittee*

Phoenix Ettelson & Venessa Thomas  
*Social Justice and Equity Directors*

Sarah Tok  
*President*

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# DISCLAIMER

The Monash Law Students' Society (LSS) has at all times tried to provide the most up-to-date information in the 2025 Social Justice and Equity (SJE) Guide.

If there is a specific opportunity you are interested in, please check with the organisation directly to confirm it is running. We cannot fully ensure that our information is accurate.

We strongly recommend that students independently research facts and dates, and do not solely refer to or rely on the 2025 SJE Guide.

Please also note that information may be subject to change. The Monash LSS takes no responsibility for the accuracy of information that is contained within the SJE Guide.

The onus is on the individual to ensure compliance with application deadlines. Please contact the Monash Law Faculty should you have any questions regarding the law units offered.

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# INTRODUCTIONS

# 1



# Dean's Foreword

As the newly appointed Dean, it is my great privilege to lead Monash Law Faculty in 2025. In my life, legal education has been nothing short of transformative. Studying law changed the way I see the world and the opportunities available to me, and it is this transformative potential that brings me to Monash Law, a faculty deeply aligned with my values.

Our Faculty is more than a top-tier academic institution - it aims to be a force for societal good. A place where innovation, leadership, and a commitment to justice converge to shape the future of law and society, where a genuine collective and individual commitment to social justice and broader access to justice is a critical commitment for any law school, now more than ever.

The Social Justice & Equity Portfolio of the Monash LSS is critical in providing a meaningful contribution to this important cause, and the 2025 Guide is a great resource to introduce students to the abundance of opportunities available to them. At Monash Law, we are dedicated to providing our students with a rigorous and comprehensive legal education that fosters critical thinking, practical skills, and an understanding of the complex global legal landscape.

Monash Law students have a range of educational, clinical, research, volunteering, and other options for studying and doing something about social justice, within and beyond metropolitan Melbourne. Clinical legal education is just one way in which the Faculty provides opportunities for students to engage with the community and provide free and accessible legal services to the most vulnerable, disadvantaged, and marginalised members of society. This program was an Australian first for law schools, beginning in 1975, and remains a key feature of Monash Law and the student experience to this day.

Our commitment to impact extends to the community through initiatives like the Justice Bus, a mobile legal clinic - staffed by Monash Law students and supervised by experienced legal practitioners - which provides pro bono legal services to rural and regional communities in Victoria. For our students, it is an unparalleled opportunity to combine learning with meaningful service. As Sir John Monash, for whom our university is named, advised students, we want you to 'equip yourself for life, not solely for your own benefit, but for the benefit of the whole community.'

Our faculty is home to a vibrant community of scholars, academics and students who are united by a common purpose: to address the legal challenges of our time and contribute to the advancement of justice both locally and internationally. Whether through our extensive research programs, partnerships with global institutions, or opportunities for experiential learning, we are committed to ensuring our graduates are not only well-prepared for their legal careers but also equipped to lead and make meaningful impacts in their communities.

As you embark on the journey of 2025, I encourage you to seize the opportunities before you: engage deeply with your studies, participate in clinics and moots, and connect with the vibrant Monash Law community (academics, students, alumni, the people who live, work, and play near our campuses, practitioners, and many others). The challenges you encounter will be as essential to your growth as the successes you achieve.

Together, we will continue to advance Monash Law's legacy as a Faculty that values positive social change through law, that fosters innovation, and that remains steadfastly committed to making a difference.

**Professor Steven Vaughan**  
Dean, Faculty of Law,  
MONASH UNIVERSITY



# President's Foreword

The motivation behind pursuing a law degree often stems from a desire to create meaningful change in our society. Whether through advancing Indigenous rights within the legal system or advocating for law reform, the opportunities to make an impact are endless.

At Monash Law, we are fortunate enough to have access to education that empowers us to contribute to structural reform for a better society for all. However, there is no singular path to achieving this goal - many of us take routes that do not typically lend itself to social justice and equity. This makes university years a crucial time to explore different areas of social justice that interest you, whether law-related or not.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the 2025 Social Justice & Equity Guide, a resource designed to highlight the multitude of social justice opportunities available to you, both within the legal profession and beyond.

During my term as LSS President, I am committed to ensuring that all Monash Law students have equal access to diverse opportunities across various fields and each one of us is able to make use of these amazing opportunities! The experiences gained through volunteering or working with the organisations featured in this guide will develop your emotional intelligence, empathy, resilience, advocacy and awareness, preparing you with the skills needed for your future, wherever it may be.

I would like to extend my gratitude and congratulations to our Social Justice & Equity team for their hard work in creating this guide. In particular, special credit goes to Fiona Li, Equity Publications Officer; Phoenix Ettelson and Venessa Thomas, Directors of Social Justice & Equity Portfolio; and the SJE Guide Subcommittee.

Additionally, we are incredibly grateful for the support of the Monash Law Faculty, particularly Professor Steven Vaughan, whose commitment to student opportunities enables vital social justice initiatives to thrive.

I wish you all the best of luck throughout your law degree and encourage you to seize every opportunity that comes your way!

**Sarah Tok**  
President  
Monash Law Students' Society



# PG Director's Foreword

Social justice is not just a concept—it is a responsibility. As future lawyers, we have the opportunity to challenge inequities, advocate for systemic change, and amplify marginalised voices. This belief drove me to take on the role of Social Justice & Equity Director, and it continues to shape my work every day.

Before pursuing law, I worked as a registered nurse, witnessing firsthand how access to healthcare impacts lives. During the final year of the COVID-19 pandemic, I worked on the frontlines and across multiple departments in regional and metropolitan Victoria. These experiences reinforced my understanding of systemic barriers and the critical need for advocacy.

One of the most defining moments in my journey was volunteering as a nursing assistant at Shishu Bhavan, an orphanage in India run by the Missionaries of Charity. There, I cared for orphaned children, many with severe disabilities and illnesses. Seeing their resilience and the unwavering commitment of their caregivers deepened my resolve to pursue a career where I could advocate for meaningful change.

Transitioning into law, I sought to carry this passion forward. Through my work in environmental justice and equitable access to education, I have seen the power of collective action and legal advocacy in driving social change. As Social Justice & Equity Director, I am committed to fostering an inclusive student community where these conversations thrive.

The Social Justice & Equity (SJE) Guide is a key resource for Monash Law students seeking to engage with advocacy, pro bono work, and justice-driven initiatives. It provides insights into social justice careers, legal activism, and initiatives supporting marginalised communities, equipping students with the knowledge and tools to contribute meaningfully.

I would like to acknowledge our dedicated Publications Officer Fiona Li and her subcommittee whose dedication has been instrumental in bringing this guide to life. Their unwavering efforts ensure that Monash Law remains a space where students can connect, learn, and take action.

Finally, your journey in law school and beyond will be shaped by the perspectives you engage with and the impact you strive to make. Stay open to learning, seek opportunities for growth, and know that even the smallest actions can create meaningful change.

I hope this guide inspires and empowers you.

**Venessa Thomas**  
PG Director  
Monash Law Students' Society



# LLB Director's Foreword

It is my honour as the 2025 undergraduate Social Justice and Equity (SJE) Director to introduce to you the annual Social Justice and Equity Guide. The guide is a rich resource for law students who are interested in social justice and making a positive social impact through their future legal careers. Inside you will find invaluable information regarding the various opportunities to engage with your social justice related interests during law school and beyond. The guide also illuminates the diverse pathways to working in social justice and equity related legal spaces.

The Social Justice and Equity Guide reflects the vital work of our offices under the SJE portfolio, which include the offices that aim to uplift and support POC, Women-identifying, Indigenous and Queer-identifying law students and their communities. The work of the Just Leadership Program (JLP) and the SJE Publications offices further our portfolio's aim to promote social justice and equity in the law.

This guide would not be possible without the tireless dedication and talent of the SJE Publications Officer Fiona Li, and her subcommittee of Angela Cremona, Sophie Farlecas, Tanya Hidellaarachchi, and Wendy Huang. I'm proud of the beautiful guide they have produced after many months of hard work.

Like many of you likely also did, the reason behind my choice to study law was so I could have the ability to make a genuine positive social impact. My identity as a queer woman, coupled with my passion for human rights and the rights of marginalised groups, fuelled my ultimate goal to advance social justice and equity through my future legal career.

I found myself feeling naive for having these aspirations when I started looking into graduate legal pathways. I felt a lot of pressure to go down a traditional legal pathway, and almost started to believe that I could not be successful if I took an alternative route that felt true to my values.

My perspective changed when I met legal professionals both through my previous role in the Monash Law Students Society as a Careers Officer and by attending previous SJE events. I was inspired from learning about the work of legal professionals in social justice and equity related areas, and received incredible advice about how I could realistically achieve my goals. These experiences motivated me to pursue social justice focused law, as I realised there were various pathways to the legal career I was truly passionate about.

My advice, therefore, is to use this guide to motivate you to further engage with the opportunities available in social justice and equity focused law. Connect with like-minded students and legal professionals, research and apply for volunteer or paid roles in your areas of interest, and do not be afraid to take the legal pathway that aligns with your values and feels the most rewarding. Although it can be a challenging pursuit, we hope this guide will assist you through your journey of promoting social justice and equity through the legal field and beyond.



**Phoenix Ettelson**  
**LLB Director**

Monash Law Students' Society

# Editor's Welcome

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2025 Social Justice and Equity Guide. This guide serves as an invaluable resource for Monash law students, providing diverse opportunities to engage with the social justice sphere. Whether you are looking to begin your journey or deepen your involvement, the guide highlights a broad range of volunteering, interning, and educational pathways that cater to various interests and ambitions. Through these opportunities, students can explore key social justice issues while discovering causes they may not have previously encountered.

This publication would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of my amazing subcommittee—Angela Cremona, Sophie Farlecas, Tanya Hidellaarachchi, and Wendy Huang. From editing to designing, they have poured in so much time and effort into bringing this guide to life. Their passion for social justice is reflected in every page, and I am incredibly grateful for their contributions.

I am also incredibly grateful to our Social Justice and Equity Directors, Phoenix Ettelson and Venessa Thomas, for their unwavering support and guidance throughout the entire process. Their leadership has been instrumental in supporting my subcommittee and I, ensuring this guide remains a valuable and inspiring resource for all.

Finally, a special thank you to our distinguished interviewees, Mark Burton, Paul Burgess, Dale Walker, and Noel Lim, for taking the time to share their own personal experiences and insights. Their journeys and accomplishments not only highlight the many ways one can contribute to social justice and equity but also serves as a powerful reminder that meaningful change is possible.

I hope this guide inspires and encourages you to take the next step in your social justice and equity journey.

**Fiona Li**  
**Social Justice and Equity Publications Officer**  
Monash Law Students' Society



# Sub-Committee's Welcome



**Sophie Farlecas**

What an incredible privilege it has been to collaborate with Fiona, Tanya, Wendy and Angela on the Social Justice and Equity Guide for 2025. It is our hope that the guide will serve as a valuable resource to educate and inspire you all to use your law degree to enact positive social change. We are extremely grateful to all the passionate voices featured in the guide. As law students the responsibility falls on us to help shape a fair and just future, may this guide act as a building block to do so.

Social justice is what drew most of us to the law, and yet I've found that it can be so easy to lose sight of these passions and goals as we progress further into our legal studies. I hope that this guide can serve as a testament and a reminder to our fellow peers, that there is still so much opportunity out there for us to make a difference in these areas. I am so proud of the combined effort of our team, Fiona, Wendy, Sophie and Tanya, and the product that we were able to put together. I hope you are able to gain as much out of it as we did putting it together.



**Angela Cremona**

The law should always be a tool for justice. So, it is important that we breathe light onto the organisations, clubs and charities who have worked to further social justice and equity movements. Both a testament to their efforts and a helping hand to guide law students to assist in their efforts, this guide aims to help students continue the fight for justice. Helping develop this guide alongside my incredibly talented peers in the SJE Guide subcommittee has been more than meaningful, and I hope our efforts can help those who read this engage with organisations and use their skills to help level the playing field.



**Wendy Huang**

Social justice and equity aren't just ideas - they're the foundation of a fair and inclusive society. Our goal is to make this guide both informative and practical, equipping our fellow peers with the knowledge and confidence to challenge systemic barriers and advocate for fairness. Working alongside Fiona, Sophie, Wendy, and Angela has been an incredible experience, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn from such a passionate and thoughtful team. We hope this guide highlights the wide range of opportunities available and inspires students to help make a difference.



**Tanya Hidellaarachchi**

# Tips for working in Social Justice and Equity

Working in this area of law may help you understand your passions and build professional skills. Here are some tips that can help you add value to the company you work for, and build your professional portfolio.

## Do your research

*'Allow your passion to become your purpose and it will one day become your profession'.*

This rings true when you apply to work at an institution associated with social justice and equity, perhaps more so than for other posts you may apply for during your time studying. It is essential to research the company that you intend to work with, and your role, particularly if you are just starting to dip your toes in a particular area of the law. You can research the company by looking it up online, or reach out to people who have worked there.

The more interested you are in the tasks given, the more likely you are to learn and retain information. Thoroughly research the types of cases that your company of interest handles, organisational culture, and notable achievements in order to better evaluate where you would like to work, and what you would like to do.



## Ask questions

You will find that your experience is much more rewarding and often more efficient when you ask questions. Asking questions is how you will learn procedures, the business ins and outs and the details of your role. Doing so will help you rise to the tasks assigned to you. Additionally, asking questions permits you to expand your reach and learn skills that are not part of your job description, but will serve you well as you develop your portfolio.

## **Be prepared for anything**

Many companies that you will work for during your time as a student in this area of the law will be not-for-profits. This means that you will not always act in a legal capacity. Generally, your role in a community legal centre may include completing tasks such as:

- Providing legal advice
- Other legal assistance (preparing briefs, forms, and other documents)
- Legal representation
- Providing information to both non-legal and legal services
- Completing administrative tasks
- Assisting with publications

## **Be patient**

At times, you may have your hands full, or you may find yourself with very little to do. This will depend on the company you work for, the time of year and how many clients they have. Take both in stride - when you are busy, show off your legal prowess and attempt to help to the best of your ability.

If you aren't busy, there will always be something to do: learn from others, complete some extra research, and see where you can lend a helping hand. You can always ask if there are extra tasks that you can help with.

## **Be professional**

No matter the nature of your workplace, it always helps to be professional with clients. Skills such as etiquette, good presentation, clear communication, and working in a team are highly regarded in any workplace.

## **Have fun!**

Whilst it is very important to consider the gravity and importance of the cases, the people and situations that you are dealing with, also try to assimilate everything you learn and embrace the value of what you are doing.

If you are finding the subject matter of your work distressing, or the professional environment is feeling like too big of a leap, don't be afraid to speak to your colleagues. Creating a bond with the people you work with will help you to traverse the working environment and find joy in the little moments!

# OPPORTUNITIES AT MONASH

# 2



# Just Leadership Program

The Just Leadership Program (JLP) is an initiative of the Monash Law Students' Society Social Justice & Equity portfolio, offering a prestigious and highly-regarded opportunity for students passionate about delving into the intersections of law, social justice, and equity outside of the classroom. For law students eager to make a difference and engage in critical conversations around justice and equality, the JLP allows students to make a broader impact in the legal world.

Over the course of the program, students will attend eight seminars in Q&A format, each covering a different social justice topic. Past speakers have included figures such as the Honourable Michael Kirby AC CMG, Professor Gillian Triggs, Andrew MacLeod, and Julian Burnside QC. These speakers offer participants the chance to learn from those who have shaped the legal landscape and inspired positive change in the pursuit of justice.

Alongside these seminars, participants will also develop their leadership abilities through group projects focused on the topics discussed in the seminars. Previous projects have included drafting law reform proposals, submitting parliamentary documents, and creating resources or interactive workshops for students.

At the conclusion of the program, there will be a graduation ceremony, during which the group with the most impressive project will receive a bursary to improve and complete their work further. This will be followed by a public lecture, open to all law students.



**Emily Zhong**  
JLP Coordinator  
2025



**Pakhi Adtani**  
JLP Coordinator  
2025

# 2025 Program:

- Introductory Seminar
- Rights of Asylum Seekers and Refugees
- Mental Health and Rights of People with Disabilities
- Addiction and the Law
- LGBTQIA+ Rights
- Worker's Rights
- Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Environmental Justice
- Women's Rights
- Graduation Ceremony and Public Lecture



## Apply Now!

Following applications in 2025, students are encouraged to visit the public lecture and/or apply in early 2026. Candidates will be selected based on their dedication to social justice, relevant experience, and ability to collaborate in a team. For any questions, please contact Emily and Pakhi at [justleadership@monashlss.com](mailto:justleadership@monashlss.com)!

# The Reasonable Observer

The Reasonable Observer is an online press publication that provides students with a platform to write, reflect, and drive change. Founded in 2017, it welcomes written contributions based on legal commentary, creative writing, and discussions on social justice and equity issues, encouraging students to contribute and initiate meaningful dialogue within the community as authors themselves.

The press publication also includes helpful links on health and wellbeing, blog posts on law student life, and guidance on how to maintain a healthy work-life balance on the way to success.

In 2025, the publication will continue to deliver weekly legal news updates via the SJE Instagram and will host the annual Social Justice and Equity writing competition in semester two, with entrants' works being published in the Reasonable Observer publication and a student crowned winner of the overall competition.

If you are interested in contributing to The Reasonable Observer or entering the writing competition, like and follow their page on Facebook, and visit their page on the LSS website!

Please contact Fiona with any queries you may have or if you're interested in contributing at: [equitypublications@monashlss.com](mailto:equitypublications@monashlss.com)

Being an editor of the Reasonable Observer is a journey that I would wholeheartedly recommend to anyone passionate about fostering educational experiences and intellectual exchanges. Working within a team of likeminded individuals to produce work that you are proud of serves as an opportunity to gain critical thinking, research, and analytical skills, pushing you to engage with new developments in the ever-evolving field of the law.

The diverse perspectives you will engage with continuously creates a dynamic environment where innovative ideas flourish, making it an exciting space to be part of. Joining this committee has opened doors to unique learning experiences, being a chance to drive positive change by increasing awareness and understanding of current events.

This responsibility provides for both personal and professional growth, extending well beyond the confines of the traditional university experience. With the support of the everyone within the Law Student Society's Social Justice and Publications Equity Subcommittee, there is nothing stopping you from contributing to this wonderful publication. By having the freedom to choose which subjects you wish to research and write on and consistent support and encouragement, this is an opportunity that can be tailored to your desired academic journey. It is an invaluable experience that is not to be missed!



**Ella Day**



# The Reasonable Observer Writing Competition

The Reasonable Observer Social Justice and Equity Writing Competition provides students with the opportunity to enhance their legal writing skills while exploring SJE issues within the legal sphere.

Submissions open at the end of semester one and close early semester two with adjudicators offering guidance and feedback before a final winner is announced at the exclusive Awards Night at Monash Clayton Moot Court. Participants will also receive a published collection showcasing their work alongside contributions from talented peers.

If you are interested in joining the competition, like and follow their page on Facebook, and visit their page on the LSS website for more updates!

Please reach out to Fiona with any queries you may have or if you are interested in entering the competition with your own written piece at: [equitypublications@monashlss.com](mailto:equitypublications@monashlss.com)

Participating in the SJE Writing Competition was an intellectually stimulating and deeply rewarding experience. My piece titled *Artificial Non-Discrimination: Can Artificial Intelligence Help Us Overcome Indirect Discrimination in Refugee Credibility Assessments?* explored the intersection of AI and refugee law, assessing whether AI might mitigate – or instead exacerbate – bias underlying the Refugee Status Determination process.

The writing process involved research into international refugee law frameworks and emerging AI technologies. Realising there were so many layers to these topics, I did have to significantly narrow the initial scope of my piece – which is a valuable lesson in research!

The award night was a memorable experience. It was fascinating and inspiring to hear the topics that my peers explored. I was encouraged by the feedback I received from the adjudicators but also challenged to be more decisive in my conclusions in future writing endeavours.

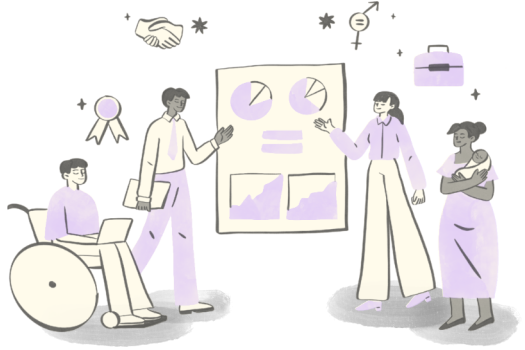
On that note, I decisively conclude that anyone reading this would benefit from entering this year's SJE Writing Competition. I urge you to dig into those legal issues that excite and ignite you most.

**Ashleigh Dowling**



# Street Law

Street Law is a community legal education program run in partnership with Monash Law clinics. Dedicated to empowering community members with knowledge about their legal rights and responsibilities, student volunteers deliver free interactive workshops on a range of topics including police powers, employment law, consumer rights, consent and bullying and harassment. Through providing accessible legal education, our mission is to enhance community legal literacy so that individuals can navigate the legal system with confidence.



The program will continue to offer opportunities for volunteer law students to develop client-focused skills that will prepare them for any career opportunities. Professor Jeff Giddings and Sally Anderson works with students to develop their skills to present community legal education workshops to schools and community organisations.

For any questions about Monash Street Law, please contact the Street Law Officer at: [streetlaw@monashlss.com](mailto:streetlaw@monashlss.com)



# Street Law

Participating in the Monash Street Law Program over the past two years has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my law degree. The Street Law program is a unique opportunity for law students to immerse themselves into the community and empower individuals to become better advocates for themselves.

The most rewarding aspect for me has been the ability to engage directly with the community. Through delivering workshops to schools and organisations, we are able to provide valuable legal information to those who have never been exposed to the law or may feel overwhelmed by it. We focus on creating workshops that resonate with our diverse audiences, breaking down legal concepts into clear and actionable information. These workshops make a tangible difference in people's daily lives, and that is why delivering these workshops is as transformative for us as it is for our audiences.

This program has also been an invaluable opportunity to connect with like-minded law students. The cohort comprises passionate students who all share a commitment to social justice and making a genuine difference in the community. This program has also opened my eyes to the career pathways available in the community legal sector and the profound role played by this sector in promoting access to justice. In fact, many of us have pursued pro bono opportunities beyond the program, including volunteer roles at community legal centres. This year, we plan to run a panel so that all of our participants can engage directly with some leading figures in the sector and learn about career opportunities.

This program is also continuously growing. In 2024, nine participants took part in the inaugural Justice Bus initiative, where we delivered workshops to key regional communities in Victoria, including Echuca, Bendigo and Ballarat. This initiative signifies our commitment to expanding our reach and ensuring that legal education is accessible to all, no matter the location. We hope to see this program continue into 2025 and beyond!

I highly recommend the Monash Street Law Program to anyone who is passionate about making a meaningful impact on their community, developing transferable skills, and building long-lasting connections with other students.



**Dipannita Dey**  
Street Law  
Officer 2025

# Queer Events

The Queer Portfolio's ethos lies in advocating for and promoting the interests of LGBTQIA+ law students at Monash. Each of our events are run with this core mission in mind, as we continue expanding the scope of networking opportunities available to help students form strong community foundations within the wider legal sphere.

To kick things off, we are thrilled to be working with Pride in Law to provide the Mentorship Networking Night, aimed at establishing mentor-mentee relationships between LGBTQIA+ students and legal professionals. Next, the Queer Professional Panel & Networking Night with Melbourne University allows students to hear from queer legal professionals speaking to their experiences in the law, later having the opportunity to network with the panellists, firm representatives, and other students. We are delighted to be working with the POC Office to launch the inaugural Queer x POC evening, focused on promoting awareness of (and celebrating!) intersectionality's operation within the broader queer and BIPOC experiences. To finish things off, we have the Queer Mixer with Melbourne University. This celebratory night provides a relaxed, convivial setting for queer students to socialise and build community amongst LGBTQIA+ peers and allies, perfectly commemorating the year!



**Phoenix Menz**  
Queer officer (LLB),  
2025



**Catherine Wicks**  
Queer officer (PG),  
2025



# A Note From the Women's Officers



Hello Monash Law! We are Ki Li Clark (LLB) and Zara Nazikian (PG), Monash LSS Women's Officers. We are excited to represent and create a positive impact for our peers and strive to inspire and empower others to unlock opportunities and resources.

Ki Li is studying a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Arts and was previously LSS LLB Careers' Officer in 2024. During this role, she worked with, met, and was inspired by some incredible women in all stages of their lives which led her to the Women's Office!

Zara is studying the Juris Doctor of Law and was previously LSS PG Disability & Wellbeing Officer in 2024. In addition, she obtained a Bachelor of Global Studies, International Relations and Politics, from Monash University in 2022.



**Ki Li Clark**  
Womens' officer  
(LLB), 2025



**Zara Nazikian**  
Womens' officer  
(PG), 2025

# A Note From the Women's Officers

We have the incredible opportunity to support women and gender-diverse people, providing opportunities to get involved and personal development and understanding how the impact impacts us and how we in turn can impact it.

At the Women's Office, we empower women-identifying and gender-diverse individuals to embrace courage, inspiration, and confidence. Our mission is to help you make the most of every opportunity—at university and beyond. We aim to create a supportive, inclusive community where everyone feels a sense of belonging and empowerment through meaningful networking, skill-building workshops, impactful initiatives, and engaging events.

Our wonderful Women's Subcommittee in 2025 includes Amber Dwivedi, Anika Ojha and Emily Duffin (LLB); and Natasha Grasso, Parneet Kaur and Pru Litster (PG).

If you have any questions, please contact us at [womensofficer@monashlss.com](mailto:womensofficer@monashlss.com) (LLB) or at [pg.womensofficer@monashlss.com](mailto:pg.womensofficer@monashlss.com) (PG)!

We're thrilled to announce a diverse lineup of events for 2025, celebrating women in law and fostering connection, inspiration, and growth.

Here's what's in store:

- International Women's Day
- Women in Law Breakfast
- Professional Mentoring Program ('PMP') Women's Stream
- Women in Law Leadership Seminar
- Women in Law Bar Night
- Women in Law Pathways and Possibilities
- Women's Moot Competition:
- Women's Liberation Halfway House Collection Boxes: Ongoing throughout 2025



# A Note From the POC Officers

We extend our appreciation to the Social Justice and Equity ('SJE') Publications Committee for granting us the platform to introduce the People of Colour ('POC') Office in the 2025 SJE Guide. The POC Office is dedicated to supporting culturally and linguistically diverse ('CALD') students as they navigate their pathways within the legal profession. While diversity in the legal field has made strides, significant barriers to success persist. Our mission is to empower students, fostering awareness and championing inclusivity within the profession.

As PG and LLB officers, we are passionate about uniting students from diverse backgrounds and fostering a vibrant community of perspectives and experiences. We recognise that our future work will touch countless areas of law—from the intensity of criminal courtrooms to the intricacies of civil disputes—all in the relentless pursuit of equal access to justice. The unique skills and experiences we cultivate as Monash Law graduates equip us to be more than just practitioners; they enable us to bridge gaps and create a diverse and inclusive community that respects our differences. Together, we're not merely studying law; we're preparing to shape a legal landscape that truly reflects and serves our wonderfully diverse society.



# Meet Your POC Officers



**Srushti Shah**  
POC Officer 2025

Srushti brings a rich cultural perspective as a first-generation Indian migrant, offering valuable insights into the challenges faced by students of color in both academic and professional settings. Her experience working at a migration firm has deepened her understanding of the complexities involved in navigating studies and employment in a diverse society. Driven by a strong sense of community, Srushti has actively participated in numerous local council and university volunteering events, even running her own NGO called 'Girls for Science' hoping to pass on the opportunities presented to her. While not directly relating to law, this firsthand experience has fueled her unwavering commitment to expanding these opportunities to the broader POC community.



**Esha Serai**  
POC Officer 2025

As a first-generation Pakistani law student, Esha has been committed to advancing cultural diversity within the legal profession. Her article, 'Kaleidoscopes,' featured in the 2023 Monash Being Guide, showcases an interview with a CALD legal professional. Through her volunteer work, role at the Law Institute of Victoria, and academic pursuits, Esha has gained valuable insights into the barriers CALD individuals face in accessing legal services and the unique challenges CALD students encounter in building successful legal careers. She is passionate about addressing these gaps and ensuring that POC students at Monash Law feel empowered and supported as they pursue their professional goals. By uplifting POC students, we can enrich the legal profession with diverse cultural perspectives, enhancing its accessibility and reinforcing the principles of justice.

# A Note From the Indigenous Officer

Firstly, the Social Justice and Equity team and Publications Officer deserve a huge congratulations on the successful release of the 2025 SJE Guide! For law students who are dedicated to making a difference, the SJE Guide is an invaluable resource, providing opportunities to expand legal knowledge, promote substantive change, and engage meaningfully with the community.

As the returning Indigenous Officer for 2025, I am excited to continue fostering a student body that is committed to reconciliation and the recognition of our Indigenous peoples. Representation of the Indigenous community in law is deeply personal to me as a proud Worimi Woman, and I am inspired to celebrate the strong network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Monash Law students while facilitating meaningful connections between Indigenous students and legal professionals.



**Ashlie MacPhee**  
Indigenous Officer, 2025

## William Cooper Institute



For Indigenous Law students at Monash, the William Cooper Institute serves as a remarkable hub that enhances research, supports learning, and promotes Indigenous leadership and advancement across the university.

In my own experience, the William Cooper Institute has been an invaluable source of support, helping me connect with fellow Indigenous students and access essential academic and professional resources. I highly recommend that all Indigenous students, within and beyond the Law Faculty, explore the opportunities offered by the William Cooper Institute.

# Indigenous Office Events

In 2025, we are excited to host a series of impactful events that celebrate and honour Indigenous culture and history. These include:

- **National Reconciliation**

Reconciliation Week will offer opportunities for education and dialogue, emphasizing the importance of building respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Through various initiatives, participants will be encouraged to reflect on reconciliation's ongoing journey and the legal profession's role in fostering meaningful change.

- **NAIDOC Week**

Our NAIDOC Week celebrations will shine a spotlight on the rich history, culture, and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. These events will align with the annual NAIDOC theme, encouraging reflection and participation in activities that promote cultural awareness and pride.

Through these initiatives, we aim to deepen the appreciation of Indigenous culture within the Monash Law community and empower students to engage thoughtfully and respectfully with Indigenous history and perspectives. I look forward to another year of meaningful conversations, learning, and progress in 2025!

- **Indigenous Panel**

The annual Indigenous Panel is a cornerstone of our efforts, providing a platform to highlight the achievements and experiences of Indigenous professionals in the legal field. This event facilitates discussions on the challenges and successes faced by Indigenous legal practitioners, fostering understanding and inspiring the next generation of legal professionals. The panel will engage with critical conversations about the role of law in advancing justice for Indigenous communities.

history and perspectives. I look forward to another year of meaningful conversations, learning, and progress in 2025!

The image features a light purple background on the left and a dark purple background on the right. A large, dark purple circle is partially visible on the left side. Two vertical yellow bars are positioned on the left and right sides. Three curved yellow lines connect the two vertical bars, looping around the circle. The word 'EFFECTIVES' is written vertically in a yellow, serif font on the dark purple background.

# EFFECTIVES



## LAW4177: INTRODUCTION TO FAMILY LAW

This unit focuses on the fundamental principles and concepts in Family Law. LAW4177 will examine the history and the concept of 'the family'; family law in practice, including the professional and ethical challenges and courts jurisdiction; marriage and its obligations and divorce; dividing property under the Family Law Act; children's rights and parental responsibilities; family support, spousal maintenance, and child support.

**Chief Examiner:** TBC

### Assessments:

- Research assignment: 50%
- Take home exam: 50%

LAW4112 Advanced Constitutional Law is absolutely one of the best subjects I have done at university. In 2023, the unit was taught by the impressive and engaging James Blaker who has a ton of incredible experience including as a High Court associate.

The first eight weeks of the semester were deep dives into different areas of the Constitution. The content gives you a complete and unique understanding of key legal principles in Australia made up of interesting and relevant cases. This includes the relationship between Indigenous Australia and the Constitution, voting rights, detention powers, acquisition of property, the aliens power, and the powers of the courts and parliament.



**Jack Clark**



## LAW4112: ADVANCED CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

LAW4112 is predominantly an extension of LAW1112 and LAW2111. The unit explores various issues in Australian constitutional law and, with a generally small cohort, provides much opportunity for discussion and debate amongst students. This unit would suit students who are analytical, can write at a high level and are willing to engage with case judgements.

**Chief Examiner:** TBC

**Pre-requisite:** LAW2111 Constitutional Law

### Assessments:

- Research assignment: 50%
- Take-home exam: 50%

These ideas are often in the news (see indefinite detention), and you will have a deep understanding and appreciation for them. The remaining weeks analysed other countries' constitutions which were held by specialist guest lecturers.

I would recommend Advanced Constitutional Law to any student who loves their law degree and loves learning about the law. There is no assumed knowledge from the Constitutional law unit, and if you didn't enjoy consti, that does not mean you will dislike Advanced consti. The readings were entertaining and easy to understand and also from one textbook by Monash Law's Luke Beck.

I would recommend this unit to every student, and particularly those interested in politics and the law in Australia.



## LAW4805: MOOTING AND ADVOCACY COMPETITION

Throughout this unit students will be allocated to teams for various external mooting competitions in which they will represent Monash University. Seminars are provided on advocacy techniques, research techniques and the drafting of court documents. Students will then work as a team on the problem relevant to assigned competition, including researching the problem, preparing written submissions and formulating oral arguments.

Where permitted by the rules of the respective competitions, students will be invited to critique the practice performances of their peers in other competitions. Regular practice moots will also be held for each team, overseen by academics and external guest judges with expertise in the relevant field.

Admission to this unit is by competitive application. The unit will be capped depending on the number of competitions offered from year to year. Criteria for selection will include course progression, marks in completed units, experience or skill in mooting, debating or other advocacy (assessed through an oral advocacy exercise).

**Chief Examiner:** William Lye

### **Assessments:**

- Participation: 10%
- Reflective Journal: 15%
- Written Memorandum: 15%
- Oral Presentation: 60%

Mooting and Advocacy is one of my favourite units I've studied at Monash. The unit begins with students being allocated an external moot, for example, the Deakin International Commercial Arbitration Moot. Throughout the semester, you prepare written submissions for the moot and then practice your oral advocacy skills in the state-of-the-art Monash moot court. William Lye OAM KC, Monash's Chief Moot Coach, oversees the unit, marking students on their participation, written memorandums, oral presentation and reflections.

Each class was unique and allowed for students to get involved in many ways. From sitting on the bench and testing your peers' knowledge of their moot, to listening to William's teachings about advocacy... every class was engaging and paramount to growing as an advocate. But perhaps one of the most rewarding parts of this unit was building strong friendships due to the intimate-nature of the class, being a selective subject making the class smaller than most other electives.

I would highly recommend this class to any law student interested in developing oral advocacy skills, or anyone who wants to enjoy a truly once in a life experience!



**Prudence Spencer**



## LAW4543: THE DEATH PENALTY: LAW, POLITICS AND ADVOCACY

This unit focuses on the current status of capital punishment on a global front, and how the practice of the death penalty is framed within international law and human rights standards. Students will examine the impact on the trial of an Accused, when due process safeguards fail, with a focus on police abuse, access to justice, unfair trials, mandatory sentencing and forensic evidence. Students will consider the discriminations faced by those on death row and how these hinder the fair administration of justice. Students will also explore the advocacy of the abolitionist movement.

**Chief Examiner:** TBC

### Assessments:

- Class participation: 10%
- Group debate: 15%
- Individual reflection: 15%
- Research essay: 60%



## LAW4129: LAW AND DISCRIMINATION

LAW4129 explores anti-discrimination laws and reforms, focusing on the different types of discrimination (e.g. sex and disability) and the process of bringing legal action for a claim of discrimination. The unit's content is highly applicable to real world scenarios and, although focused on Commonwealth regimes, draws comparisons between the different Australian states/territories and overseas jurisdictions.

**Chief Examiner:** Liam Elphick

### Assessments:

- Research assignment: 40%
- Law reform assessment: 50%
- Class Participation: 10%



## LAW4312: LEGAL ISSUES IN MEDICINE

The Unit explores legal and ethical dilemmas that arise in medicine and law, including a focus on the principles and regulation of medical practice and allied health professionals under Victorian law; the legal and ethical duties owed by doctors to their patient and consent and refusal of medical treatment.

**Chief Examiner:** Fiona Hum

### Assessments:

- Quiz: 10%
- research Assignment: 30%
- Take home exam: 60%



## LAW4306: SENTENCING AND SANCTIONS

LAW4306 focuses on the legal framework within which offenders are sentenced locally and nationally. It will examine sentencing principles applicable under state and federal law in Victoria. The course will examine the sources of sentencing law; the distribution of sentencing authority between the legislature, judiciary and executive arms of government; the control of sentencing discretion; the role of counsel in the sentencing hearing; plea negotiation, and the opportunity for public and victim input. Main sentencing measures and procedures currently utilised will be explored. The problems of sentencing special offender groups and special sanctions such as confiscation of the proceeds of crime will also be examined if time allows.

**Chief Examiner:** Liz Campell

### Assessments:

- Research essay proposal: 10%
- Written Assignment: 35%
- Individual Research Paper: 55%



## LAW4806: JESSUP MOOT COMPETITION

The Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition is conducted each year and runs over the summer semester. Five students will be invited to participate and will be selected each year from those students who have successfully completed the Jessup Moot Seminar unit. The team of five students will work closely in a team to prepare detailed and lengthy written submissions and represent fictional States in a topical hypothetical case before the International Court of Justice. Written memorials are submitted in mid-January each year. The team will then moot against teams from other Australian Universities.

**Chief Examiner:** TBC

**Prerequisite:** LAW4805 Mooting and Advocacy Competition

### Assessments:

- Memorial research and two memoranda: 50%
- Mooting and participation: 50%

I would highly recommend LAW4306 to any law student, no matter whether you have a passion for criminal law or not! The principles and skills you develop in Arie's class will help you no matter what area of law you pursue.

Arie provides the opportunity to challenge your prejudices or misconceptions and to develop your critical thinking.

The unit has engaging guest speakers, accessible assessments and a passionate chief examiner - truly an amazing unit!



Jess Abraham





## LAW4230: ANIMAL LAW

LLAW4230 explores how the relationship between humans and non-human animals is regulated in Australia, including discussion of legal and ethical challenges arising in this context. Topics include animals in sport, the live export industry and international comparative animal law.

**Chief Examiner:** Dr Joanna Kyriakakis

**Assessments:**

- Quiz: 10%
- Group research plan: 30%
- Research essay: 60%



## LAW4122: INTERNATIONAL LAW

LAW4122 examines the sources and implementation of international law, the rules governing international relations and disputes between nations, and the role of international institutions. The unit also explores specific areas of public international law. This unit is best suited to students interested in policy and who do not mind research.

**Chief Examiner:** Jean Allain

**Enrolment Rule:** 60 Credit Points of Law Study

**Assessments:**

- Take-home examination: 40%
- Research paper: 60%



## LAW4545: TECHNOLOGY, DESIGN AND INNOVATION IN LEGAL SERVICES

The purpose of this unit is to introduce students to the current and emerging legal technologies to enhance their employment prospects in the current legal services market. The unit is focused on understanding how innovation is operationalised in legal practice. Students will work collaboratively in teams to develop a web-based application that solves a contemporary legal problem. Law students will develop technological and entrepreneurial skills and apply the knowledge they have already gained in a practical setting. Teams will first create a meaningful and beneficial design question, and then carry out systematic research to develop and deliver a solution that meets industry standards.

**Chief Examiner:** Paul Burgess

**Assessments:**

- Research essay: 20%
- Team problem statement and solution proposal : 40%
- Team video pitch: 20%
- Project critical reflection essay: 20%





## LAW4544: CHALLENGING GOVERNMENT: LAW REFORM AND PUBLIC ADVOCACY

LAW4544 focuses on law reform and public advocacy. The unit explores key institutions and players capable of enacting and resisting legal change, including parliamentary committees, politicians and law reform commissions. The unit also examines the regulation of public interest litigation, political advertising, political donations, political lobbying, and the role of civil society organisations. Students interested in working in the public sector, NGOs or politics are encouraged to take LAW4544.

**Chief Examiner:** Luke Beck

**Prerequisite:** LAW2111 Constitutional law

**Assessments:**

- Test: 20%
- Law reform analysis: 30%
- Take home exam: 60%

**LAW4544** is one of the best units I've taken at Monash. The unit is centred on the machinery of law reform. It gives students an insight into how laws are created and what can be done to change them. The unit offers a refreshingly pragmatic perspective on the law, peeling back the curtain on the smoke-filled rooms where laws are created.

Each week centres around a different aspect of law reform, from parliamentary committees and law reform commissions to strategic litigation, right through to political donations and political advertising. All subjects are covered without any assumption of prior knowledge, making the unit a very accessible guide in a difficult to understand area. The pre-workshop reading is not too onerous, and the seminars are engagingly run with plenty of time for active participation and self-guided research.

I'd strongly recommend this unit to all law students, and almost say it's essential for anyone interested in working the public sector, NGOs, or politics. 11/10!



**Rishabh Mishra**



## LAW4801: RESEARCH PROJECT

This unit, typically undertaken in the penultimate year of the course, requires students to plan and execute a research project or piece of scholarship with some independence. Students will learn and apply advanced research methods and skills, including locating materials, project planning, critical analysis, effective written communication, and self-management.

**Chief Examiner:** TBC

### Assessments:

- Research skills modules and quiz : 5%
- Project plan: 15%
- Research Project Plan: 80% (or 70% if undertaking Research Project as group activity)
- Online Reflective Journal: 10% (if Research Project taken as group activity)



## LAW4542: AI, TECHNOLOGY AND THE LAW

LAW4542 focuses on how Artificial Intelligence (AI) continues to disrupt both law and the legal profession. In this unit, students will take a closer look at the legal, ethical and political problems of the day that result from AI. Who wins and who loses in the age of artificial intelligence? The content will change as different problems and attempts at legal solutions arise. The indicative content includes the future of the legal profession as it incorporates AI and also the effect of AI on specific areas of the law.

**Chief Examiner:** Chris Marsden

### Assessments:

- Assignment 1: 50%
- Assignment 2: 50%



## LAW4173: RESEARCH UNIT

This is a program of individual and independent research and writing on a legal topic which has been approved by the Chief Examiner after consultation with the proposed supervisor. Students enrolled in the unit will produce a substantial piece of written legal research (between 5,000 and 6,000 words) under the supervision of an academic member of staff.

**Chief Examiners:** Dr Katie O'Bryan and Jennifer Paneth

### Assessments:

- Research paper: 100%



## LAW4679: THE LAW OF CLIMATE CHANGE

This unit deals with the legal dimension of climate change, paying due regard to its social, political and economic context. The unit will examine the development of national, supranational and international regulation, and explore how public and private actors mobilise instruments from different fields of law to facilitate or to undermine climate change mitigation and adaptation.

**Chief Examiner:** Gerry Nagtzaam

### Assessments:

- Presentation: 50%
- Research paper: 50%



## LAW4113: CURRENT PROBLEMS IN CRIMINAL LAW

LAW4113 reflects upon contemporary issues in criminal law and procedure. The unit focuses on general elements of criminal law, specific offences and also broader policy concerns. LAW4113 has a strong policy focus and it would particularly suit those who enjoy undertaking independent research.

**Chief Examiner:** Dr Natalia Antolak-Saper

### Assessments:

- Research assignment: 50%
- Class Participation: 10%
- Take home exam: 40%



## LAW4310: TRIAL PRACTICE AND ADVOCACY

LAW4310 focuses on the development of the specialised skills and expert judgement needed for the presentation of a court trial. The skills developed in this unit include case analysis, development of strategy, trial preparation, presentation skills, ethics, evidence and legal argument. LAW4310 provides students with the opportunity to perform as part of a mock trial - including conducting an opening statement, examination in chief, cross-examination and a closing address. This unit will benefit not only students contemplating practice at the Bar, or as solicitor advocates, but also those who want to build confidence in their public speaking.

**Chief Examiner:** Jacqui Horan

### Assessments:

- Written Outline of Argument: 20%
- Opening statement: 20%
- Examination in Chief: 20%
- Cross examination: 20%
- Closing address: 20%



## LAW4327: HONOURS THESIS

This unit provides high achieving students with an opportunity to research, write and present a significant piece of original work. Students will write a thesis under the supervision of an academic member of staff, on a topic chosen by the student and approved by the Chief Examiner.

**Chief Examiner:** Katie O'Bryan and Jennifer Paneth

### Assessments:

- Thesis: 90%
- Presentation: 10%



## LAW4541: GENDER AND THE LAW

In this unit, students will be introduced to gender in relation to the law. The topics covered will include an introduction regarding intersectionality, including trans feminist Paul Preciado's critique of intersectionality; other areas of "subalterns", including race, disability, LGBTQI+ persons and issues relating to class and caste.

**Chief Examiner:** Janice Richardson

### Assessments:

- Assignment One: 50%
- Assignment Two: 50%



## LAW4225: NON- ADVERSARIAL JUSTICE

LAW4225 explores the ways in which both civil and criminal disputes are handled outside of the traditional adversarial system. The unit has a strong focus on preventative law and aims to equip students with an awareness of problem-solving strategies and non-adversarial processes. Students open to theoretical learning and policy-based discussion are encouraged to take this unit.

**Chief Examiner:** TBC

### Assessments:

- Research assignment: 50%
- Take-home exam: 50%



## LAW4172: HUMAN RIGHTS IN AUSTRALIAN LAW

The unit covers the legal forms, policies and practices in Australia that relate to the upholding of human rights standards. This new aims to recognise that in the absence of a strong jurisprudential culture of rights in the Common law world generally, and certainly in Australia, laws protecting as well as infringing human rights nonetheless are apparent.

**Chief Examiner:** Melissa Castan

### Assessments:

- Quiz: 10%
- research Assignment: 30%
- Take home exam: 60%

# CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION OVERVIEW

## Prerequisites

For the following units, you must have completed:

- Foundations of Law (LAW1111)
- Public Law and Statutory Interpretation (LAW1112)
- Torts (LAW1113)
- Criminal Law 1 (LAW1114)
- Contract A (LAW2101)
- Contract B (LAW2102)
- Constitutional Law (LAW2111)
- Property A (LAW2112)
- Equity (LAW3111)
- Corporations Law (LAW3112)

## Other requirements

There may also be additional prerequisites for specialist units. Please see the relevant pages for more details.

## What are Monash Clinical Legal Education (CLE) Units?

The Clinical Legal Education (CLE) Units give students the opportunity and experience to work in community law clinics which are operated by or in association with the Monash Law faculty. Students will be managing client files over a 12 to 19 week period.

## Why do a CLE unit?

- Develop practical legal skills whilst making a meaningful impact on the community
- Build professional networks
- Increase access to legal services and justice for people from disadvantaged backgrounds

In doing so, students will interact with real clients under the supervision of lawyers, all whilst acquiring practical legal skills and putting all their knowledge to use. These units can be taken as law electives which are worth 6 or 12 credit points.

# LAW 4328: PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

This 12 credit point unit gives you the opportunity to be placed in a community legal centre. This unit is offered in all four clinical periods. You can find the dates for each of the periods at:

[www.monash.edu/law/home/cle](http://www.monash.edu/law/home/cle).

These CLCs deal with matters such as tenancy problems, motor accidents and debt problems. Students will be involved in client interviews, writing letters of advice, and negotiating and advocating on behalf of your clients. The objective of LAW4328 is for students to develop practical legal skills. When completing the unit, students will have the opportunity to develop skills such as advocacy, drafting and self-management. Students will be required to critically analyse legal principles or law reforms for problems relevant to the clinic.

## **Assessment:**

- Legal research and application of legal research - 20%
- Casework, ethics and professional responsibility - 30%
- Project management and file management skills - 20%
- Community and Engagement - 15%
- Reflective journal - 15%

## **Minimum workload:**

- One half-day Legal Service client intake session per week for 16 weeks (including non-teaching period) plus one and a half days per week

## **Chief Examiner:**

Jackie Weinberg

# LAW 4330: FAMILY LAW ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## **Assessment:**

- Legal research and application of legal research - 20%
- Casework, ethics and professional responsibility - 30%
- Project management and file management skills - 20%
- Community and Engagement - 15%
- Reflective journal - 15%

## **Minimum workload:**

- One half-day Legal Service client intake session per week for 16 weeks (including non-teaching period) plus one and a half days per week
- One onsite seminar day
- 4/5 online seminars over the clinical period
- Scheduled activities may include a combination of teacher directed learning, client interviewing and advice sessions, supervision and online engagement

## **Chief Examiner:**

Jackie Weinberg

This 12 credit point elective is offered three times a year for 13 weeks. Students undertake a placement in a specialist family law program based at a community legal centre. The aim is for students to acquire practical legal skills such as legal research and developing solutions to complex legal problems, as well as developing an appreciation of social justice issues, law reform and policy issues. LAW4330 is ideal for students interested in family law, policy, government and social justice careers. Students manage and run their own family law case files under the supervision of a qualified family law practitioner. Tasks also involve managing clients, drafting documents and in some cases, attending court to instruct Counsel. Students also attend the duty lawyer service at the Dandenong Federal Circuit each Monday to assist and advise unrepresented litigants.

# LAW 4803: CLINICAL PLACEMENT

This 6 credit point unit gives students the opportunity to be placed in a legal clinic hosted by an external organisation. For 12 weeks, students will gain practical legal work experience. There are 3 LLB Clinical Periods per year. You can find the dates on: [www.monash.edu/law/home/cle](http://www.monash.edu/law/home/cle).

Students should check the Monash clinical legal education website and InPlace for the relevant information and deadlines for available placements.

External organisations include:

- South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA)
- Family Violence Clinic
- Holding Redlich Human Rights
- JobWatch Clinic
- AED Legal Centre
- Align Law

Please note that specific offerings change with each clinic period.

**Chief Examiner:**  
Sally Andersen

## **Minimum workload:**

Placements in Victoria: students must spend the equivalent of one full day per week for 12 - 16 weeks on activities related to their placement. This may be on site or remote as advised by the placement.

Placements not in Victoria (interstate or overseas): students must spend at least 5 full days per week for a period of 4 weeks or the equivalent over a longer period at the discretion of the CE on activities related to placement.

Note: Students intending to undertake the Sexual Assault Clinic or Family Violence Clinic must have completed Professional Practice or the Family Law Assistance Program. In other clinics, preference will be given to students who have completed these units.

## **Assessment:**

- Reflective task: 40%
  - Video case report: 40%
  - Host organization assessment of performance: 20%
- (threshold hurdle of 45%)

# LAW 4811: IN-HOUSE CLINICAL PLACEMENT

Offered in 3 clinical periods, this 6 credit point unit gives students the opportunity to be placed either at the Monash Law Clinic in the CBD or with an external organisation for 12 weeks. The opportunities available range from Monash-based opportunities to placements with the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC). Students will be provided with the opportunity to work on real legal issues and gain practical experience.

Opportunities include:

- Castan Centre Human Rights Clinic
- Monash University Anti-Death Penalty Clinic
- Modern Slavery Law Clinic ALRC
- Grata Fund –Democracy and Freedoms Clinic
- National Justice Project

Please note that specific offerings change with each clinic period.

## Chief Examiner:

Sally Andersen

## Assessment:

- Clinic responsibilities 60%
- Reflective journals 20%
- Presentation 20%

## Workload:

- The time commitment for this unit is at least one day a week for 12 weeks
- Additional time for private research and consultation

Note: many placements will also give preference to students who have completed related units. See:

<https://www.monash.edu/law/home/cle>

for specific details.

## Prerequisites

For students enrolled in L6004, you must have completed Parts A and B where applicable, and at least 24 credit points of law study.

# LAW 4815: INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL PLACEMENT

This unit provides an international opportunity to undertake clinical placement at an international organisation. Students will gain the opportunity to develop their legal research and writing skills, as well as developing proficiencies in the particular area of law or jurisdiction their chosen organisation specialises in. Some activities students may undertake include legal research and writing, and research on ethical, professional and strategic considerations in the practice and application of the law. Students may also gain a greater understanding of the social justice and access to justice issues faced by vulnerable and marginalised populations in the host country.

## **Chief Examiner:**

Ross Hyams

## **Prerequisites**

Students must have completed 72 credits of law study

## **Assessment:**

- Reflective e-portfolio - 40%
- Video case report - 40%
- Host organisation assessment of work performance - 20%

## **Workload:**

A half day orientation program, four full day placement days per week for a minimum of 3 weeks, plus an extra half day per week in students' own time to follow up on work, self directed seminar program

Speaking from  
experience



**Grace  
Foo**

## LAW 4811:

During my Professional Practice placement at South-East Monash Legal Service, I gained hands-on experience assisting clients with employment law matters. Under the supervision of an experienced solicitor, I conducted client interviews, drafted letters of demand, and prepared court documents. My focus was on achieving practical and equitable solutions for vulnerable individuals facing workplace disputes.

A particularly rewarding experience was helping a client recover over \$5,000 in unpaid annual leave and unlawful wage deductions. By drafting a persuasive letter of demand and numerous negotiations with the other party, I helped my client secure a settlement. The placement also sharpened my ability to navigate sensitive conversations with professionalism and compassion. I worked with clients from diverse backgrounds, often in challenging circumstances, which developed my interpersonal and communication skills. Balancing multiple tasks allowed me to enhance my organisational skills and attention to detail, ensuring accurate legal information is provided. This experience deepened my appreciation for community legal services and the vital role they play in promoting access to justice. It reinforced my commitment to advocating for fair outcomes, especially for those facing systemic barriers. Overall, I would totally recommend doing the unit to get a taste of how we can help people as lawyers.



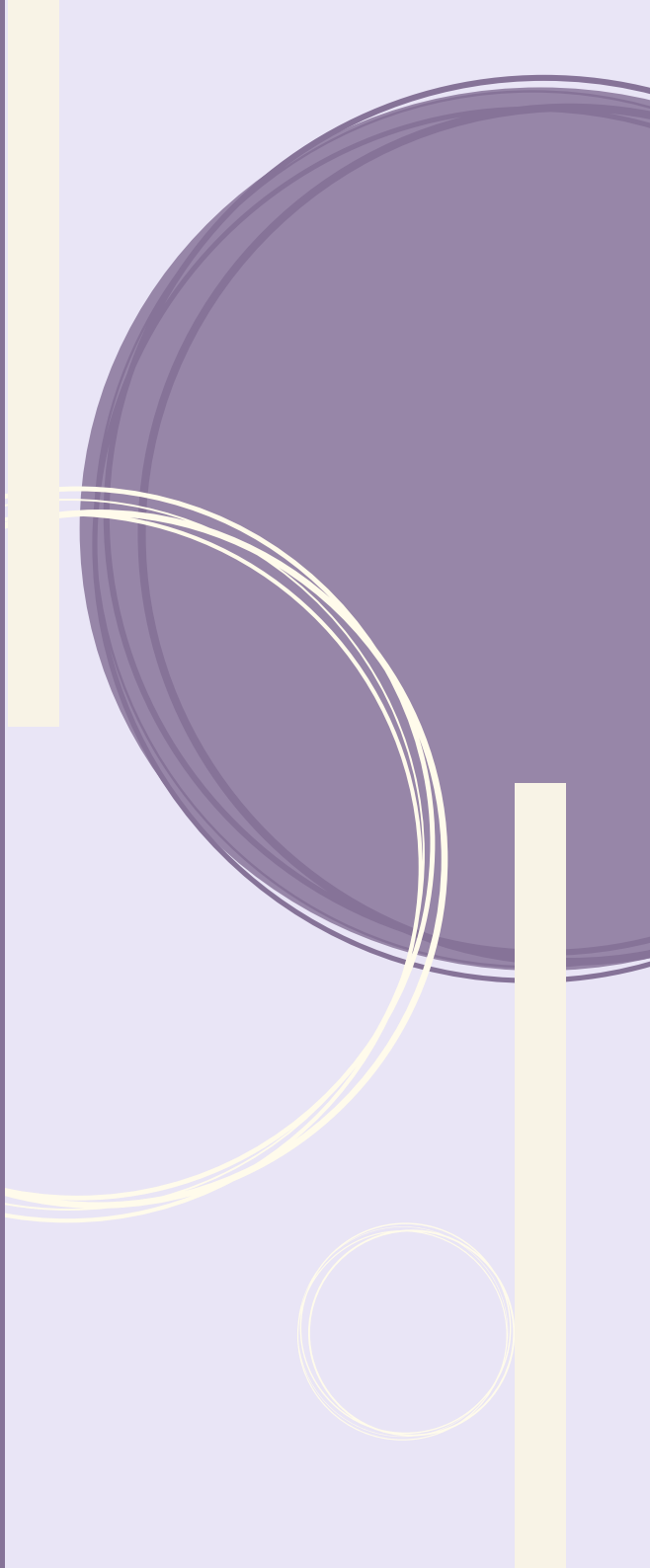
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## LAW 4328:

My placement with Lander & Rogers' Pro Bono team (LAW 4811) provided valuable insight as a student without prior experience in a professional legal setting. The Pro Bono team at Landers specialised in environmental matters, displaced peoples, gender-based violence and Indigenous issues. Tasks assigned during my time primarily included drafting legal memorandums and case information. We also worked closely with the Community Engagement Officer, pitching ideas and helping to organise events for the firm to engage disadvantaged communities with the goal of making the legal sector more accessible.

Despite the team's small size and busy workloads, the supervising lawyers demonstrated great effort to include the interns in all meetings and cases. We were also encouraged to meet with lawyers from different teams at the firm outside Pro Bono. This was an opportunity I was grateful for as it allowed me to expand my horizons and develop a basic understanding on different areas of law.

MONASH  
CLUBS



## What is AIESEC?

AIESEC (Association internationale des étudiants en sciences économiques et commerciales) is one of the largest youth-run, not-for-profit organisations in the world, operating in 126+ countries and territories. They aim to develop leadership potential in young people by providing them with practical opportunities in challenging environments. The Monash chapter of AIESEC has operated since 1976.

## Available Opportunities

### 1. Become a Youth Leadership Participant

AIESEC Australia currently offers the 'AIESEC Experience', a platform for youth to engage in self-development and make a social impact through practical learning and meaningful events. The platform has multiple programs with a focus on careers, cross-cultural understanding, leadership and mentorship.

As a leadership participant who engages with AIESEC, you can choose to attend different streams based on your own interest and capacity. Alongside the journey, AIESEC members will be holding social events and get-to-know chats so that your self-development journey is not a solo adventure.

For more information about the AIESEC Experience and how to sign up, visit: <https://aiesecaustralia.org/join/>

The program aims to help young people develop their employability skills, expand their professional network and become more aware of pressing global issues. It also connects and unites young people to create a community that learns and grows together through thought-provoking conversations and practical collaborations opportunities.

To join the program, please fill in the sign-up form located at:

<https://aiesecaustralia.org/mon>.

### 2. Become a committee member

Students are also given the opportunity to join AIESEC in Monash as local committee members. They can choose from a wide range of portfolios, such as Event Management and Delegate Servicing, Marketing and Business Development. Members gain practical experiences by delivering the Youth Leadership Experience to young people, using AIESEC's platforms and systems as well as develop their leadership skills through AIESEC's personalised Personal Development Plan. Applications for committee members open during the Summer and Winter holidays before new semesters start.

## Contact

**W:** <https://aiesecaustralia.org/mon>

**E:** [aiesec@monashclubs.org](mailto:aiesec@monashclubs.org)

# MONASH INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SOCIETY

## **About us**

The Monash International Affairs Society (MIAS) is a student-led organization dedicated to providing its members with enriching opportunities to examine global affairs. Our events include panel discussions, ambassador and diplomat engagement, and international Model United Nations Conferences. These vibrant and welcoming events help students hone their public speaking, communication skills, and professionalism.

## **Initiatives**

### **Pivot**

MIAS operates an international relations-based online publication, PIVOT. Its aim is to educate all people on global issues, encourage discussions, and facilitate debate. Both student writers and guest writers are encouraged to participate in our publication. To read our articles, please visit <https://pivot.mias.org.au/>

### **Atlas**

Atlas is the official podcast of the Monash International Affairs Society. We invite guests from diverse international affairs backgrounds, to examine current affairs and reflect upon their career paths. We have plans to release future episodes for 2025! The ATLAS podcast is available on Spotify and Apple Podcasts.

## **Events**

### **Diplomatic Gala & Networking Night**

MIAS's annual networking night brings together students, professionals, and academics, attracting over 100 participants. Last year, we welcomed distinguished guests like International lawyer Daye Gang, Consul Brian Bauer from the U.S. Consulate, and Emerald Sage, Head of OSINT at Combine's Intelligence Services.

### **UN Youth Representative Meeting**

MIAS met with the UN Youth Ambassador to discuss concerns and hopes for the future trajectory of Australia's diplomatic affairs. The UN Youth Representative represented young Australians, led nationwide consultations, and consolidated findings to produce an insightful report. This report was later shared with governments and business leaders which was presented at the UN General Assembly in New York.

### **DFAT Graduate Program Information Session**

We hosted Scott Bradford, Deputy State Director for DFAT in Victoria, who shared insights into the DFAT Graduate Program and his experiences. He emphasized the importance of sharing personal narratives in applications, the value of lifelong learning, and encouraged students of all faculty backgrounds to apply! Bradford also discussed the application process, career flexibility within DFAT, and the challenges of maintaining work-life balance.



### **MUNash Conference**

The Monash University Model United Nations Conference (MUNash) is a 2-day conference held over the mid- semester break in Semester 2. MUNash welcomes all students whether a beginner or a diligent MUN veteran. Our annual MUNash Conference aims to encourage students to debate global issues in a comfortable and welcoming environment. This is an excellent opportunity to further develop skills in public speaking, critical thinking, and research!

### **GlobalMUN Program**

Our GlobalMUN program is MIAS's most enriching experience we provide to our members! This program allows members to travel overseas and attend Model United Nations conferences to debate current world issues and broaden their knowledge of international relations. This program requires delegates to develop their debating and public speaking skills over the course of the training period. In the past few years, MIAS delegates have participated at conferences in New York, Paris, Rome, Seoul, Kobe and the Galapagos Islands.

### **Contact**

**Email:** [mias@monashclubs.org](mailto:mias@monashclubs.org)

**Linkedin:** Monash International Affairs Society

**Facebook:** MonashIAS

**Instagram:** [\\_mias\\_](#)



**MIAS**

Monash International Affairs Society

# MODEL UNITED NATIONS

## What is the Model United Nations (MUN)?

MUN Conferences allow students to take on the role of 'delegates', representing diverse countries who are then split into various committees to discuss various topics, from defence and security to human rights or the environment. During a MUN, each committee aims to produce a resolution written in the United Nations General Assembly style and agreeable to most Committee members.

There are different MUN opportunities, such as:

- National Model United Nations (NMUN)
- Global Model United Nations (Global MUN)
- Monash University United Nations (MUNash)

## What tasks will I undertake?

Step into the shoes of United Nations delegates and brace yourselves for an exhilarating challenge! Dive into dynamic discussions on UN systems and counterparts that will put your negotiation skills to the test. Your mission? Find creative and achievable solutions while navigating the diplomatic constraints of the country you represent. Prepare for a simulation that will bring you valuable negotiation and diplomacy skills!

## What are the benefits ?

Model UN hones critical skills such as public speaking, negotiation, diplomacy, research, and problem-solving. The skills that you develop from MUNASH can make you stand out on resumes and scholarship applications. Model UN is also perfect for creating new friendships with people who also have an interest in global affairs.

## Requirements

Students who are interested in law, global affairs, politics, and diplomacy are encouraged to apply.

## Applying

To be eligible, students must be a member of Monash International Affairs Society (MIAS). Applications will open up early in the semester.

## Contact

**W:** [www.mias.org.au](http://www.mias.org.au)

**E:** [mias@monashclubs.org](mailto:mias@monashclubs.org)

**Instagram:** @munash\_mias



# MONASH UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW

## What is the Monash University Law Review?

The *Monash University Law Review* ('Review') is the flagship academic journal of Monash Law School, managed by student Editors and overseen by the Faculty. The *Review* regularly receives article submissions from academics, professionals and students on generalist legal issues that are of interest to the Australian legal community. Articles published in the *Review* make novel and important contributions to Australian legal knowledge, including through legislative commentary, case commentary and law reform critiques. The *Review* also welcomes writing on social justice and equity issues.

## Submitting an Article

The *Review* invites submissions from any area of legal interest to an Australian audience, provided they meet the following requirements:

- Any piece should be between 6,000 and 10,000 words in length.
- Submissions must not be under current consideration by other journals, and must not have been previously published elsewhere, in whole or in part.
- Submissions must conform to the *Australian Guide to Legal Citation* (4th edition).
- Submissions from non-doctoral students must be accompanied by two written recommendations from academic staff at the student's law faculty.

## Joining the Editorial Committee

Students enrolled in the LLB, JD or LLM at Monash University can also apply to join the *Review's* Editorial Committee. This role involves completing 3-4 partial edits of academic journal articles during the year. Involvement with the *Review* provides students with valuable practical skills in legal research, writing and editing. It is also highly regarded by law firms and employers. The *Review* accepts new Committee Members on an annual basis.

To apply, students must submit a CV, a one-page cover letter and their latest unofficial academic transcript during the application window.

## Contact

**W:** [monash.edu/law/MonULR](http://monash.edu/law/MonULR)

**E:** [law.review@monash.edu](mailto:law.review@monash.edu)

**A:** Building 15 Ancora Imparo Way,  
Monash University VIC 3800

Monash University  
Law Review

# SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE

## Monash Law Review

Getting involved in the *Monash University Law Review* is a great way to gain valuable practical skills in research, referencing and copyediting. Open to LLB and JD students, committee members will receive thorough training in the AGLC4, complete 6-8 partial copyedits of an article during the year, and gain access to career and networking events.

I cannot speak higher of the *Review* and the opportunities it has provided including the extensive training, support from the editors and assistant editors, networking events with academics and firms, clerkship events, and the annual dinner. I have met many like-minded peers and mentors through the *Review* and have formed friendships that I am lucky to have.

If you would like to get involved in an academic publication, I strongly encourage you to join the *Review* for 2025. Applications usually open between November-December for the following year so keep your eyes peeled!

## MIAS

MIAS has been an incredibly welcoming environment and has provided me with a community of peers passionate about international relations.

In 2021, I participated in 'FUNMUN', an informal MUN with relaxed rules - perfect for beginners. Even though I didn't know much about international relations, the excitement of the debate made for such a fun experience! After that, I attended MUNash, which was challenging but definitely worthwhile as it taught me a lot. This then led me to the incredible opportunity of being selected as a delegate for the 2023 National Model United Nations Conference in New York. If you're interested in a career in international law or diplomacy, I'd highly recommend participating in a MUN. It's a great way to develop your public speaking, negotiation and writing skills.

**Lauren Trute**



MIAS also hosts social and academic events where students can meet IR professionals, from Ambassadors, Consul Generals to other representatives in the IR space. These connections, have provided me with invaluable advice, insight into working in the IR field and the immense range of career opportunities available.

Finally, being a part of the committee this year has really pushed my leadership, creativity and event management skills. It has been an incredibly rewarding experience, to not only inspire others about IR but also gain lifelong friends and mentors.

**Suhara Rodrigo**



# MONASH SEED

## **What is Monash SEED?**

Monash SEED is a multi-faculty, student-run organisation dedicated to empowering students passionate about social impact. It equips students with practical skills to drive change, engages them in meaningful conversations that promote diverse ideas, and educates through research and experience to foster a socially conscious community. Monash SEED strives to inspire students to tackle pressing social issues and become leaders of meaningful and transformative change.

## **Our Programs**

### ***The Incubator***

The Incubator is Monash SEED's flagship program, embodying the club's core values of innovation, meaningful change, and social enterprise. This 8-week program empowers student entrepreneurs to collaborate with industry professionals to develop a business model for a social enterprise, culminating in an exciting pitch night in front of a judging panel and an audience.

### ***Sustainability & Innovation Challenge***

The Sustainability Innovation Challenge (SIC) connects students nationwide to tackle sustainability issues by designing a start-up, social enterprise, or non-for-profit. This two-week virtual program by Monash SEED combines an educational component, with 3 entrepreneurship workshops and 10 exclusive modules from the Generator, followed by a hackathon based on the SDGs where students apply their skills to create impactful solutions, pitching to experienced judges.

## **Our Events**

In 2025, Monash SEED plans to expand its efforts with volunteering, beach clean-ups and fundraising activities aimed at broadening the scope of social impact within the community. These initiatives hope to provide students with opportunities to engage directly in meaningful projects, contribute to causes they care about, and make a tangible difference.

### ***Networking Nights***

Monash SEED hosts a variety of networking nights that connect students with industry-leading social changemakers. Two notable events include:

#### ***STEM Networking Night***

The STEM Networking Night bridges the gap between academia and the STEM industry, emphasising how social impact and STEM can intersect to drive innovation. It provides a platform for students and professionals from diverse fields to engage in discussions and explore interdisciplinary opportunities that address social issues.

#### ***Climate & Sustainability Careers Evening***

The Climate & Sustainability Careers Evening examines the role of climate change in today's dynamic world. This event brings together diverse stakeholders and students to understand the urgency of climate action and explore opportunities that contribute to a sustainable future. Noteworthy guests included representatives from Sustainability Victoria, EY's Climate Change and Sustainability Services and KPMG.

## Am I suitable to join Monash SEED?

Monash SEED welcomes members from any faculty. Those who are driven and socially minded are encouraged to apply for a position on the Committee, participate in events and programs, and join as a member of SEED. Applications and updates for all events and opportunities are available on Monash SEED's social media channels.

### Contact

**W:** [www.monashseed.org](http://www.monashseed.org)

**E:** [seed@monashclubs.org](mailto:seed@monashclubs.org)

**LinkedIn:** Monash SEED

**Instagram:** monashseed

**Facebook:** monashseed



# OXFAM AT MONASH

## **What is Oxfam at Monash?**

Oxfam at Monash is a Monash Club established in 2011 that is a part of Oxfam Australia's community network.

As an affiliate of Oxfam International, Oxfam Australia believes that poverty is unjustifiable and preventable and that the present state of inequality and injustice must be challenged. Oxfam's main goal is to bring about positive change in the lives of people living in poverty.

## **Available opportunities**

### *Membership*

As a member, you will have access to the regular events that Oxfam at Monash hosts throughout the semester. You'll also get the chance to attend summits and engage in other initiatives from Oxfam Monash. More details on these can be found on their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/OxfamAtMonash](http://www.facebook.com/OxfamAtMonash).

### *Committee Member*

Students are also given the opportunity to join Oxfam at Monash as committee members. Being part of the committee is a terrific way to meet new people, learn how to organise events with a group of people who have a diverse range of ideas, as well as learn how to coordinate with other committees. A number of positions are available, including President, Vice-President, Events Director, Treasurer, Secretary, Marketing Director, Communications Director and Sponsorship and Liaison Director, alongside General Representatives.

## **Contact**

### **W:**

<https://www.monashclubs.org/Clubs/Oxfam>

**E:** [oxfam@monashclubs.org](mailto:oxfam@monashclubs.org)



# 3 VOLUNTEERING AT COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES



# Barwon Community Legal Service

## About Barwon Community Legal Service (BCLS)

We are an independent Community Legal Service that is funded by the State and Federal Governments to provide free legal information, advice, and casework to members of our local community. A key part of our work is community education and awareness and contributing to law reform, as well as providing direct legal assistance.

Established in 1986 as the Geelong Community Legal Service, our service now supports the legal needs of the Greater Geelong, Bellarine Peninsula, Surf Coast and Colac Otway communities.

We give priority to low-income earners, clients experiencing family violence, and people who would not otherwise be able to get legal assistance.

We rely on volunteers, both students and lawyers, to assist with the delivery of our services and we are incredibly grateful for their support and commitment.

## Contact

**W:** [www.barwoncommunitylegal.org.au](http://www.barwoncommunitylegal.org.au)  
**E:** [bcls@barwoncommunitylegal.org.au](mailto:bcls@barwoncommunitylegal.org.au)  
**P:** 1300 430 599  
**A:** Level 1, 63 Thomson Street, Belmont VIC 3216

## Areas of Practice

- Debt and credit matters
- Wills and Estates
- Traffic offences
- Family law
- Criminal law
- Family violence intervention orders
- Centrelink
- Child support and Paternity
- Elder law
- Neighbourhood disputes
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Victims of Crime
- Consumer law

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Solicitor assistance
- Court duty
- Community legal education
- General administration

## Requirements

- Preference for volunteers to remain for 6 to 12 months.
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Current WWCC and National Police check

## Applying

Volunteer positions are dependent upon availability. BCLS has the capacity to support between 12 and 15 volunteer students at any time and keeps prospective volunteer applications for up to six months from the initial time of contact. For more information and to apply, please visit:

<https://www.barwoncommunitylegal.org.au/work-with-us/>

# Brimbank Melton CLC

## About Brimbank Melton Community Legal Centre (BMCLC)

BMCLC provides free legal services to community members that live, work or study in the Brimbank, Melton and Bacchus Marsh regions, with the aim of improving the lives of the most disadvantaged and marginalised members of the community in the West. BMCLC provides legal information, referral and advice to clients. We aim to resolve their legal issues through the delivery of client-centred, holistic, collaborative, high quality and specialised legal advice and assistance.

## Areas of practice

- Family violence & Intervention Orders
- Fines & infringements
- Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Civil Debts
- Tenancy Issues
- Family Law
- Minor Criminal Matters

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Assisting with intake processes and administrative duties
- Assisting solicitors in casework and court applications
- Undertaking legal research (including for policy development and law reform projects)
- Assisting with community legal education sessions
- Court attendance

## Requirements

- Strong desire to assist vulnerable and disadvantaged community members with their legal issues
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Reliability, professionalism and commitment
- Empathy, understanding and patience
- The ability to communicate in a second language is highly desirable

BMCLC usually requires volunteers to commit to volunteering for one day per week (9AM - 5PM) for a minimum six month period.

## Applying

If you are interested in volunteering with BMCLC, please complete the Application form as per the details on our website: <https://www.communityplus.org.au/working-with-us/volunteering>

## Contact

**W:** <https://www.communityplus.org.au/legal-services>

**E:** [legal@comm-unityplus.org.au](mailto:legal@comm-unityplus.org.au)

**P:** (03) 8592 9077

**A:** 30 & 30A East Esplanade St Albans VIC 3021

**BRIMBANK MELTON  
COMMUNITY  
LEGAL CENTRE**



# Consumer Action Law Centre

## About Consumer Action Law Centre (CALC)

The Consumer Action Law Centre (CALC) is a specialist legal centre that provides free legal advice and legal representation for vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers in the Victorian community. CALC is the largest specialist centre in consumer law in Australia, and as a nationally-recognised and influential policy and research body it pursues law reform across a number of important consumer issues. CALC is committed to facilitating a just marketplace where people have power and businesses play fair.

## Areas of practice

- Consumer law

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Assisting with administrative duties
- Assisting with client and casework preparation
- Undertaking legal and policy research
- Providing community education

## Applying

CALC takes volunteers as required. When a role becomes available, it will be advertised on the following webpage:

[www.consumeraction.org.au/volunteer-with-us/](http://www.consumeraction.org.au/volunteer-with-us/)

## Requirements

- Interest in consumer law and advocacy
- Penultimate and final year students are preferred
- For the Practical Legal Training (PLT) program, students must be enrolled in College of Law or equivalent

## Contact

**W:** <https://consumeraction.org.au/>

**E:** [volunteerapplications@consumeraction.org.au](mailto:volunteerapplications@consumeraction.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9670 5088

**A:** 6/179 Queen St, Melbourne VIC 3000



# Disability Discrimination Legal Service

## About Disability Discrimination Legal Service (DDLS)

The Disability Discrimination Legal Service (DDLS) is a state-wide community legal centre that focuses on disability discrimination legal matters. We also provide a targeted service to women with disabilities who have experienced harassment and discrimination in the workplace.

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Assisting solicitors in preparation for case work/legal research and analysis
- Drafting legal submissions
- Data entry and miscellaneous administration tasks
- Interviewing clients on the phone
- Organising solicitor-client appointments
- Researching cases for submissions



## Requirements

- Interest in human rights and disabilities Minimum third-year law student
- Strong written skills with an ability to multitask.
- Students with disabilities are also strongly encouraged to apply
- Minimum requirement of 1 day a week over 6 months

## Applying

Complete a Volunteer Application form <https://ddls.org.au/get-involved/volunteer/> and email [admin@ddls.org.au](mailto:admin@ddls.org.au) and forward your CV and a cover letter.

Short-listed applicants will be required to attend a face-to-face or Zoom interview and successful applicants will be required to attend a Volunteer Induction Training Course.

## Contact

**W:** [www.ddls.org.au/](http://www.ddls.org.au/)

**E:** [info@ddls.org.au](mailto:info@ddls.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9654 8644

**A:** Ross House Level 2, 247 Flinders Lane  
VIC 3000

## About Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC)

Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC) provides free legal assistance for people who live in the areas of Boroondara, Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Whitehorse and the Yarra Ranges. It has offices located in Box Hill, Boronia and Healesville that operate during the day and at night. ECLC also aims to engage in law reform to educate, raise awareness and empower people who are at a disadvantage in the community.

### Areas of practice

- Family law
- Family violence/Intervention Orders
- Criminal law
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Debt and civil matters
- Crimes compensation
- Infringements
- Neighbourhood disputes
- Traffic fines

### What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Intake and administration
- Casework support
- Legal research and policy work
- Community legal education
- Legal advice



## Requirements

- Priority for volunteers who live within the following catchment areas: Whitehorse, Boroondara, Manningham, Maroondah, Knox and Yarra Ranges.
- Minimum commitment: 6 months to any volunteer position.

## Applying

Please visit the below website for more information on the application process: <https://eclc.org.au/getinvolved/volunteering/>

## Contact

**W:** [www.eclc.org.au/](http://www.eclc.org.au/)

### Box Hill

**E:** [eclc@eclc.org.au](mailto:eclc@eclc.org.au)

**P:** 1300 32 52 00

**A:** Suite 3, Town Hall Hub 27 Bank Street, Box Hill VIC 3128

### Boronia

**P:** 1300 32 52 00

**A:** Suite B, 6 Floriston Road, Boronia VIC 3155

### Healesville

**E:** [yarraranges@eclc.org.au](mailto:yarraranges@eclc.org.au)

**P:** 1300 32 52 00

**A:** Healesville Community Link 110 River Street, Healesville VIC 3777

# First Nations Legal & Research Services

## About First Nations Legal and Research Services (FNLRS)

FNLRS is a not-for-profit organisation specialising in supporting native title and comprehensive settlements in Victoria. Informed by the principle of self-determination, our dedicated team works collaboratively with First Nations communities to help them achieve their aspirations and right to Country.

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

Successful applicants will undertake a range of paralegal tasks in relation to FNLRS' key functions. These include:

- Assisting with the assessment and communication of future act notices in accordance with FNLRS legislative function as the Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) for Victoria.
- Ad hoc research tasks that relate to FNLRS' ongoing internal and external policy work.
- Where appropriate, assisting with the organisation, administration and delivery of Traditional Owner Group and Traditional Owner Corporation meetings.
- Assisting lawyers with drafting minutes, memos and other documents related to the carriage of native title and Traditional Owner Settlement matters.
- Where appropriate, attendance and contribution to internal and external meetings and professional development opportunities that occur during the internship.

## Requirements

- Good communication skills
- The ability to understand, analyse and explain legal concepts.
- Experience engaging with diverse groups and a foundational understanding of contemporary Indigenous Australia.
- Preference will be given to applicants in the final or penultimate year of study.

## Contact Us

Please address your cover letter, CV, statement of your results to FNLRS lawyer Kieren Murray at:  
[kieren.murray@fnlrs.com.au](mailto:kieren.murray@fnlrs.com.au).

We encourage candidates from a diverse range of racial, social, cultural, gender and disability backgrounds.

**W:** <https://www.fnlrs.com.au/>

**E:** [info@fnlrs.com.au](mailto:info@fnlrs.com.au)

**A:** 606/425 Smith Street, Fitzroy VIC 3065



**FNLRS**

FIRST NATIONS  
LEGAL & RESEARCH  
SERVICES

# First Step Legal

## About First Step Legal

First Step is a not-for-profit addiction, mental health and legal services hub in St Kilda. First Step Legal provides pro bono legal advice and representation to clients actively engaged in treatment at First Step or a partner organisation.

The First Step Legal model involves an integrated and coordinated approach to supporting people dealing with mental health and addiction issues by attempting to remove much of the stress of legal issues for their clients and allowing them to focus on their recovery. Integrating legal services into a healthcare setting not only provides a direct referral pathway between health professionals and legal practitioners but also contributes to better legal and health outcomes for their clients.

## Areas of practice

- Criminal law
- Family violence
- Infringements / Debt
- Employment
- Tenancy

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Legal research and file work (eg. calling clients and the courts)
- Administrative work and data entry
- Follow-up surveys with past and current clients

## Requirements

- Strong oral, written and interpersonal communication skills
- Capacity to work autonomously
- Professional presentation
- Strong legal and general research skills
- Strong organisational and time management skills
- Ability to work well in a team environment
- Minimum commitment: 1 day per week for a minimum of 12 months

## Applying

Applications are generally accepted on an annual basis. When new positions become available, they are advertised on Social Media (Including the Monash Law Facebook Page). The positions will also be advertised on the First Step Legal LinkedIn page.

## Contact

W: <https://www.firststep.org.au/first-step-legal>

E: [madeline@firststep.org.au](mailto:madeline@firststep.org.au)

P: 03 9537 3177

A: 42 Carlisle Street, St Kilda VIC 3182

**FIRST**  
.....  
**STEP**  
**LEGAL**

# SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE

## DDLS

Being able to volunteer at the Disability Discrimination Legal Service (DDLS) has offered me a great opportunity to advocate for and assist people with disabilities while gaining a detailed understanding of disability law. I worked within a small team of solicitors and volunteers which ensured the work was hands on and tailored to my particular area of interest. The commitment is one full day of work per week which creates consistency and a routine within the team. The work itself allows you to work with those with disabilities, hear their stories and help them.

The opportunity to use my legal skills to work on the social justice issue of disability discrimination created a really meaningful and purposeful experience for me. At DDLS there is a strong sense of commitment and passion for disability advocacy - if this is an area of particular interest for you I would highly recommend getting involved!



**Isabel Gelb**

## FSL

First Step Legal (FSL) is a community legal centre in St Kilda that offers pro bono legal advice and representation to persons experiencing substance abuse, mental illness, and/or family violence. FSL is a health justice partnership, which means that it considers a person's medical and legal needs in tandem – not as separate parts of their life that should be siloed apart. As a result, FSL supports clients holistically and contributes to sustainable long-term positive outcomes.

I joined FSL as a volunteer paralegal in 2021. My first few months were entirely online, due to the lockdown. However, I was instantly inspired by the empathy and perseverance of FSL's staff and volunteers. This is a community of intelligent, caring people who work tirelessly to empower clients. FSL has a culture of respect for all who walk through the door; not only did this make me feel welcome during an awkward digital transition, but it also demonstrated in action the importance of showing respect towards members of society who may otherwise be marginalised or dismissed.

In March 2022, I transitioned to a paid role as legal administrator of FSL. I was one of several volunteers who became employees of the organisation; this speaks to the exciting professional development and opportunities on offer at FSL. Being a volunteer is by no means a lesser role; it is integral to allowing not-for-profits to do the incredible work they do, and it is a great way to make a tangible difference early in your legal career.



**Thomas Ponissi**

# Fitzroy Legal Service

## About Fitzroy Legal Service (FLC)

Fitzroy Legal Service is a generalist CLC providing legal services across the primary catchments of the Cities of Yarra and Darebin. At the core of our work is our ambition to identify and change problems - which are commonly intersecting, compounding and numerous - that undermine the fairness of the justice system. Our community-driven approach has led to innovative service models that centre the needs of our clients

## Legal Services Provided

- Evening legal advice service
- Representation in criminal and family law matters
- Court-based services
- Drug Outreach Lawyer program
- Family violence outreaches
- Prison Law Advice Line
- Migrant Employment Law Clinic
- Tenancy Clinic
- Debt
- Divorce Clinic
- LGBTQI+ Clinic
- Animal law Clinic

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Administrative task & referral assistance
- Undertaking legal research
- Contributing to policy development & law reform

**Fitzroy  
Legal  
Service**

## Requirements

- Undertaking/completed a law degree
- Demonstrated interest, or experience, in social justice
- Possess the ability to work autonomously
- Strong legal and general research skills
- Interpersonal skills including an ability to work with a wide range of clients from differing social and cultural backgrounds
- Must be available to commit to at least 12 months of either weekly, fortnightly or monthly shifts, as part of our day or night service
- Must be weekly for the first month
- Past volunteer and/or administration/ customer service experience is highly regarded.

## Applying

To apply, please send cover letter and resume during recruitment intakes only to Jessica Ness, volunteer coordinator: [jness@fls.org.au](mailto:jness@fls.org.au)

## Contact

**W:** [www.fitzroy-legal.org.au/](http://www.fitzroy-legal.org.au/)

**E:** [reception@fls.org.au](mailto:reception@fls.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9419 3744

**A:**

Fitzroy Town Hall Office - Level 4 Fitzroy Town Hall, Fitzroy VIC 3065

Reservoir Office - 279 Spring St, Reservoir VIC 3073

Collingwood Office - Neighbourhood Justice Centre - 241 Wellington St, Collingwood VIC 3066

# SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE



## **Fitzroy Legal Service**

## **Batool Al Bidiri**

Volunteering at Fitzroy Legal Service (FLS) has been an incredible, eye opening opportunity on the contribution of our community legal teams on vulnerable individuals. It's also been a great opportunity to get hands-on experience in community legal work while contributing to social justice. As part of the Generalist and Integrated Services Team, I've had the chance to work closely with clients from all walks of life, and have helped troubled individuals in specific areas such as fines and infringements. This has helped me develop my research and communication skills while also learning how to assist clients in navigating the legal system.

The team at FLS is extremely supportive, and being part of a team that's so dedicated to improving access to justice has been really rewarding. The commitment to weekly shifts during the first month helped me settle into the role and gave me a good sense of the team's work and the impact it has on the community. One of the most valuable parts of the experience has been meeting clients, hearing their stories, and being able to make a difference in areas of their life where they haven't been supported before.

For any law student with an interest in social justice, I can't recommend FLS enough. It's a practical, eye-opening experience that gives you a genuine insight into the challenges faced by disadvantaged communities and the role lawyers can play in addressing them.

# Inner Melbourne Legal Centre

## About Inner Melbourne Legal Centre (IMCL)

IMCL is an independent community legal centre based in the inner Melbourne area. Its staff and partners assist clients who experience, or are at risk of, chronic or acute legal crises. IMCL's clients live within an unjust system in which they experience complex forms of social and economic disadvantage and inequality and face structural barriers to accessing justice.

### Areas of practice

- Criminal Law
- Family Law
- Family Violence
- Migration
- Fines
- Tenancy
- FAS (formerly Victims of Crime)
- Police Accountability

### What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Administrative tasks
- Undertaking legal research
- Law reform
- Form filling

## Requirements

- Committed to the IMCL values
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Minimum commitment of one day per week for at least 6 months
- Studying law OR a genuine interest in social justice and IMCL's vision

## Applying

IMCL currently recruits volunteers annually, however from time to time IMCL will advertise on an ad-hoc basis. IMCL advertises on ethical Jobs, local community noticeboards, their website and through their social media. They accept expressions of interest at any time at: [info@imcl.org.au](mailto:info@imcl.org.au)

## Contact

**W:** <https://imcl.org.au/>

**E:** [info@imcl.org.au](mailto:info@imcl.org.au)

**P:** 03 9328 1885

## Locations

North Melbourne 2/508 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne, VIC 3051

Kensington 22 Bellair Street, Kensington, VIC 3031

# JobWatch

## About Employment Rights Legal Centre (JobWatch)

JobWatch is an independent, not-for-profit employment rights legal centre operating out of Victoria that provides free legal assistance to Victorian, Queensland and Tasmanian workers about their rights at work.

Their primary activities include the Telephone Information Service, legal practice, law reform work and community legal education. They provide confidential information and referrals. They also can offer legal representation for disadvantaged workers and provide community legal education. JobWatch also campaigns for law reform on workplace rights and equity for workers.

The legal practice primarily focuses on supporting workers in Victoria that are particularly vulnerable to exploitative work situations.

## Applying

If you are interested in volunteering at JobWatch, either on the Telephone Information Service or with the Legal Practice, please email your CV and a cover letter to [jobwatch@jobwatch.org.au](mailto:jobwatch@jobwatch.org.au)

JobWatch hosts 2 internship intakes of Monash students annually. Students can apply through LAW4803 Clinical Placement.



## Programs

### Internships

Internships generally involve speaking to callers on the JobWatch Telephone Information Service about the situations they are experiencing at work.

### Volunteering

Legal Practice Volunteers engage in casework and assist the lawyers with legal research, drafting documents and submissions and sitting in on client interviews and conferences. Priority is generally given to those who have demonstrable experience or an interest in employment law.

## Requirements

- A keen interest in employment, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity law
- High level of communication skills
- A sensitivity to, respect and understanding of diversity of culture and different intersections of identity
- Ability to work in a team environment
- Strong commitment to social justice and human rights
- Customer service experience is looked upon favourably

## Contact

**W:** <http://jobwatch.org.au/>

**E:** [admin@jobwatch.org.au](mailto:admin@jobwatch.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9662 1933 (Metro Victoria), 1800 331 617 (Regional Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania)

**A:** Level 10, 21 Victoria St, Melbourne VIC 3000

# Justice Connect

## What is Justice Connect?

Justice Connect is a legal service organisation and charity that designs and delivers high-impact interventions to increase access to legal support and progress social justice.

At Justice Connect, we believe in a fair and just world, where people and communities are supported to engage with and fully participate in our legal and social systems, and avoid the negative impacts on their wellbeing or organisational health that flow from unresolved legal problems.

From preventing homelessness and providing legal support to disaster-affected communities, to helping not-for-profit organisations navigate complex regulatory requirements, we work across different areas of law through our multi-channel and multi-intensity legal services and network of 10,000 pro bono lawyers.

We use digital strategies so our lawyers and social workers can spend their time assisting people disproportionately impacted by the law. We don't just help people navigate the legal system; we also work to improve it. With our passionate and creative staff, and deep expertise in the law, we leverage casework insights and data to advocate for policy and systems-level change.

## Volunteer Opportunities at Justice Connect

Justice Connect currently provides volunteer PLT placements with their Homeless Law team.

PLT placements are part time (2-3 days\_ and successful candidates must commit to a minimum of 50 days.

**This position is unpaid.**

### What tasks will I undertake?

*As a PLT, you will develop practical and procedural legal experience and skills across practice areas relating to Homeless Law. You will have the opportunity to participate in:*

- the intake of new telephone and online enquiries;
- taking instructions and communicating with clients;
- assessing matters for clinic appointments, drafting letters and drafting memos for appointments;
- observing some client appointments;
- delivering supervised legal information to clients;
- supporting the work of the lawyers (internal and secondees) including communicating with lawyers, case workers and the courts/tribunals, and drafting referral memoranda.

## What tasks will I undertake?

- Legal research, analysis and problem solving;
- contributing to Homeless Law's law reform, advocacy or project work;
- inputting and maintaining accurate client information on Homeless Law's case management platform, Microsoft Dynamics;
- shadowing Homeless Law lawyers at VCAT and Magistrates Court hearings;
- contributing to Justice Connect's Reconciliation Action Plan activities.

## Requirements

To be eligible for a PLT Placement you must:

- Have completed a law degree
- Be currently completing your Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice (through College of Law or an equivalent institution)
- Undertake a minimum of 50 days of practical legal training at Justice Connect

## How to Apply

All prospective PLTs and volunteers are encouraged to join our Livehire Talent Pool, where you'll be the first to hear about opportunities to volunteer with us.

<https://www.livehire.com/talent/community/justiceconnect/careers/contact>



## Contact

**W:** <https://justiceconnect.org.au/>

**P:** (03) 8636 4400

**A:** PO Box 16013 Melbourne VIC 8007

# Loddon Campaspe CLC

## About Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre (LCCLC)

Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre (LCCLC) provides free legal information and advice to Central Victorians who do not have the financial means to address their legal matters. Based in Bendigo and Shepparton (Goulburn Valley Community Legal Centre), the lawyers provide legal outreach to central and northern Victoria. They also promote justice through community legal education.

## Areas of practice

- Child protection
- Debt problems
- Family law
- Family violence
- Fines and infringements
- Minor criminal matters
- Motor vehicle accidents

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Providing legal advice to clients at the after-hours Night Service
- Providing legal advice in local hospitals through the Palliative Care Program
- Facilitating community education sessions
- Assisting lawyers at Court
- Assisting housing advocates at VCAT
- Paralegal support
- Data entry
- Reception and administrative support
- Legal research and project work

## Requirements

- Strong interpersonal and problem-solving skills
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Minimum commitment: No minimum (Priority will be given to people who can commit for 6 months or more). This is an admin role, not a legal role, but it may lead to other opportunities for those interested in legal experience.

## Applying

LCCLC recruits volunteers when required. To apply, please contact the Intake team by email at [intake@lcclc.org.au](mailto:intake@lcclc.org.au) with any enquiries and to send through an Expressions of Interest.

EOIs may consist of an email setting out:

- Name
- Phone number
- CV (Not compulsory)
- Course including how far through your course
- Availability for shifts (e.g. what days of the week, confirming whether available between 10 - 2)
- Any prior admin experience
- Why you're interested in volunteering with our CLC

## Contact

**W:** [www.lcclc.org.au](http://www.lcclc.org.au)

**P:** (03) 5445 0909

**Freecall:** 1800 450 909

**Fax:** (03) 5441 1033

**A:** 171 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo VIC 3550  
PO Box 432 Bendigo, 3552

# Mallee Family Care CLC

## About Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre (MFCCLC)

The Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre (MFCCLC) is a program of Mallee Family Care. The focus of the CLC is to provide advice, information, advocacy and referrals to members of the community, particularly those who are vulnerable.

They operate within an integrated practice framework that includes lawyers, social workers and financial counsellors.

## Areas of practice

- Family Law and family violence
- Intervention order Support Service
- Civil matters
- Property
- Debts and infringements
- Tenancy
- Employment law
- Neighbourhood disputes
- Duty Lawyer service
- Family Advocacy and Support Services
- Law reform

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

The tasks that volunteers may undertake are entirely based on the capacity of the program at the time but are likely to include:

- Intake of clients
- Conducting conflict searches
- Legal research and attendance at outreach services
- General assistance with casework.

## Requirements

- Above the age of 18
- Have studied or are currently studying a law degree
- Have a passion for justice within a regional community
- Ability to demonstrate this passion and commitment
- National police check and Working with Children Check

## Applying

MFCCLC are always open to applications from volunteers, however, the appointment of volunteers will be based on the capacity of the CLC to provide sufficient supervision to such volunteers.

To apply for a volunteer position, please forward a resume and cover letter outlining skills and experience to either:

Leanne Bosman is the current Principal Solicitor of MFC CLC  
lbosman@malleefamilycare.com.au

Corrina Graham, MFCCLC Manager, at:  
cgraham@malleefamilycare.com.au

## Contact

**W:** [mfclegalcentre.com.au](http://mfclegalcentre.com.au)

**E:** [clc@malleefamilycare.com.au](mailto:clc@malleefamilycare.com.au)

**P:** 1800 243 002

**A:** 122 Ninth Street, Mildura VIC 3500

# Mental Health Legal Centre

## About Mental Health Legal Centre (MHLC)

The Mental Health Legal Centre (MHLC) provides free legal assistance to those with mental illness in Victoria where their legal issue relates to that illness. MHLC provides representation before the Mental Health Tribunal, operates civil legal clinics at multiple Victorian correctional facilities, and undertakes non-project-specific casework. The MHLC undertakes generalist civil legal services and offers two kinds of volunteering roles.

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

Volunteers are responsible for:

- Answering calls and conducting client interviews
- Calling out to provide referrals and information
- Running conflict checks
- Undertaking legal research
- Students are expected, at a minimum, to attend once per week as rostered

## Applying

The Mental Health Legal Centre occasionally has volunteering opportunities available. If you would like to express your interest, please send a CV to: [mhlc@mhlc.org.au](mailto:mhlc@mhlc.org.au)

If there are no vacancies, your CV will be kept on file for when opportunities become available.

## Contact

**W:** [www.mhlc.org.au](http://www.mhlc.org.au)

**E:** [mhlc@mhlc.org.au](mailto:mhlc@mhlc.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9629 4422

**A:** PO Box 495, 72-82 Errol Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051



# Monash Law Clinics

## About Monash Law Clinics (MLC)

Monash Law Clinics (MLC) operates from 2 sites - Clayton (MLC) and Melbourne (MLCM). MLC is a community legal centre that provides free assistance to disadvantaged community members. Both sites are also teaching clinics.

The clinics are staffed with lawyers and Monash University students. MLC recruits volunteers who are in first or second year of their studies (LLB and JD) once a year over the summer.

Please apply here:

<https://forms.gle/5ny1n3chQyGYWfdA9>

The clinic aims to assist vulnerable members of the community and provides legal advice and case work where there is capacity and the matter falls within eligibility guidelines.

## Placement

Students involved with MLC will be supervised by a qualified practitioner. MLC aims to educate students by providing an opportunity for the students to manage their own files and lead the provision of advice. Volunteer students will shadow other students on placement as well as supervising lawyers in appointments and assist with any other discrete legal tasks.

Following an initial one hour appointment with the client, students can be involved in conducting research, writing letters and managing files.

**MONASH  
LAW  
CLINICS**

## Areas of practice

- Criminal law
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Debt
- Family law
- Social security problems
- Tenancy disputes
- Tax matters

There are also opportunities to complete the clinical legal education units at MLC:

<https://www.monash.edu/law/home/cle>

## Requirements

- Enthusiasm and commitment to the law and legal issues within the community legal service context
- Sensitivity and ability to deal with diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Strong interpersonal skills and problem-solving abilities

## Applying

For more information about volunteering, please check for updates on this form and apply here:

<https://forms.gle/5ny1n3chQyGYWfdA9>

## Contact

**W:** [www.monashlawclinics.com.au](http://www.monashlawclinics.com.au)

**E:** [law-clinics@monash.edu](mailto:law-clinics@monash.edu)

**P:** 1800 860 333

**A:** 60 Beddoe Ave, Clayton VIC 3168 (Clayton)

**A:** Level 11, 555 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 (CBD)

# Moonee Valley Legal Service

## About Moonee Valley Legal Service (MVLS)

Moonee Valley Legal Service (MVLS) is an independent, community-managed, non-profit organisation that provides free legal advice, information, education, referrals and ongoing casework for anyone who lives, works or studies within the City of Moonee Valley. Established in 1985, the service provides generalist legal services, with a particular focus on infringements, criminal and family law, as well as family violence. The service is there to empower the community and assist disadvantaged individuals to gain a better understanding of the law and provide services that would otherwise not be available.

## Areas of practice

- Criminal law
- Family law
- Infringements
- Legal Aid applications
- Small civil claims
- Family law
- Family violence
- Traffic matters
- Tenancy matters

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Provide administrative support
- Conduct legal research
- Interview clients
- Support solicitors and staff

## Requirements

- Strong interpersonal skills
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office
- Commitment to social justice
- Interest in community development and education
- Minimum commitment: 1 day per fortnight

## Applying

If you are interested in a position please visit the below link to check for positions as they are advertised:

<https://www.mvls.org.au/volunteer>

## Contact

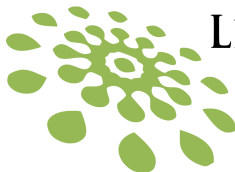
**W:** <https://www.mvls.org.au/>

**E:** [volunteering@mvls.org.au](mailto:volunteering@mvls.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9376 7929

**A:** 13A Wingate Avenue, Melbourne VIC 3032

MOONEE VALLEY  
LEGAL SERVICE



# Northern CLC

## About Northern Community Legal Centre (NCLC)

The Northern Community Legal Centre (NCLC) provides legal assistance and community legal education to those who work, study or live within the Hume, Merri-bek and Mitchell Shire Local Government Areas. NCLC is committed to ensuring equal access to justice for all and is dedicated to achieving law reform to meet the needs of the vulnerable and disadvantaged persons in the northwest of Melbourne.

## Areas of practice

- Family law and family violence Infringements
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Criminal law
- Debt
- Tenancy
- Other civil matters
- Migration assistance for women on temporary visas experiencing family violence

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Assisting with the provision of legal advice
- Assisting with administrative duties
- Undertaking legal research
- Policy development/Law reform

## Requirements

- Demonstrated understanding and commitment to social justice
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Experience working with vulnerable clients is desirable
- Students in any year of their law degree may apply
- Minimum commitment: once per fortnight for 12 months

## Applying

NCLC recruits volunteers when needed. Please see [www.northernclc.org.au/volunteers](http://www.northernclc.org.au/volunteers) for current vacancies.

## Contact

**W:** [www.northernclc.org.au](http://www.northernclc.org.au)

**E:** [admin@northernclc.org.au](mailto:admin@northernclc.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9310 4376

**A:** 1100 Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows VIC 3047



# Peninsula CLC

## About Peninsula Community Legal Centre (PCLC)

At Peninsula Community Legal Centre (“PCLC”), we are seeking the assistance of volunteer who are passionate about social justice and contributing to their community.

PCLC is an independent, not for profit organisation that has been providing free legal services to disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Melbourne’s south-eastern communities for over the past four decades. PCLC has offices in Frankston, East Bentleigh, Cranbourne and Rosebud.

PCLC’s aim to empower disadvantaged and vulnerable people within the community by addressing and supporting their legal needs. They are committed to facilitating a fair and inclusive society that protects and advances human rights and equality before the law.

## Areas of practice

- Criminal law
- Family law
- Family violence
- Fines
- General law (debt, employment, guardianship and administration, motor vehicle accidents, neighbourhood disputes and VCAT etc)
- Tenancy matters

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Observing lawyer-client interviews
- Conducting preliminary client interviews and provide assistance to volunteer lawyers
- Assisting with administrative duties

## Requirements

- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Strong analytical and problem- solving skills
- Students must reside in the PCLC catchment area (Frankston, Casey, Cardinia, Glen Eira, Kingston and Mornington Peninsula)
- Minimum commitment: 12 months on the volunteer roster

## Applying

PCLC has volunteer intakes when needed. Expect waiting period of 12 months.

For more information on positions, visit: <https://pclc.org.au/volunteers/>

## Contact

**W:** [www.pclc.org.au](http://www.pclc.org.au)

**E:** [pclc@pclc.org.au](mailto:pclc@pclc.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9783 3600

**A:** 441 Nepean Highway, Frankston VIC 3199



Peninsula  
Community  
Legal Centre

# Refugee Legal

## About Refugee Legal

Refugee Legal is an independent community legal centre specialising in all aspects of refugee and immigration law, policy and practice. Refugee Legal has assisted asylum seekers, refugees and disadvantaged migrants for over 30 years, and continues to be the largest provider of these services in Australia. Refugee Legal provides legal assistance, advice, referral and education to their clients, often who come from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and have experienced torture or trauma.

## Areas of practice

- Immigration and refugee law

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

Volunteers provide administrative/ legal support such as:

- Conducting detailed research on law
- Attending night service to assist with the intake of clients and administrative tasks
- Attending weekday clinics and providing administrative staff
- Sending professional correspondence to organisations and clients
- Assisting to pre-fill forms for visa applicants
- Database management
- Case-file management

## Requirements

- Strong interest in refugee and asylum seeker rights
- Strong research and analytical skills
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Attention to detail and ability to multitask Basic understanding of administrative processes
- Sensitivity to clients from diverse backgrounds
- Minimum commitment: 12 months

## Applying

Refugee Legal takes volunteers as required. Intakes occur approximately every two months.

Download and complete the application form along with your CV at:

[www.refugeelegal.org.au/getinvolved/volunteer/](http://www.refugeelegal.org.au/getinvolved/volunteer/)

## Contact

**W:** [www.refugeelegal.org.au/](http://www.refugeelegal.org.au/)

**E:** [volunteering@refugeelegal.org.au](mailto:volunteering@refugeelegal.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9413 0101 (General)

**A:** Level 5, 333 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne, VIC, 3000

**Refugee Legal:**  
Defending  
the rights of  
refugees.

# South-East Monash Legal Service

## About South-East Monash Legal Service

Formerly known as Springvale-Monash Legal Service, South-East Monash Legal Service (SMLS) works with vulnerable and disadvantaged persons and provides advice on legal rights and responsibilities and advocacy for system change. Volunteers can take on reception, casework and supervisor roles at the SMLS.

## Areas of practice

- Criminal law
- Discrimination law
- Civil claims
- Employment law
- Family law
- Infringements
- Motor vehicle accidents & traffic infringements
- Family law
- Consumer law
- Wills and Powers of Attorney
- Tenancy matters

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Assisting with the provision of legal advice (interviewing clients, casework, advising after consultation with solicitors)
- Assisting with administrative duties  
Undertaking legal research
- Policy development/Law reform
- Community education

## Requirements

- Passion and dedication to engage with legal issues in a community legal service context and sensitivity to diversity
- Strong interpersonal, written, verbal communication, analytical and problem-solving skills
- Students not volunteering through the Monash University Professional Practice unit must take on a reception role prior to progressing to casework and supervisory roles
- Minimum commitment: once per fortnight for 12 months (unless volunteering through LAW4328)

## Applying

Monash University Faculty of Law students may apply for a placement at SMLS through LAW4328 (Professional Practice). Students may also apply directly to SMLS.

To apply as a volunteer, complete and submit a Volunteer Application Form when vacancies are displayed via the SMLS website (<http://smls.com.au/volunteers/>).

## Contact

**W:** [www.smls.com.au](http://www.smls.com.au)

**E:** [info@smls.org.au](mailto:info@smls.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9545 7400

**A:** 5 Osborne Avenue, Springvale VIC 3171

# Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service

## About Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service (VALS)

The Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service (VALS) is a specialist Community Legal Centre that has been in operation since 1973. The VALS plays an important role in providing legal advice, as well as referrals to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in Victoria. The service strives to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are aware of their responsibilities under the law, and ensure they have access to sound advice and representation.

They are also committed to public policy causes, including the review of legislation that discriminates and aims to reduce the disproportionate involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the criminal justice system.

VALS is supported by a large team of volunteers, including paralegals and solicitors.

## Areas of practice

- Criminal law
- Family law
- Civil law



## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Conducting legal research
- Drafting of documents
- Interviewing of clients
- General administrative duties
- Reporting to a senior solicitor
- Answering calls and enquiries

## Requirements

- Previous volunteer experience
- Commitment and understanding of the issues faced by members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities in Victoria
- Strong interest in human rights
- Attention to detail
- Strong written and oral communication

## Applying

To submit your interest in volunteering at the VALS, please visit: <https://www.vals.org.au/volunteer/> and submit your expression of interest.

## Contact

**W:** [www.vals.org.au](http://www.vals.org.au)

**E:** [vals@vals.org.au](mailto:vals@vals.org.au)

**P:** 1800 064 865

**A:** 273 High Street, Preston VIC 3072

# Villa Manta Disability Rights Legal Service

## About Villa Manta Disability Rights Legal Service (Villamanta)

Villamanta is a Community Legal Centre (CLC) that works across Victoria on disability related legal and justice issues.

We aspire to a Victorian community where people with Disability (PWD) have equality of rights, opportunity and voice. We promote laws and systems which better protect the human rights of PWD. We work alongside PWD, particularly those with cognitive impairment, to navigate legal problems.

## Areas of practice

- Telephone Information Service
- NDIS - Assistance with AAT Appeals

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Carrying out research and support casework
- Assisting with casework on disability related matters

## Requirements

- Demonstrate an interest in human rights and disabilities
- Previous experience in office administration work considered an asset
- Ability to work autonomously
- Students with a disability are also encouraged to apply
- Minimum commitment: flexible

## Applying

Villamanta recruits volunteers when needed. Please submit an expression of interest with your CV and cover letter to: [legal@villamanta.org.au](mailto:legal@villamanta.org.au).

## Contact

W: [www.villamanta.org.au/](http://www.villamanta.org.au/)

E: [legal@villamanta.org.au](mailto:legal@villamanta.org.au)

P: (03) 5260 1845

A: 244 Latrobe Terrace, Geelong West VIC 3218 M: PO Box 7328, Geelong West, VIC 3218



**Villamanta**  
DISABILITY RIGHTS LEGAL SERVICE

# Westjustice

## About Westjustice

Westjustice provides free legal advice and casework for people who live, work or study in the Western suburbs of Melbourne. Westjustice is committed to protecting and promoting the legal rights and interests of persons in their catchment area and empowering people experiencing disadvantage and the broader community to have access to justice and achieve fair outcomes.

## Areas of practice

- Family law & family violence
- Criminal law (for young people)
- Consumer law
- Employment law
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Fines, credit and debt
- Tenancy matters

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Assisting with administrative duties
- Assisting with client and casework preparation
- Undertaking legal research

# WEstjustice

## Requirements

- Strong written and verbal communication skills and attention to detail
- Ability to work well both collaboratively and independently
- Reliability and punctuality
- Foreign language skills are considered an asset
- Minimum commitment: at least 12 months

## Applying

Vacancies will be advertised here:

<http://www.westjustice.org.au/get-involved>. When there are vacancies, complete the Volunteer Application Form and return to [admin@westjustice.org.au](mailto:admin@westjustice.org.au).

## Contact

**W:** [www.westjustice.org.au](http://www.westjustice.org.au)

**E:** [admin@westjustice.org.au](mailto:admin@westjustice.org.au)

### Head Office

**P:** (03) 9749 7720

**A:** Level 7/12 Clarke Street, Sunshine VIC 3020

### Sunshine Office (Youth Service):

**P:** (03) 97479 7720

**A:** Visy Cares Hub, 80B Harvester Road, Sunshine VIC 3020

### Werribee Office

**P:** (03) 9749 7720

**A:** Level 1, 8 Watton Street, Werribee VIC 3011

# Women's Legal Service

## About Women's Legal Service Victoria (WLSV)

Women's Legal is a specialist, trauma-informed, state-wide not-for-profit organisation that has been providing free specialist legal services to women since 1982. We work with and for all women and non-binary people to address legal issues arising from family violence and relationship breakdown.

Our lawyers, social workers and financial counsellors together to make sure women and non-binary people have what they need to make decisions for themselves and their children, gain independence and financial stability.

Women's Legal specialises in family and sexual violence, family law, migration law, child protection, crime and victims of crime assistance – recognising the intersection between the jurisdictions. We focus on women's safety, recovery from violence and economic security.

women's legal  
service victoria

## Applying

- Child protection
- Criminal law
- Family law
- Family violence
- Migration
- Victims of crime compensation

WLSV also has lawyers on duty at the Melbourne Magistrate's court and Melbourne Children's Court to help women who do not have a lawyer before they get to court.

## Areas of practice

WLSV regularly posts new positions and opportunities on their website: [www.womenslegal.org.au/careers/](http://www.womenslegal.org.au/careers/)

## Contact

**W:** [www.womenslegal.org.au](http://www.womenslegal.org.au)  
**E:** [admin@womenslegal.org.au](mailto:admin@womenslegal.org.au)  
**P:** (03) 8622 0600

# Youthlaw

## About Youthlaw

Youthlaw is a specialist community legal centre for people under the age of 25 in Victoria. Youthlaw is committed to addressing legal issues facing young people through providing legal advice and advocating for law reform. The centre also runs preventative education programs and operates within a human rights and social justice-centred framework.

## What tasks do volunteers undertake?

- Administrative duties
- Assisting with client and casework preparation
- Preparing letters and court documents
- Legal and policy research

## Requirements

- Only accepts student volunteer applications from students in the second year or later of their degree.
- Minimum commitment: 1 day per week for at least 12 months.

## Applying

Youthlaw's intake operates on a flexible schedule. If people are interested in volunteering, they can email [admin@youthlaw.asn.au](mailto:admin@youthlaw.asn.au) briefly outlining what their skills are and why they are interested in volunteering.

For more information, please visit: [www.youthlaw.asn.au/getinvolved/volunteer](http://www.youthlaw.asn.au/getinvolved/volunteer)

## Contact

**W:** [www.youthlaw.asn.au/](http://www.youthlaw.asn.au/)

**E:** [info@youthlaw.asn.au](mailto:info@youthlaw.asn.au)

**P:** (03) 9113 9500

**A:** 147-155 Pelham St, Carlton VIC 3053

# Youthlaw

VOLUNTEERING  
WITH  
SOCIAL  
JUSTICE  
INITIATIVES

4



# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

## What is Amnesty International?

Amnesty International was founded in 1961 and is an independent, global movement of over 10 million people in over 150 countries who campaign for justice, freedom, human dignity and equality. Through detailed research and determined campaigning, they help fight abuses of human rights worldwide. Amnesty International Australia campaigns on a wide range of issues to protect and defend human rights, both within Australia and across the globe, such as indigenous justice, refugee rights, and LGBTQIA+ rights. They have just launched a campaign calling for a Federal Human Rights Act for Australia.

## How to get involved?

There are many ways to get involved.

*Subscribe to Amnesty International e-mails:* Get the latest on campaigns, events and wins.

*Volunteer or become an activist:*

As an activist, you'll be organising events and activities that empower people to take action for what they care about. As a volunteer, you will play a central role in working with staff and other volunteers in our action centres to support activists.

*Become a member:*

By becoming a member you can help define the direction of Amnesty. You can stand for board positions, join committees, and vote on important resolutions.

See more information on

<https://www.amnesty.org.au/join-today/>

AIA holds regular 'Get Active: Intro to Activism' sessions where you can find out more about the work that we do and the different ways that you can get involved to either start or deepen your activism journey.

You can sign up for the next Get Active session here:

<https://action.amnesty.org.au/getactive>

**Contact:**

**W:** <https://www.amnesty.org.au/>

**E:** [supporter@amnesty.org.au](mailto:supporter@amnesty.org.au)

**P:** 1300 300 920

**A:** Suite 7, 134 Cambridge St, Collingwood VIC 3066

**Postal address:** Locked Bag 7, Collingwood VIC 3066



# AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

## What is the Australian Red Cross?

The Australian Red Cross is a leading humanitarian organisation in Australia and is dedicated to supporting vulnerable people both in Australia and internationally. It's also part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – the largest humanitarian network in the world.

## What tasks will I undertake?

There is a range of volunteer opportunities available, depending on your interests and availability. Some roles involve supporting individuals and communities in need (for example with our Telecross program or Emergency Services), while others involve working with the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) team to promote awareness of and respect for IHL.

## Requirements:

Volunteers must satisfy the following:

- Must be 18 years of age, an Australian citizen or permanent resident, or hold a working visa
- Must successfully pass a police check
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people and people with refugee or migrant backgrounds are encouraged to apply
- Must be committed to the fundamental principles of the Australian Red Cross: Humanity, Unity, Independence, Impartiality, and Universality

## Applying

Check the list of volunteer positions for vacancies at:

[www.volunteering.redcross.org.au/cw/en/listing/](http://www.volunteering.redcross.org.au/cw/en/listing/).

Volunteer roles can be found on the Red Cross website or their new volunteer recruitment platform, PeopleHub.

## Contact

**W:** [www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au)

**E:** [contactus@redcross.org.au](mailto:contactus@redcross.org.au)

**P:** 1800 733 276

**A:** Australian Red Cross, GPO Box 9949, Melbourne, VIC, 3001

My experience with the Australian Red Cross in 2021 was immeasurably valuable. As the Community Engagement Network Convenor for Victoria, I worked with a network of other volunteers to support the dissemination work of the Victorian Advisory Committee.

As well as developing my leadership and communication skills, the role gave me practical experience in the areas of marketing, promotion and event coordination.

I encourage all law students to seek out opportunities to volunteer in the social justice space. In a world where all news seems like bad news, it was nourishing and affirming to be part of a community in which social justice is more than just an abstract concept.



Sally Eller

# BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE

## What is the Brotherhood of St Laurence?

The Brotherhood of St. Laurence (BSL) is a social justice organisation working alongside those experiencing disadvantage to address the fundamental causes of poverty in Australia. Our mission is to pursue systemic change for a fairer, more compassionate and just society in which all can fully participate in social, civic, and economic life, create and share prosperity, and treat each other with dignity and respect. We welcome interest from community members who are passionate about working toward lasting positive change through volunteering with us.

## What tasks will I undertake?

A wide variety of volunteer opportunities are available including:

- Digital Literacy mentoring (online)
- Tutoring and homework support
- Retail assistance in our community stores
- Business and employment mentoring
- Companionship with aged care residents
- Activity facilitation with school students (Frankston)
- Children's playgroup support
- Marketing support
- Fundraising support
- ICT support

## Requirements

- Each role has specific skills and commitments required - these details can be viewed in the role description on our current vacancies page
- Volunteers must be an Australian citizen, permanent resident or hold a visa entitling them to work in Australia
- All volunteers are required to undertake a police check
- Some roles require additional screening such as a Working with Children Check or NDIS Worker Screening Check

## Applying

Visit

<https://app.betterimpact.com/PublicEnterprise/cc831b7c-96d9-4480-851b-4f839f987b3d>

to find out more about volunteering with BSL, to see our current vacancies and to apply online.

## Contact

**W:** [www.bsl.org.au](http://www.bsl.org.au)

**E:** [volunteer@bsl.org.au](mailto:volunteer@bsl.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9483 1390

**A:** 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy VIC 3065



# COURT NETWORK

## What is Court Network?

Court Network is a community volunteer service. Our volunteers provide free, non-legal support, information and referral services on an impartial and non-judgemental basis to all persons, including applicants, respondents, victims, witnesses, defendants, and their families and friends. Many court users assisted by Court Network have no legal representation. Court Network service provides an important contribution towards court users accessing justice, particularly for more vulnerable and disadvantaged court users. Court users may be unrepresented, unfamiliar with court rules and processes, lack knowledge about what is expected of them and therefore unable to understand and participate effectively in the court processes. Court Network aims to support these people and assist them in navigating the court system.

Court Network volunteers, known as Networkers are highly trained community members who provide non-legal support and 'stand beside' and empower court users before, during and after their court experiences.

## What tasks will I undertake?

As a Networker, you will be trained to provide information and support to court users.



## Am I suitable for this role?

This multifaceted and interesting role is best suited to someone who is proactive, a 'people-person', passionate about improving access to justice and is wanting to volunteer on an ongoing and regular basis.

Our volunteers must have strong verbal and interpersonal communication skills and the ability to foster inclusivity and a person-centred approach to supporting all court users, impartially and non-judgementally.

Volunteers must have the following skills:

- Provide a welcoming, kind and supportive human connection to all court users (witnesses, victims, accused, and family and friends)
- Actively engage with court users, either face to face or virtually, supporting and assisting them to navigate and fully participate in their court experience
- Recognise and respond to individual service user needs and concerns
- Have good digital literacy and confidence; record keeping, emailing, communication and information sharing

## Applying

To apply please follow the link here: <https://app.betterimpact.com/Application?OrganizationGuid=d6ea3310-a7cb-433e-9dd5-63d2c8c075d5&ApplicationFormNumber=1>

For general enquiries:

<https://courtnetwork.com.au/contact/general-enquiries/>

## Contact

**W:** <http://www.courtnetwork.com.au>

**E:** [admin@courtnetwork.com.au](mailto:admin@courtnetwork.com.au)

**P:** (03) 8306 6966

**A:** 5/555 Lonsdale St, Melbourne VIC 3000

# GLOBAL CONSULTING GROUP

## What is Global Consulting Group?

Global Consulting Group (GCG) is a charity that provides pro-bono consulting services to other non-governmental organisations and not-for-profits. GCG achieves this vision by connecting university students with industry professionals. It currently has branches at Monash University, the University of Melbourne and UNSW Business School.

## Types of volunteer roles offered

### *Project consultant*

Your role as a project consultant is to work within a team of other project consultants and a project manager to achieve project deliverables for a not-for-profit client.

### *Functional roles*

Students are also able to support GCG's activities in the following roles:

- Marketing Officer
- External Relations
- Human Resources Officer
- Events Officer

## Requirements

GCG strongly encourages students of all disciplines and stages of their degree to apply (including first-year and STEM students). Applicants must be prepared to commit at least 8 to 10 hours per week for a minimum of 12 consecutive weeks.

Please note: Although not mandatory, GCG highly encourages students to complete 2 projects of 12 weeks duration for a total of 24 weeks throughout a year.

## Applying

First stage: Written application

Second stage: Recruitment day

Application dates vary from semester to semester. To stay updated on exact application dates for Semester 2 2024, please follow GCG on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GCGMonash/> and LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/global-consulting-group-/>

If you have any questions please contact the team at: [recruitment.monash@gcg.org.au](mailto:recruitment.monash@gcg.org.au)

## Contact

W: <https://www.gcg.org.au/>

E: [contact@gcg.org.au](mailto:contact@gcg.org.au)





**IMPETUS**  
CONSULTING GROUP

# IMPETUS CONSULTING GROUP

## **What is Impetus Consulting?**

Impetus Consulting Group is a student-led, not-for-profit organisation founded to help strengthen organisations that deliver social outcomes. Impetus does this by providing socially conscious organisations with quality and accessible management consulting services.

## **Types of volunteer roles offered**

### *Project Consultant*

As a consultant, your job is to work within a group of 4 consultants, an associate manager and a project manager to research and deliver a project for the client, which is typically in the NFP sector. This requires 4 to 6 hours a week for 12 weeks and gives you a chance to give back to the community.

### *Associate Project Manager / Project Manager (PM)*

A project manager is responsible for mentoring project consultants by communicating the client's issues, empowering them to solve it and organising meetings to work towards the project deliverables. An ideal PM is organised, has interpersonal skills and possesses strong attention to detail. The project manager is also responsible for managing client expectations.

### *Executive Team*

In the executive team, you will be responsible for managing the action that has kept Impetus running. There are roles for Directors, Assistant Directors and Officers, all of whom have a crucial role in managing projects teams, and securing clients and sponsors.

## **Requirements**

Impetus invites university students of all disciplines to apply. Students that stand out are those who show a genuine interest in helping NFP Organisations. Students must be organised enough to manage client engagements during their studies/work. Candidates must be available for 8 to 10 weeks with a minimum commitment of 4 hours.

## **Applying**

*First stage:* Written application - the applicant will submit answers to 3 questions (around 200-300 words each) and submit their Resume for consideration.

*Second stage:* Assessment Centre - this is broken up into 2 components: an individual interview component and a group case study component.

Impetus open applications twice a year generally before the semester begins - follow Impetus on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/impetuscg> and LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/impetus-consulting-group/?originalSubdomain=au>

to stay updated on exact dates.

## **Contact**

**W:** <https://www.impetus.org.au/>

**E:** [people@impetus.org.au](mailto:people@impetus.org.au)

# MELBOURNE CITY MISSION

## What is Melbourne City Mission?

Melbourne City Mission works with some of Melbourne and Victoria's most vulnerable individuals, families and communities. City Mission helps thousands of people escape and avoid disadvantage, economic exclusion and social isolation whilst responding to the changing needs of communities.

It aims to deliver holistic, integrated services that make a powerful and sustainable difference in people's lives.

## What tasks will I undertake?

There are a wide variety of volunteering opportunities from one-off volunteer roles to ongoing continuous positions.

These include:

### *Community Visitors Scheme*

Volunteers visit residents in an Aged Care Home at least fortnightly to provide friendship and companionship.

### *Community Friend Program*

Volunteers provide friendship and support to people living with a mild disability who otherwise may be socially isolated. 2 to 3 visits are required fortnightly.

## The qualities they look for in a volunteer

- A commitment of at least 12 months
- Maturity and reliability
- Effective communications and social skills
- Good role model

- Focuses on the need of others
- Seeks advice as appropriate
- Has an understanding of the importance of social connections and friendship

## Benefits of volunteering

- Continual support from CFP coordinators
- Training through programs
- Up skill/ Work experience of learning new skills
- Opportunity to act on your values, passions and interests

## Requirements

- At least 18 years of age
- *Minimum commitment:* A 12-month commitment is required for the Community Friend Program

## Applying

- Browse the current volunteer vacancies section and apply directly for any roles advertised
- All roles list contact phone numbers, so please phone if you have any queries about the positions
- There is a formal process in place for those who wish to volunteer

For more information please see:

<https://www.mcm.org.au/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-vacancies>

## Contact

**W:** [www.melbournecitymission.org.au](http://www.melbournecitymission.org.au)

**E:** [info@mcm.org.au](mailto:info@mcm.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9977 0000

**A:** Level 1, 164-180 Kings Way, South Melbourne VIC 3205

# THE OAKTREE FOUNDATION

## What is Oaktree?

Oaktree is Australia's largest youth-run development agency. They work towards a world where all people can thrive, by building the capacity and influence of young people both in Australia and overseas.

Oaktree works in 3 ways:

- 1.They fund education and leadership programs overseas which build capacity and empower young leaders in our region.
- 2.Build capacity and influence of young people in our region.
- 3.Influence policy change towards youth participation and a more just world.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Roles at Oaktree may vary.

Within the Victorian state team, the role might be more focused on engaging the community through the Live Below the Line campaign or the Community Leaders initiative.

Depending on the role you are assigned, you could be managing a partnership with an organisation based overseas or leading Oaktree's legal team.

## Requirements

At Oaktree, will is valued over skill, determination over degrees, and passion over years of experience.

*Minimum commitment:* Volunteering at Oaktree can mean many things. You might be volunteering 3 to 4 days a week leading the media campaign for Live Below the Line, a multi-million-dollar fundraising campaign, or you might get started by interning a day a week in their communications team.

The more senior the role, the more experience (and time) required, but if you're keen to make a meaningful difference in empowering young people – there is always a place for you at Oaktree!

## Applying

You can head to their website:

<https://www.oaktree.org/join-our-team>

to see roles that are available at Oaktree at any given time.

## Contact

**W:** [www.oaktree.org](http://www.oaktree.org)

**E:** [volunteer@oaktree.org](mailto:volunteer@oaktree.org)

**P:** (03) 9028 2759

**A:** 355 William Street, West Melbourne VIC 3003



# OXFAM AUSTRALIA

## What is Oxfam Australia?

Oxfam is a global movement of people working together to eliminate poverty by tackling inequality. At Oxfam, we believe that all lives are equal. Working with partners, allies, communities, and our supporters, we are changing the world for the better at every level, at scale, here and now, and for the long term.

Oxfam Australia is one organisation within the global confederation that works to address the complex and interrelated systemic problems that cause poverty.

## What tasks will I undertake?

*In the Oxfam office or online:* Volunteering in the office gets you up close and personal with Oxfam's work. You could be researching Oxfam's programs, assisting the campaigns team, or helping with admin tasks. Many office roles are also flexible and online-friendly as well.

*Oxfam Trailwalker:* Oxfam Trailwalker is one of the most inspiring team challenges in the world. Teams of 3-6 people journey through a 100km, 55km, or 30km bush trail within 40 hours. Trailwalker is supported by hundreds of volunteers who assist with making the event a success. Our final Trailwalker event will be held in Melbourne in March 2024.

Join an *Oxfam community group* and meet people with a common interest in social justice and sustainable development.

## Requirements

Each program has its own commitment level and can be regular or one-off opportunities over the holidays, weekends or during the week.

- Volunteers must be 18 years old
- Volunteers must be an Australian citizen, permanent resident or hold a working visa
- Volunteers may need to successfully pass a police check for some positions

## Applying

Visit:

<https://www.oxfam.org.au/get-involved/volunteer-with-us/>

for a complete list of volunteer positions. If there are no available positions that interest you, you can register a general expression of interest form.

## Contact

**W:** [www.oxfam.org.au/](http://www.oxfam.org.au/)

**E:** [volunteerengagement@oxfam.org.au](mailto:volunteerengagement@oxfam.org.au)

**P:** 1800 088 110

**A:** 355 William St, West Melbourne VIC 3003



# PLAN INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA

## What is Plan International Australia?

Plan International is a global independent development and humanitarian organisation that focuses on equality for girls and justice for all children. Plan International is dedicated to creating a just world, where all children are equal. Plan International works in 83 countries and focuses on child protection and development, climate action, gender-based violence and girls' education.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Volunteers will work during business hours (8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday), but can sometimes work after hours or on weekends when helping with events.

Currently, PLAN is looking for volunteers to undertake: administration and data entry, communications packing and distribution, proofreading, mail processing and scanning.

Tasks vary from campaign to campaign, training will be provided.



## Requirements

You must be eligible to work in Australia according to the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs guidelines. If you are from overseas, you must have a valid visa.

Volunteers must also sign PLAN's Child Protection Policy and Working with Children Code of Conduct.

Minimum Commitment: volunteers generally contribute 1 to 2 days per week. However, PLAN can accommodate the time you are available to give including short-term commitments.

## Applying

If you're interested in volunteering with Plan, please email Plan International Australia at [volunteer@plan.org.au](mailto:volunteer@plan.org.au) with the subject 'Volunteer enquiry' to send an expression of interest. In your email, outline what area you would like to volunteer in and why.

To see the current volunteering positions available visit: <https://www.plan.org.au/work-with-us/#volunteer>

## Contact

**W:** [www.plan.org.au](http://www.plan.org.au)

**E:** [info@plan.org.au](mailto:info@plan.org.au)

**P:** 13 75 26

**A:** Level 18/60 City Road, Southbank VIC 3006

# PRISON LEGAL EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## What is PLEA

The Prison Legal Education Assistance (PLEA) Project delivers legal education in prisons to assist inmates in proactively handling their legal cases. Their aim is to provide inmates with the knowledge and skills needed to gain control in an environment where they may feel powerless. PLEA recognises the structural, psychological and cultural barriers that can prevent access to and participation in the justice system. They seek to overcome these barriers through the empowerment of practical legal education. The PLEA Project is entirely volunteer run with over 60 active volunteers, who possess excellent communication skills and a commitment to improving access to justice.

## Types of activities offered

PLEA legal workshops cover topics including court readiness, family law, parole readiness, dealing with police, sentencing and working with lawyers.

## Requirements

Volunteers must:

- Be prepared to spend time researching for presentations to the inmates
- Be flexible with time as prison dates can change regularly
- Attend the minimum number of hours weekly, monthly prison visits and fortnightly meetings

- Be comfortable with the prison environment before applying
- Have an understanding of criminal law (highly advantageous).
- Must be studying law
- Minimum commitment: Applicants must be available to present 3 to 4 sessions per month for a minimum of 1 year

## Applying

To apply please submit an application here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf7WIGJdQ\\_-bOVUCUqx22HVAw82ItPhnxUi3a7TqReYiIkf7HA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf7WIGJdQ_-bOVUCUqx22HVAw82ItPhnxUi3a7TqReYiIkf7HA/viewform)

Applicants will be assessed based on suitability for the program and availability. Applications will be saved in our system and assessed as positions become available. They also directly recruit for senior presenters, an opportunity for more experienced law students to be fast tracked for a leadership position within PLEA. Please use the same form to apply for these positions.

## Contact

W: [www.pleaproject.org.au](http://www.pleaproject.org.au)

E: [admin@pleaproject.org.au](mailto:admin@pleaproject.org.au)



# UNITED NATIONS YOUTH

## What is United Nations Youth?

United Nations Youth Australia (UN Youth) is a national youth-led organisation that aims to educate and empower young Australians on global issues facing the world. It recognises that young leaders have a vision and the passion to create meaningful change within their communities and the world, and aims to equip them with the skills and inspiration to do so.

They run a broad range of peer education programs that give their students a deep understanding of the social and political issues the world faces today, and the skills and drive to solve them.

## What tasks will I undertake?

UN Youth volunteers are involved in every aspect of the organisation.

Tasks include:

- Organising and running events
- Teaching students
- Managing administration and finance
- Running marketing and developing new programs

## Requirements

If you are entrepreneurial and care about creating a generation of young Australians who are engaged with the world around them, then you should apply to be a UN Youth Australia volunteer. You must be between 17 - 25 years old to apply.

## Applying

All vacant positions are advertised at: <https://volunteer.unyouth.org.au/opportunities/>.

Alternatively, you can get in touch by filling out the contact form at:

<https://unyouth.org.au/contact/>

## Contact

**W:** [www.unyouth.org.au](http://www.unyouth.org.au)

**E:** [info@unyouth.org.au](mailto:info@unyouth.org.au)

**A:** 2/235 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC 3000



**UN**  
**youth**  
australia

In 2020, I organised our biggest event, National Conference, where 100 high school students from all around Australia, New Zealand and Taiwan came together to learn about privacy and government transparency, meet like-minded people and expand their horizons.

To be able to organise an event on the scale of the National Conference at 21 was a unique opportunity to learn new skills and more about myself and is the kind of thing that I could only do at a large youth-led organisation like UN Youth.

**Zoe Brightling**



# UNITED VIC. TAS

## What is Uniting Vic.Tas

Uniting Vic.Tas is a community services branch of the Uniting Church that focuses on assisting individuals, families and communities. Uniting Vic.Tas provides assistance in various matters such as aged care, alcohol and drugs, mental health services, carer services, disability services, housing and homelessness, multicultural services and finance and employment. In doing so, Uniting Vic.Tas aims to empower communities and increase the quality of life and social and economic participation.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Volunteer tasks vary depending on the position. Currently, volunteers are required for:

- Administration support
- Early learning assistance
- Community well-being support with community meals
- Op shop assistance
- Logistical support
- Youth mentoring support
- Supporting older people
- Lifeline Crisis support
- Refugee and Asylum Seeker support
- Learner to P Plater Mentor Drivers
- Emergency Relief support

## Requirements

Candidates must:

- Be enthusiastic to help people
- Have empathy and compassion
- Be reliable, honest and committed
- Have good communication skills
- Be committed to the program for more than 6 months

Some volunteering positions require a National Police Certificate, Working with Children Check and up-to-date COVID-19 Vaccinations.

## Applying

Browse the current volunteering opportunities at:

<https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/volunteer/>

## Contact

**W:**

<https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/>

**E:** hello@unitingvictas.org.au

**P:** (03) 9192 8100

**A:** 130 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**Uniting**  
VIC.TAS

# WORLD VISION AUSTRALIA

## What is World Vision Australia?

World Vision is a Christian organisation focused on overcoming poverty and barriers to justice for children, families and communities. It provides emergency assistance to children and families affected by disasters and conflict, partners with communities for long-term solutions to alleviate poverty, and advocates for justice.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Tasks and commitment levels vary for each position under current opportunities.

## Requirements

World Vision looks for passionate, skilled and committed people and matches them to specific volunteering opportunities.

## Applying

For current opportunities visit the job search page:

<https://careers.worldvision.com.au/en/1isting/>

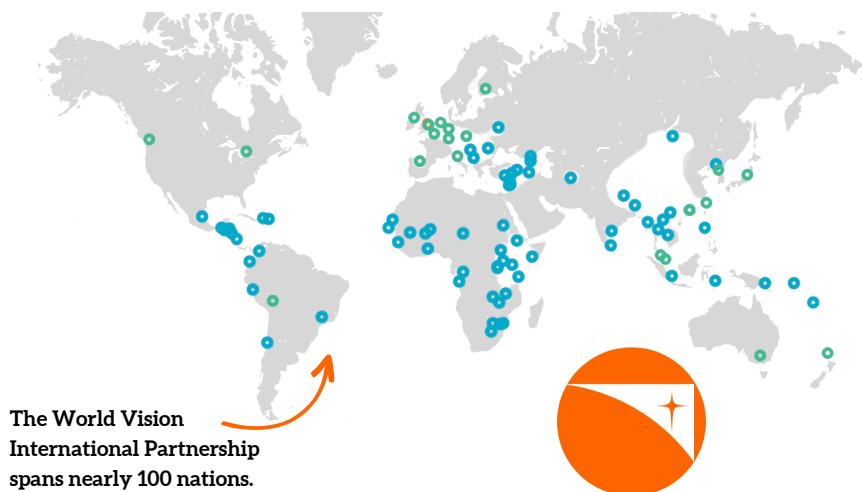
## Contact

**W:** [www.worldvision.com.au](http://www.worldvision.com.au)

**E:** [service@worldvision.com.au](mailto:service@worldvision.com.au)

**P:** 13 32 40

**A:** 1 Vision Drive, Burwood East VIC



# 180 DEGREES CONSULTING

## What is 180 Degrees Consulting?

180 Degrees Consulting (180DC) is a global student-led body that provides pro bono and low-cost consulting services to non-profit and social impact organisations. This has a bifold effect – firstly, 180DC helps NFP organisations with problems and areas that they do not have the time, resources or people to explore. Secondly, they provide students with invaluable real-life experience that they cannot get elsewhere. Students receive consulting and leadership training from 180DC's partners, Boston Consulting Group, Nous Group, and Right Lane Consulting. Each project team also receives a mentor from an industry partner.

## Why should I join 180DC as a law student?

Did you choose law to work towards social justice? Are you interested in a non-law pathway after graduation, or eager to develop new, transferable skill sets? While you may or may not be considering consulting as a career pathway, being a Team Leader or Project Consultant at 180DC equips you with industry-taught skills and frameworks which can be directly applied to your endeavours as a lawyer or consultant. From problem solving strategies and undertaking comprehensive research to presenting and leading meetings with clients, it is an opportunity to enrich your law degree with practical industry experience, whilst also making a positive impact for your non-profit clients

## Types of volunteer roles offered

Each position is volunteer-based. Positions offered include, project consultants, team leaders and executive roles.

## What tasks will I undertake?

As a Project Consultant, you are part of a team of typically 6 to 7 members, including 2 Team Leaders that jointly lead the team. Teams are assigned to a non-profit organisation and are responsible for helping the organisation solve business issues to improve their efficiency and increase their social impact. Consultants will be required to work both independently and with their team members to find solutions for the client.

## Applying

Applications to join us are open in January 2025 via resume upload and motivational question responses. If successful, you will progress to an Assessment Centre with group and individual interviews. For more information and updates, follow us on Instagram @180dcmonash and Facebook @180DCMonashUni

## Contact

W: <http://linktr.ee/180DCMonash>.

E: [hr.monash@180dc.org](mailto:hr.monash@180dc.org)



# SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE

## 180DC

Sometimes studying law can feel overly theoretical. 180DC was my opportunity to do something more practical while at uni. I loved seeing projects come to life, and watch our non-profit clients implement our recommendations. As an added bonus, being able to prove that I had in-depth research skills and the ability to perform under strict deadlines helped me land that ever elusive first legal role. I highly recommend joining 180DC! It's your chance to make a difference.



**Jasmine Junawan**

Bachelor of Laws & Bachelor of Arts  
President, 2025



What I have enjoyed the most about 180DC is the practical experience it provides you into the field on consulting. I found the opportunity to help a real organisation work through their issues and overcome barriers whilst still being a student let me learn much faster about how to problem solve and think critically than I ever would have in a classroom.

The workload you undertake is sizeable, however you are encouraged to never let it get in the way of your studies nor are you expected to prioritise when you have heavy blocks of assessments during the semester. In this way, 180DC complements university life really well by allowing you to enhance your communication, practical thinking and attention to detail skills while also getting some experience in the industry as a student. In addition, being in 180DC also provides many social opportunities throughout the semester to mingle and make friends with other students partaking in it.



**Thomas Pereira**





# ENVIRONMENTAL WELFARE

# AUSTRALIAN EARTH LAWS ALLIANCE

## What is the Australian Earth Laws Alliance?

The Australian Earth Laws Alliance (AELA) is a national not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to increase the understanding and practical implementation of Earth-centred law, governance and ethics (or 'Earth jurisprudence') in Australia.

Earth jurisprudence is a new legal theory and growing social movement. It proposes that we rethink our legal, political, economic and governance systems so that they support, rather than undermine, the integrity and health of the Earth.

AELA is powered by committed volunteers, who work together as individuals and organisations to promote the understanding and practical implementation of Earth jurisprudence and governance in Australia.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Law students are welcome to volunteer with the Australian Earth Laws Centre (AELC), or with other programs of AELA's work. Students assist with legal, economic, policy and other research, as well as administrative tasks, social media and other varied activities as agreed. Students who stay with AELA beyond 6-8 months are also invited to participate in our community programs, carrying out community outreach and community engagement activities.

## Requirements

AELA has a strong history of working closely with university students who are interested in pursuing environmental justice from a range of perspectives.

Students will need:

- A passion for environmental and social justice
- Basic knowledge of the Australian legal system and environmental protection law
- Excellent research skills in any or all of law, economics, natural sciences, social sciences
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- An interest in, and capacity for, undertaking a range of administrative tasks to support the organisation (e.g. social media, comms, website updates, other)

## Applying

If you'd like to volunteer or intern at AELA, please view the various Volunteer Application forms here:

<https://www.earthlaws.org.au/volunteer/>.

## Contact

**W:** [www.earthlaws.org.au](http://www.earthlaws.org.au)

**E:** [aela@earthlaws.org.au](mailto:aela@earthlaws.org.au)



# AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CLIMATE COALITION

## What is the Australian Youth Climate Coalition?

The Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC) is Australia's largest youth-run organisation dedicated to building a generation-wide movement to solve climate change. They are fierce advocates for climate justice. The AYCC addresses climate change through a social movement focused on sustainable solutions and reducing carbon emissions.

## What tasks will I undertake?

This will vary depending on the role, but the tasks range from:

- Logistics of events involving organising catering and music
- Working to inspire young people to take action on climate change in schools, universities and regional areas
- Organising and promoting events
- Organising media stunts

## Applying

To get on board, fill out your details at:

<https://www.aycc.org.au/volunteer>

and someone from AYCC will contact you.

## Contact

**W:** [www.aycc.org.au](http://www.aycc.org.au)

**E:** [info@aycc.org.au](mailto:info@aycc.org.au)

**P:** 0421 367 175

**A:** 60 Leicester Street, Carlton, VIC, 3053



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AUSTRALIA

## **What is Environmental Justice Australia?**

Environmental Justice Australia (EJA) are nature's lawyers. They use the law to protect our environment and work to change our laws to make sure they protect the right of all Australians to clean air, clean water and healthy ecosystems.

## **What programs are available?**

*Weekly Volunteer Placement Program (March – November):* Volunteers work 1 full day per week for a minimum of 1 semester. Applications are due in early February and July. Tasks include casework, law reform and policy projects, or researching and updating publications.

*Internship Program (November – February; June – July):* Volunteers work full-time for 2 consecutive weeks over the summer or winter break. Tasks may include assisting staff with casework, law reform and policy projects, and researching and updating publications.

*First Nations Internship Program:* We offer two internships for First Nations law students or recent graduates. Interns will be paid a stipend of \$200 per day, and additional accommodation funding may be available for applicants who need to travel a long distance to take up the position. There is no deadline for applications.

## **Contact**

**W:** <https://www.envirojustice.org.au>

**E:** [admin@envirojustice.org.au](mailto:admin@envirojustice.org.au)

**P:** (03) 8341 3100



## **What is Environmental Justice Australia looking for in an applicant?**

- Law students with an interest in environmental issues/environmental law
- Final year law students and those pursuing additional study in a related field such as science or environmental policy

While EJA gives preference to students who have studied administrative law, it is not essential for those with strong environment credentials or experience.

## **Applying**

To apply, select the program that you are interested in here:

<https://envirojustice.org.au/get-involved/volunteer/>.

Any questions can be directed to Ling Toong, the office administrator and volunteer coordinator, here:

<https://envirojustice.org.au/about/contact-us/>

To apply for the day program or Internship, complete the web form through the link on the volunteer page. Once submitted, you will then receive an email prompt to follow up with your CV and academic transcript.

To apply for the First Nations Internship, register your interest via the web form through the link on the volunteer page. Applications are accepted at any time for consideration in the next program.

# FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

## What is Friends of the Earth?

Friends of the Earth Melbourne (FOE) is part of a federation of autonomous groups that are working towards an environmentally sustainable and socially equitable future. To FOE, social justice and environmental issues are inseparable and they are building a movement of resilient communities ready to mobilise, resist and transform.

## Areas of expertise

- Climate and energy justice
- Going nuclear-free
- Land and water protection
- Food and technology
- Economics for the Earth
- Indigenous land rights and more!

Friends of the Earth don't have bosses and work using consensus decision-making. This means everyone gets a say in how things are done. Friends of the Earth provides a safe space and encourages all people of different backgrounds to get involved.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Friends of the Earth values any involvement at all including:

- Researching policy
- Writing poetry
- Painting banners
- Fundraising
- Strategising
- Planning actions
- Cooking food and more!

Go to:

<https://www.melbournefoe.org.au/opportunities> for the details of more opportunities.

## Applying

If you are interested in the listed volunteer opportunities, please visit:

<https://www.melbournefoe.org.au/volunteer>.

## Contact

**W:** [foe.org.au](https://www.foe.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9419 8700

**A:** PO Box 222, Fitzroy VIC 3065; 312 Smith St, Collingwood VIC 3066





# ANIMAL WELFARE

# LAWYERS FOR ANIMALS

## What is Lawyers for Animals?

Classed as property, animals have no legal voice: they need lawyers to advocate for them.

Lawyers for Animals is a volunteer-based organisation dedicated to improving the welfare of animals through education and law. Lawyers for Animals' activities include communicating with politicians and making submissions on Acts, Regulations, Codes of Practice and other laws and policies affecting animals. They also assist other animal welfare groups with their work, develop educational materials, publish articles, and promote awareness of animal suffering.

## What tasks will I undertake?

### *Project work*

Volunteer law students or lawyers may undertake research and drafting work to assist with current projects.

### *Animal Law Clinic*

Runs on Wednesday evenings at Fitzroy Legal Service from 6.30pm. Law students may volunteer as Administrative Assistants and assist with taking file notes, research and other administrative tasks.

## Requirements

Membership in Lawyers for Animals and participation in their volunteer program is open to all who care about the welfare of animals – not just lawyers.

Volunteers require:

- A passion for animal welfare
- Communication, research and general administrative skills
- Minimum commitment: Volunteers at the Animal Law Clinic are typically required to commit to attending the Clinic one Wednesday per month.

## Applying

Send your expression of interest to [volunteering@lawyersforanimals.org.au](mailto:volunteering@lawyersforanimals.org.au) with some brief details about yourself, including if you are a practising lawyer and if you are interested in project work. All expressions of interest are entered into a database of prospective volunteers.

Please note that all volunteers at the Clinic must be members of both Lawyers for Animals and Fitzroy Legal Service.

## Contact

**W:** [www.lawyersforanimals.org.au](http://www.lawyersforanimals.org.au)

**E:** [enquiries@lawyersforanimals.org.au](mailto:enquiries@lawyersforanimals.org.au)

**P:** 0423 659 042

**A:** Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000



# WORLD ANIMAL PROTECTION AUSTRALIA

## What is World Animal Protection Australia?

Every animal deserves a life worth living. That's why World Animal Protection has been campaigning for over 70 years to end animal cruelty. Right now, they're prioritising issues where change can transform the lives of the greatest number of animals on factory farms and in the wild.

By joining the Animal Action Crew you will be immersed in a community of committed, like-minded people making lasting changes for animals everywhere. Volunteering can help them reduce costs while engaging the public on important animal issues.

From being able to support campaigns, to fundraising or even community events, they can help you help animals. Previous volunteers and crew members have joined beach cleans, attended protests and even cleaned up elephant dung in Thailand!

There are also plenty of opportunities to help remotely, from signing petitions to hosting election letter-writing parties.



## What tasks will I undertake?

There is a range of activities to suit everyone, including:

- Public awareness and engagement
- Collecting petition signatures
- Fundraising Initiatives
- Attending workshops and protests

If you would like to get involved visit the website or keep an eye on their Facebook events page

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldAnimalProtectionAustralia/>.

## Requirements

World Animal Protection Australia is looking for people who are passionate and dedicated to animal protection.

## Applying

Fill in the form at:

<http://www.worldanimalprotection.org.au/supportus/volunteer>.

## Contact

**W:** [www.worldanimalprotection.org.au/](http://www.worldanimalprotection.org.au/)

**E:**

[protect@worldanimalprotection.org.au](mailto:protect@worldanimalprotection.org.au)

**P:** 1300 139 772



LGBTQIA+

# BISEXUAL ALLIANCE VICTORIA

## What is Bisexual Alliance Victoria?

Bisexual Alliance Victoria (BAV) is a nonprofit volunteer-run organisation. They are passionately dedicated to advocacy, either through direct involvement or in partnership, to promote total equality and equity for bi+ people, LGBTQIA+ individuals and broader society. BAV also provides a fun, safe space where bi+ people can meet, make friends, and talk about their experiences.

## What tasks will I undertake?

The key areas of interest are representation and inclusiveness in policy and law with the aim of increasing equality and equity for bi+ people, their partners, families and friends.

## Am I suitable for this role?

Volunteers who are interested in researching bi+ issues and writing submissions to government, policymakers and funding bodies are welcome to apply.

BAV is welcoming of all diversity and intersectionality including asexual/aromantic, trans and gender-diverse people. BAV is interested in working with students to develop internal policies and assist with grant writing.

## Applying

Email [info@bi-alliance.org](mailto:info@bi-alliance.org) with your expression of interest and CV.

## Contact

**W:** <http://www.bi-alliance.org>

**E:** [info@bi-alliance.org](mailto:info@bi-alliance.org)

Please note: BAV uses bisexual to include anyone who is multi-gender attracted regardless of label (including no label).



# SWITCHBOARD

## **What is Switchboard?**

Switchboard provides peer-driven support services for LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and gender diverse, queer, intersex, asexual) people, their families, allies and communities.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

*QLife teleweb service - LGBTQIA peer support*

Switchboard is the Victorian partner of QLife, a national organisation that provides peer-based telephone and web chat support. The program aims to offer intersectional, feminist and anti-oppressive (strengths based) support. Visit [qlife.org.au](http://qlife.org.au) to read more about this program.

You will be provided with training and a framework to do this work. Volunteers must be resilient, emotionally intelligent and mature. Many of the people contacting QLife have experienced stigma, discrimination, violence, complex mental health issues, and suicidality. Reflect and consider if you are ready to have conversations that include these difficult topics, and if you have the time and capacity to be involved in this vital work

## *Out and About program*

Out and About is a home-based visiting service for older LGBTQIA+ people who are at risk of social isolation. Volunteers befriend socially isolated older people, all of whom live with disabilities, chronic health conditions and/or mental health issues. Volunteers will visit in person at least once a fortnight for 12 months. Volunteers in this program must be reliable and kind. This program recruits volunteers individually when needed or requested.

## **Applying**

Switchboard's volunteers are peers; therefore, all volunteers must be LGBTQIA+ or questioning. You must be 18 or over to volunteer with Out and About and 21 or over to volunteer with QLife. Visit [switchboard.org.au/volunteer](http://switchboard.org.au/volunteer) for our volunteer position descriptions. Switchboard welcome, value and support applications from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, people who are trans and/or gender diverse, intersex, asexual, living with disability, who work in the sex industry, younger, older, live regionally or rurally, are culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), People of Colour or People of Faith.

Find out more and register your interest for all volunteer roles on their online form, found at [switchboard.org.au/volunteer](http://switchboard.org.au/volunteer)

## **Contact**

W: [www.switchboard.org.au](http://www.switchboard.org.au)

E: [admin@switchboard.org.au](mailto:admin@switchboard.org.au)

P: +61 3 9917 3874



# THORNE HARBOUR HEALTH

## What is Thorne Harbour Health?

Thorne Harbour Health (THH) (formerly Victorian AIDS Council) was formed as a central part of the Victorian community response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. THH continues to lead the response by providing a range of services which include prevention education, treatment and care of people living with HIV and counselling services. THH leads the fight against HIV/ AIDS in Victoria by providing care and support for people living with HIV, health promotion, and advocacy. They advocate, with partner organisations, to improve health outcomes for sexually and gender-diverse communities.

THH strives to:

- Deliver HIV prevention, education and health promotion to gay men
- Provide services, support and advocacy for all people living with HIV
- Respond to emerging needs and developments in HIV prevention and care Support and promote the health and well-being of sexually and gender diverse communities
- Promote access to services for these communities

## What tasks will I undertake?

There are a variety of roles available for volunteers to get involved within the organisation. Please see:

<https://thorneharbour.org/getinvolved/volunteer/>.

### Applying

You can register your interest in volunteering with THH at:

<https://thorneharbour.typeform.com/to/aWippFgP>.

They will communicate details of future recruitment when this information becomes available.

### Contact

**W:** <https://thorneharbour.org/>

**E:** [legal@thorneharbour.org](mailto:legal@thorneharbour.org)

**P:** (03) 9865 6700

**A:** 200 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford VIC 3067

**thorne  
harbour**  
health\*

# TRANSGENDER VICTORIA

## What is Transgender Victoria?

Transgender Victoria (TGV) was founded in the late 1990s to achieve justice, equity and quality health and community service provision for transgender people, their partners, families and friends.

By transgender, TGV refers to people whose gender identity or expression is different from that which was assigned at birth or that which is expected of them by society.

TGV educates organisations and workplaces on how to provide better services for transgender people and seeks ways to provide direct services to the transgender community, whether in partnership with others or independently.

## What tasks will I undertake?

- Policy writing (researching, proofreading and editing)
- Grant writing
- Resource and program creation
- Fundraising for projects that empower trans and gender-diverse people
- Events management to support the community
- Administration
- Graphic design and photography
- Develop campaigns that raise awareness and enact change

## Am I suitable for this role?

TGV welcomes all those who are passionate about human rights, envision a world that accepts and celebrates gender diversity and excited to build their skillset.

## Applying

To apply, fill out the application form here:

<https://tgvl.org.au/apply-to-volunteer>.

Please note that TGV requires volunteers to become members.

## Contact

**W:** <https://tgvl.org.au/>

**E:** [hello@tgvl.org.au](mailto:hello@tgvl.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9020 4642

**A:** Shop 2/360 Lygon Street  
Brunswick East VIC 3057



# VICTORIAN PRIDE LOBBY

## **What is the Victorian Pride Lobby?**

The Victorian Pride Lobby is a volunteer advocacy group working toward equality and social justice for the Victorian LGBTIQ+ community. Formerly the Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby, we have fiercely advocated for a more equal Victoria for over 25 years.

The Lobby is proudly independent, not affiliated with any political party, and is a not-for-profit driven by our members. We work alongside community organisations, advocates, and representatives of Government to develop and campaign for policy that creates positive change for LGBTIQ+ human rights.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

The Lobby is always looking for members to drive our ambitious policy and campaigning goals. Our members keep the organisation operating by participating in working groups or offering expertise on specific projects. You may be able to contribute your knowledge in the following areas:

- Fundraising and event management
- Policy development and submission writing
- Volunteer and member management
- Communications and social media
- Campaign logistics

In the past, we have conducted a sector wide review into practices in the insurance industry, lobbied the Government to impose sanctions based on human rights abuses in Chechnya, and lobbied for more funding for LGBTIQ+ organisations in the State Budget.

## **Am I suitable for this role?**

Volunteers are encouraged to join one or more of the Lobby's working groups.

Minimum commitment: Volunteers may choose to offer a small amount of their time to the Lobby on a weekly basis or to work for short intensive periods as needed.

## **Applying**

Become a volunteer today by contacting [info@vicpridelobby.org](mailto:info@vicpridelobby.org). The email should highlight your current skills, areas of interest, as well as any campaign work you'd like to be a part of.

If you have further questions about volunteering, our campaigns, or membership, please get in touch with us.

## **Contact**

**W:** <http://vicpridelobby.org/>

**E:** [info@vicpridelobby.org](mailto:info@vicpridelobby.org)

**A:** PO Box 21305, Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000





# WOMEN'S RIGHTS

# WOMEN'S INFORMATION AND REFERRAL EXCHANGE

## What is Women's Information and Referral Exchange?

Women's Information and Referral Exchange (WIRE) provides free information, support and referral to Victorian women, non-binary and gender diverse people on any issue they are facing.

WIRE provides support through a telephone support line, email and web chat, as well as face-to-face in a Walk-In Centre in inner Melbourne.

It also delivers a range of programs and services including job coaching, employment workshops, and financial and legal clinics. WIRE undertakes projects and provides education and resources to individuals, organisations and the community to build capacity and counter gender bias, discrimination and family violence.

## What tasks will I undertake?

WIRE's team of trained telephone support volunteers answer calls from women, non-binary and gender-diverse people facing issues such as family violence, homelessness, separation, isolation, and mental health challenges.

The volunteer team is a critical part of WIRE's service delivery.

## Am I suitable for this role?

Applicants must be:

- Passionate about providing high-quality support to women, non-binary and gender-diverse people
- At least 21 years old
- Able to complete the training requirements and time commitment (one volunteer shift a fortnight over a minimum of 12 months). There is a fee to undertake the training, however, scholarships are available.
- Be fully vaccinated or have a medical exemption
- Undergo a National Police Record Check
- Get a Working With Children Check

## Applying

Visit:

[www.wire.org.au/volunteer/volunteertraining/](http://www.wire.org.au/volunteer/volunteertraining/) for more information and register your interest in attending an information session at [www.wire.org.au/volunteer/](http://www.wire.org.au/volunteer/).

## Contact

**W:** <https://www.wire.org.au/>

**E:** [support@wire.org.au](mailto:support@wire.org.au)

**P:** (03) 8326 7106

**A:** Level 5/255 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC 3000



# VICTORIAN WOMEN LAWYERS

## What is Victorian Women Lawyers?

Victorian Women Lawyers (VWL) is the peak representative body of women lawyers in Victoria and a constituent body of Australian Women Lawyers. Run entirely by volunteers, VWL works to promote and protect the interests of women studying and practising law.

Membership is open to anyone (regardless of gender identity) who is supportive of VWL's values. It is our belief that when the practice of law is improved for women, the legal industry and justice system is improved for everyone.

VWL runs a large number of events and projects each year, and members are entitled to attend most VWL events for free or at a discounted price. VWL members are encouraged to actively participate in VWL. This could be by volunteering with a committee, signing up for our mentoring program or participating in our competitions.

## What tasks will I undertake?

- Committees are a great way to become involved in VWL, meet like-minded people and develop new skills. You might help to plan an event, write an article or contribute to a law reform project. VWL has committees covering publications, social justice, law reform, networking and the public sector (to name just a few). You can find out more about our committees on our website.

- VWL's competitions give women law students and lawyers an opportunity to test their oral and written advocacy skills before members of the judiciary.
- For 15 years VWL, in conjunction with the Women Barristers' Association, has run the Law Student Mentoring Program, pairing together women law students and legal professionals. Mentees gain valuable insights into working in the law and join an inclusive community willing to share experiences and support the next generation of lawyers. Keep a look out on VWL's social media accounts and website details of the 2024 program.

## Am I suitable for this role?

All year levels are welcome to join VWL and undertake volunteer work through the committees.

## Applying

VWL student members are welcome to join a committee at any time of the year. Visit: <https://vwl.asn.au/about/> for a full list of the different types of committees and their individual contact details. You can also become a member of VWL by signing up here: <https://vwl.asn.au/join/>.

## Contact

**E:** [vwl@vwl.asn.au](mailto:vwl@vwl.asn.au)

**W:** [vwl.asn.au](http://vwl.asn.au)

**A:** GPO Box 2314, Melbourne VIC 3001

**vwl**  
VICTORIAN  
WOMEN  
LAWYERS

# YWCA VICTORIA

## What is YWCA?

YWCA Victoria is part of the World YWCA, the largest women's organisation in the world. Present in 125 countries, the YWCA has been in operation since 1855 and engages with 25 million women and girls each year. In Victoria, YWCA works to mentor, empower and engage women and their communities through education, events, sports and housing. It also acts as an advocate and campaigner for women's rights across the state and is proud to be a powerful voice for equality and equal opportunity.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Volunteering opportunities include events and fundraising, administration and finance, housing support and management, counselling, mentoring, feminist-thought writing and leading, and more.

## Am I suitable for this role?

YWCA looks for applicants with a range of skills, interests and backgrounds, who share a commitment to women and a desire to help the organisation achieve its program and advocacy priority areas.



## Applying

To apply, fill out the form for the role that you are interested in here:

<https://www.ywca.org.au/volunteer/>.

Alternatively, please contact the YWCA more generally at:

<https://www.ywca.org.au/contact-us/>.

## Contact

**W:** <https://www.ywca.org.au/>

**E:** [ywca@ywca.net](mailto:ywca@ywca.net)

**P:** 03 8341 8700

**A:** Level 1, 210 Kings Way, South Melbourne VIC 3205

In 2021, I was the Coordinator of the Young Women's Council at YWCA. In this role I designed and led a feminist leadership program for young women, empowering them to find their voice, advocate on intersectional feminist issues and represent the views of young people to the YWCA Board.

I also organised Feminist Book Week which was a fantastic opportunity to develop my project management skills, work with other feminist organisations and publish articles of my own. I am eternally grateful for the opportunities at YWCA and their supportive and progressive work culture.

**Maiysha  
Moin**



# DISABILITY RIGHTS

# MELBOURNE EAST DISABILITY ADVOCACY

## **What is Melbourne East Disability Advocacy?**

Melbourne East Disability Advocacy (MEDA) is dedicated to supporting, promoting and defending the rights of people who have an intellectual disability and empowering them to maximise their potential to participate in decisions affecting their lives.

Support is provided directly by their professional and paid staff. Support is also provided by Volunteer Citizen Advocates where a person with an intellectual disability, who is at risk of social exclusion, is matched to a dedicated volunteer 'advocate'.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

The roles which a Volunteer citizen advocate may undertake are very varied. They can include such roles as:

### *Spokesperson*

Some people with an intellectual disability have difficulty communicating their interests and needs to service providers and other people. The volunteer citizen advocate can provide an articulate voice for a person either in meetings or through written correspondence. The role of a spokesperson is to represent individual's rights or their will & preference as well as supporting someone to 'speak up for themselves'.

### *Practical Advocacy*

People with an intellectual disability may need assistance with using a phone, using a new piece of household equipment, reading a map or deciphering a public transport timetable.

Advocates can support, teach or assist people with a disability to become as independent as possible by linking them with programs that empower them to increase their skill development. The advocacy partnership is not about the individual with a disability forming a dependency upon the advocate.

Community Inclusion & Friendship Advocates are encouraged to support the person to be included in the local community and provide emotional support.

## **Am I suitable for the role?**

The role is flexible, and the time commitment will vary depending on your relationship. At the beginning of a relationship MEDA asks that a volunteer advocate is in contact with the client two hours a fortnight. MEDA asks for at least a 12 month commitment as it takes time to get to know people and build a rapport. When you have built a rapport, you are in a better position to safeguard someone's rights.

For more information:

<http://meda.org.au/become-a-volunteer/volunteer-faqs/>.

## **Applying**

To apply, contact MEDA with your expression of interest.

## **Contact**

**W:** <https://meda.org.au/>

**E:** office@meda.org.au

**P:** (03) 9877 7990

**A:** Level 1, 79 Mahoney's Rd, Forest Hill VIC 3131



# OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE

## **What is the Office of the Public Advocate?**

Established by the Victorian State Government, the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) works to protect and promote the interests, rights and dignity of people with a disability. OPA provides a number of services for people with a disability through advocacy, guardianship, advice, education, information, research and support.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

Volunteers working with OPA help to achieve their ultimate goal: to uphold the rights and interests of people with a disability and work to eliminate abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Volunteers have unique responsibilities. Volunteers in each program operate under specific procedures, and OPA staff provide thorough training, guidance and ongoing support to each volunteer.

There are 2 different volunteer roles you can undertake:

- Community Visitors
- Independent Third Persons

## **Am I suitable for this role?**

Applicants must be/have:

- Seeking a challenging and rewarding voluntary role
- Determined to make a difference

- Willing to stand up for the rights of people with a disability and/or mental illness
- Comfortable talking to people with a disability or mental illness
- Good communication skills
- Minimum commitment: A few hours each week for at least 2 years

Volunteers must be willing to:

- Undergo a National Police Check
- Complete a Working With Children Check
- Complete all necessary training
- Provide their own transport within their region

## **Applying**

See:

<https://www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au/opa-volunteers>

to register your interest in being a volunteer at the OPA.

If you are considering becoming a volunteer, it is essential that you read the position description for the OPA volunteer program you are interested in.

## **Contact**

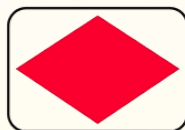
**W:**

<https://www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au/>

**E:** opavolunteers@justice.vic.gov.au

**P:** 1300 309 337

**A:** Level 1, 204 Lygon Street, Carlton VIC 3053





# INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

# AUSTRALIANS FOR NATIVE TITLE AND RECONCILIATION VICTORIA

## **What is Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation Victoria?**

The Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation Victoria (ANTaR) grassroots organisation campaigns for justice in solidarity with Australia's First Peoples.

It coordinates a major national community education and awareness campaign on native title and reconciliation. ANTaR focuses on activities and issues specific to Indigenous people in Victoria, while also supporting national campaigns and priorities.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

ANTaR is establishing a national volunteer network to enable greater education and community outreach across the nation on national issues.

There are a number of volunteer roles at our Victorian Office. These include:

- Policy and campaigning
- Our E-news bulletins
- Instagram , Twitter and Facebook
- ANTaR Victoria website
- Secretary
- Event volunteers

## **Am I suitable for this role?**

Volunteers must be enthusiastic and passionate about awareness and Indigenous rights.

## **Applying**

If you are interested in applying for a volunteer position please email ANTaR Victoria at [antar@antarvictoria.org.au](mailto:antar@antarvictoria.org.au)

Follow their Facebook page for updates:  
[www.facebook.com/antar.vic](http://www.facebook.com/antar.vic)

## **Contact**

**W:** [www.antarvictoria.org.au](http://www.antarvictoria.org.au)

**E:** [antar@antar.org.au](mailto:antar@antar.org.au)

**P:** 0467 533 897

**A:** ANTaR Victoria, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, 3000



# DJIRRA

## What does Djirra do?

Djirra is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation. We have over 20 years' experience finding solutions through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women sharing their stories, journeys, and experiences. Djirra celebrates women's strength and resilience and is committed to a future without family violence. Self-determination is the foundation of everything we do.

Djirra delivers holistic, culturally safe, specialist family violence support, legal case management, and wellbeing services and programs across Victoria. We advocate for system-wide change to improve access to justice, eliminate systemic violence, and strengthen women's resilience.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Volunteers have the opportunity to work in the areas of administration, research, and policy work both within the Legal and Community Engagement teams. There may also be scope to volunteer in web and graphic design, communications and grant writing for applicants with experience in these areas.

## Am I suitable?

Djirra's volunteer program is for people who are studying law, community development, policy, Aboriginal studies or other relevant disciplines.

Djirra seeks volunteers with strong analytical and conceptual ability, and excellent communication skills. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

## Applying

To express interest or apply, please send your CV with a covering letter to [hr@djirra.org.au](mailto:hr@djirra.org.au). Subject to COVID-19 measures.

## Contact

**W:** [www.djirra.org.au](http://www.djirra.org.au)

**E:** [info@djirra.org.au](mailto:info@djirra.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9244 3333

**A:** 292 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford VIC 3067



# FIRST NATIONS LEGAL & RESEARCH SERVICES

## What is First Nations Legal and Research Services (FNLS)

FNLS is a not-for-profit organisation specialising in supporting native title and comprehensive settlements in Victoria. Informed by the principle of self-determination, our dedicated team works collaboratively with First Nations communities to help them achieve their aspirations and right to Country.

## What roles will I undertake?

Successful applicants will undertake a range of paralegal tasks in relation to FNLS' key functions. These include:

- Assisting with the assessment and communication of future act notices in accordance with FNLS legislative function as the Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) for Victoria.
- Ad hoc research tasks that relate to FNLS' ongoing internal and external policy work.
- Where appropriate, assisting with the organisation, administration and delivery of Traditional Owner Group and Traditional Owner Corporation meetings.
- Assisting lawyers with drafting minutes, memos and other documents related to the carriage of native title and Traditional Owner Settlement matters.
- Where appropriate, attendance and contribution to internal and external meetings and professional development opportunities that occur during the internship.

## Requirements

- Good communication skills
- The ability to understand, analyse and explain legal concepts.
- Experience engaging with diverse groups and a foundational understanding of contemporary Indigenous Australia.
- Preference will be given to applicants in the final or penultimate year of study.

## Contact Us

Please address your cover letter, CV, statement of your results to FNLS lawyer Kieren Murray at: [kieren.murray@fnlrs.com.au](mailto:kieren.murray@fnlrs.com.au).

We encourage candidates from a diverse range of racial, social, cultural, gender and disability backgrounds.

**W:** <https://www.fnlrs.com.au/>

**E:** [info@fnlrs.com.au](mailto:info@fnlrs.com.au)

**A:** 606/425 Smith Street, Fitzroy VIC 3065



# YOUTH AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE

# ARDOCH

## What is Ardoch?

Ardoch is a children's education charity focused on improving educational outcomes for children and young people in disadvantaged communities.

Ardoch partners with schools and early years services to deliver tailored education support programs that aim to increase engagement in education, build aspirations, enhance learning outcomes and increase the confidence of children and young people living in disadvantaged communities.

They mobilise community and workplace volunteers to support schools and early childhood services. Ardoch also advocates for and seeks to influence policy change to reduce inequity in education.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Education volunteers provide assistance in early years services (playgroups, family centres and kindergartens), primary and secondary schools. They provide literacy and numeracy support to children and young people. In some schools, volunteers also provide specialised support in alternative classroom settings.

For more information:

<https://www.ardoch.org.au/volunteers/>



## Am I suitable for this role?

Volunteers must have the ability to work and communicate with children and young people.

*Minimum commitment:* 6+ month commitment for two hours per week.

Please note all volunteering takes place during school hours.

To apply please visit Ardoch's website and complete the online application form: <https://www.ardoch.org.au/individual-volunteer-application/>

## What are the steps in the application process?

- Complete the online application form
- Register for trainings
- Complete an interview with an Ardoch staff member
- Complete Ardoch online trainings
- Apply for a Working With Children Check and add Ardoch as an organisation online
- Submit a Police Check (fee covered by Ardoch)
- Meet the vaccination requirements for working in a school in your state
- Attend a virtual/face-to-face training
- Provide three referees

## Contact

W: <https://www.ardoch.org.au>

E: [volunteers@ardoch.org.au](mailto:volunteers@ardoch.org.au)

P: (03) 9537 2414

# EMBRACE EDUCATION

## What is Embrace Education?

Embrace Education is a non-profit, student-led organisation offering free education support and tutoring to disadvantaged high school students from refugee, recent migrant and low socioeconomic backgrounds, in Melbourne, Victoria. This is through programs including Homework Clubs and In-School Tutoring in collaboration with local schools, and Individual Tutoring in-person and online.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Volunteers assist students with completing their homework, improving basic literacy and numeracy skills, preparing for exams, and working through content and developing a stronger understanding of difficult concepts. There is also an emphasis for volunteers to guide students with studying techniques, act as a mentor and provide general life advice and future career support.

## Am I suitable for this role?

Embrace Education looks for passionate university students who are keen to do something to counteract the lack of opportunity available to refugee, recent migrant and low socio-economic students.

In particular Embrace Education looks for people who demonstrate:

- Strong communication skills and competency in English
- A desire to tutor high school subjects and make a meaningful impact on students' lives and learning journeys
- Tolerance and respect towards people of other cultures and a willingness to learn from differing religious/cultural belief systems
- Maturity, empathy, good listening and interpersonal skills, patience, professional conduct and organisational skills
- *Minimum commitment:* At least 1 to 2 hours per week for at least two school terms

## Applying

Apply here:

<https://www.embrace-education.org/volunteer>

Please note that Embrace Education requires all volunteers to go through a screening and induction process including: an interview and reference checks, proof of identity and a Working with Children Check. Volunteers will also be required to attend mandatory training before being matched for tutoring.

## Contact

W: <https://www.embrace-education.org/>

E: [admin@embrace-education.org](mailto:admin@embrace-education.org)



# CENTRE FOR MULTICULTURAL YOUTH

## **What is the Centre for Multicultural Youth?**

The Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) supports and advocates for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to build better lives in Australia.

Through a combination of specialist support services, training and consultancy, knowledge sharing and advocacy, the CMY is working to remove the barriers young people face as they make Australia their home.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

The CMY runs 5 programs that recruit volunteers:

### *UCan2*

You will share your work, study and life experiences in Australia, act as a role model, help young people practice English and foster their confidence to make social connections.

### *Youth Referral and Independent Personal Program (YRIPP)*

Adult volunteers attend police interviews with people under 18 years of age in police custody when a parent/guardian is not available. You will provide them with support and monitor their welfare as well as ensure they understand what is happening to them and why.

### *Employment Empowers*

You will share your experiences about gaining meaningful employment with a mentee.

You will offer practical guidance and support in how to create a resume, apply for jobs and prepare for interviews

### *Learning Support Programs (Homework Clubs)*

CMY runs a Homework Club for both primary and secondary levels held in schools, libraries and community centres. You will provide support to students with literacy, numeracy and study skills, help build confidence, self-esteem and feelings of connection to school and the wider community as well as provide a safe place to study.

### *Positive Changemakers*

In this role you will assist the planning, co-facilitation and evaluation of Positive Change-Makers (PCM) training modules. PCM is an outreach training and development program for young people that uses innovative experiential learning, group work and discussions to explore a range of topics aimed at building the next generation of social change makers.

### *Youth Advisory Groups (YAG)*

*If you are 18-28 years old and from a migrant background, this could be the position for you!* YAG provides an opportunity for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to build their advisory and advocacy skills. YAG members meet once monthly with their allocated group to discuss key issues facing multicultural young people and provide feedback on projects, policies or other aspects of CMY's work.

## Speak Out

Shout Out speaker applicants are 16-25 year olds from refugee or migrant backgrounds. If selected, candidates will undertake a training program to build their capacity in public speaking and storytelling. Once training is completed, speakers will be booked to take part in events, forums, workshops and media interviews.

## Applying

Visit: <http://www.cmy.net.au/volunteer> to see more information on how to apply and for the various role descriptions.

## Contact

**W:** <https://www.cmy.net.au/>

**E:** [info@cmy.net.au](mailto:info@cmy.net.au)

**P:** (03) 9340 3700

**A:** 304 Drummond Street, Carlton VIC 3052



**cmy**  
Centre for  
Multicultural Youth

# LITTLE DREAMERS



## **What is Little Dreamers?**

As Australia's leading Young Carer organisation, Little Dreamers works with young people who provide unpaid care for a family member affected by disability, chronic or mental illness, addiction, or frail age. Since 2009, they've become a game changing force in the Young Carer space, developing internationally recognised best practice programs and changing the lives of thousands of Young Carers.

Little Dreamers is working to improve the quality of life of Young Carers right across the country, with an ultimate vision to ensure that every single Young Carer around the world is supported by someone or something by 2030.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

### *Casual Volunteer*

Help out at events, school holiday programs and general support on a casual basis. This is the perfect role for you if you're unable to commit to regular programs!

### *Team Leader*

This role requires a 6 month commitment across 2 retreats and monthly workshops. As a team leader you, will be responsible for 3 to 4 young carers.

The role requires that you keep in touch with participants acting as a go-between for Little Dreamers to facilitate carers; participation in workshops and retreats.

### *Young Carer Group Facilitator*

As a group facilitator, you will help run peer group support sessions online for Young Carers in VIC, QLD and NSW, acting as a group mentor to provide support, guidance and assist in facilitation

### *Online Tutor*

Little Dreamers is looking for a range of tutors to support young people currently attending school, across all subjects. This role will also see you get to know your student, create a positive relationship and provide guidance on anything school related! No prior tutoring experience required.

### *Mentor*

Little Dreamers are also seeking volunteers to become mentors in their upcoming Mentoring Program in Melbourne.

## **Requirements**

Little Dreamers is looking for people who are passionate about helping others, being a leader and making a tangible difference in young people's lives. If you are interested in volunteering with Little Dreamers, fill out a volunteer expression of interest available at: <https://www.littledreamers.org.au/volunteer-home/>

## **Contact**

**W:** <https://www.littledreamers.org.au/>

**P:** 1800 717 515

**A:** Level 5, 111 Cecil Street, South Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3205

# REGIONAL EDUCATION SUPPORT NETWORK

## **What is Regional Education Support Network?**

The Regional Education Support Network, (RESN) is a not-for-profit student network offering free, high-quality educational support to rural and regional students. We are a passionate group of university student volunteers who believe that everyone deserves a fair go in their education. RESN's volunteer tutors work with small groups of regional high school students to improve their performance and develop their confidence. Our tutors act as mentors and role models for RESN students in the most important years of high school. RESN also provides answers to students' coursework and university questions online and delivers university and career-related seminars for students.

RESN started in Victoria in 2018 and has since expanded to New South Wales as our network of schools and volunteers has grown. RESN's service delivery model has evolved over time to reflect our students' needs, but our volunteers are always driven by the desire to contribute to a more equitable Australia. If you are a motivated student who wants to develop employable skills and meet like-minded peers, all while making a difference in regional communities, then RESN wants you!

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

RESN has two types of opportunities available:

### *Volunteer tutor*

As a volunteer tutor, you will be running virtual tutoring sessions for small groups of students. We are looking for tutors in English and Maths for VCE and HSC.

### *Volunteer staff member*

As a volunteer staff member, you will work within RESN to support and improve our operations. Opportunities available include marketing, business development, people management, technology, and more. If you are interested in building these skills with RESN, we'd love to hear from you at [resnrecruitment@resn.org.au](mailto:resnrecruitment@resn.org.au).

## **Requirements**

- Working with Children Check
- Study score of 40+ (raw, VCE) or Band 6 (HSC) (or other equivalents) in tutoring subject
- Previous tutoring experience desired but not necessary

## **Applying**

If this sounds like you, email: [resnrecruitment@resn.org.au](mailto:resnrecruitment@resn.org.au) to get in contact and receive an application form!

## **Contact**

**W:** <https://www.resn.org.au/>

**E:** [hello@resn.org.au](mailto:hello@resn.org.au)



# SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE



## RESN

Fresh into my second year of university, I definitely did not expect to be founding Regional Education Support Network, a not-for-profit, within a matter of months. I still felt as though I was getting my head around the law, but when the opportunity arose some crazy part of myself was compelled to throw myself into the deep end. In early 2018, we founded the Regional Education Support Network (see more about who we are and what we do at <https://resn.org.au/>), I metamorphosed into the Head of Legal/Secretary of our organisation and was responsible for all things legal, governance and regulatory as RESN continued to grow.

Building RESN from the ground up has been an immensely rewarding experience and the best use of my law degree that I could possibly imagine. I now have an immense appreciation for the way that we are trained to think in this course, and the way that this style of thinking is integral to the effective functioning of any organisation. Having someone who can issue spot and navigate regulations and obligations is an important asset to any organisation, even if you're in the earlier years of the degree. My best advice to anyone who is thinking about founding or involving themselves in an NFP organisation is to dive right in and enjoy the ride!



**Sofiya Hay**

# SHINE FOR KIDS

## What is SHINE for Kids?

SHINE for Kids is a community organisation that provides advocacy support and various other services for the children of imprisoned parents and their families. They run a number of programs to allow affected children to develop coping mechanisms to deal with their current situations and to support each other.

A core focus in providing this support is their belief in the power of early intervention to mitigate some of the negative effects of parental imprisonment.

## What tasks will I undertake?

SHINE for Kids runs a Mentor Program, which provides guidance and support to the child/young person, enabling them to participate in events and social activities, which will enhance their growth and development.

The Mentor Program links mentors to young people aged 8 to 17. The mentor connects with the young person and builds a relationship, becoming a consistent, stable person in their life.

## Am I suitable for this role?

SHINE for Kids welcome anyone over 18 years of age from all different cultures and backgrounds to participate in the mentoring program.

SHINE for Kids looks for responsible adults with the ability to:

- Reach out to children/young people who need support and guidance
- Commit their time
- Provide a positive example
- Listen and communicate effectively
- Be sensitive to the needs of others
- Exercise good judgment
- Demonstrate stability in significant areas of life

Volunteers must personally possess values that reflect those of SHINE for Kids and have appropriate and positive motivations with a non-judgmental attitude.

## Applying

To become a volunteer or to find out more about opportunities in your local area, email us at [volunteer@shineforkids.org.au](mailto:volunteer@shineforkids.org.au)

Please note that additional checks and training may be required depending on the role chosen.

## Contact

**W:** <https://shineforkids.org.au/>

## Contact:

<https://shineforkids.org.au/contact/>

**P:** (02) 9714 3000





# MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

# ARCVic

## What is ARCVic?

The Anxiety Recovery Centre Victoria (ARCVic) offers a range of services for people experiencing anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, depression and other mental illnesses. Their main offering is the 'Anxiety and OCD Helpline', which provides support, information and referrals to people with anxiety disorders, their families and carers, and mental health care providers.

## Who can volunteer?

ARCVic volunteers come from a range of backgrounds. Some are recovered or in recovery from an anxiety disorder or depression, others are supporting an affected family member. They also comprise students interested in anxiety disorders and/or depression.

## Types of Volunteer Roles Offered

### 1) Helpline Support Volunteer

The Helpline operates from 10.00am to 8.30pm Monday to Friday. Volunteers assist callers to understand and manage symptoms of anxiety disorders, depression and other mental illness.

*Commitment:* 1 half-day (3 to 6 hours) per fortnight for at least 1 year.

Email [MDebono@arcvic.org.au](mailto:MDebono@arcvic.org.au) to express your interest.

### 2) Self Help Support Group Facilitator

ARCVic's online and in-person support groups offer peer support for people with anxiety, OCD, hoarding disorder, trichotillomania, excoriation disorder and other mental health issues. Volunteer facilitators are trained to facilitate such groups.

*Commitment:* 4 to 8 hours once a month for at least 2 years.

Email [supportgroups@arcvic.org.au](mailto:supportgroups@arcvic.org.au) to express your interest.

### 3) CARES4ME Volunteer

CARES4ME matches clients to trained volunteers, many of whom have lived experience of anxiety. Volunteers provide regular emotional support and practical guidance to help people develop anxiety management strategies.

*Commitment:* 1.5 to 3 hours per week for 1 year.

Email [MDebono@arcvic.org.au](mailto:MDebono@arcvic.org.au) to express your interest.

### 4) ARCVic Ambassador

ARCVic Ambassadors share their journey/lived experience at events organised by ARCVic, providing support as required.

### 5) Services Support Volunteer

Services Support Volunteers assist in the office during business hours with programs and services administration, providing support as required.

Email [arcmail@arcvic.org.au](mailto:arcmail@arcvic.org.au) to express your interest.

## Contact

**W:** <https://arcvic.org.au/>

**E:** [admin@arcvic.org.au](mailto:admin@arcvic.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9830 0566



# BEYOND BLUE

## What is Beyond Blue?

Most Australians have had some experience with anxiety, depression or a related condition, whether they've experienced it themselves or had family, friends or work colleagues go through it. Beyond Blue's work is aimed at achieving an Australian community that understands depression and anxiety, empowering all Australians, at any life-stage, to seek help.

Beyond Blue takes a public health approach, which focuses on improving the health of the whole population, across their whole lifespan. It tailors approaches when working with specific population groups, and works in a range of settings – including educational settings, workplaces, health services and online – in order to be accessible to as many people as possible.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Volunteering roles include:

- Representing Beyond Blue at events
- Handing out Beyond Blue information resources
- Collecting donations for Beyond Blue
- Attending conferences and expos
- Attending community festivals
- Cheering on Team Beyond Blue at events

## Applying

If you would like to become a Beyond Blue Volunteer, you will need to complete an online registration. You will then have access to the Volunteers Hub, where you can complete the volunteer induction program and view and apply for volunteering opportunities.

Apply online at:

<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-involved/volunteer-with-us/volunteer-registration>

## Contact

**W:** [www.beyondblue.org.au/](http://www.beyondblue.org.au/)

**E:** [volunteers@beyondblue.org.au](mailto:volunteers@beyondblue.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9810 6100

**A:** GPO Box 1883 Melbourne VIC 3001



# MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

## About the Mental Health Foundation Australia (MHFA)

Established in 1930, the Mental Health Foundation Australia (MHFA) stands as the oldest community-based, non-governmental, not-for-profit mental health organisation in Australia. Our ethos revolves around six pillars: Advocacy, Awareness, Education, Support, Research, and Resilience. These pillars guide our mission of enhancing the lives of individuals affected by mental illness while championing mental health and well-being through diverse programs and initiatives.

Presently, the MHFA operates 31 peer support groups, offered free of charge, assisting individuals grappling with diverse mental health challenges. Through our Wellness Hub psychology clinic, we offer low-cost \$20 per 50-minute psychological counselling sessions, with the further option to waive fees for clients facing financial constraints. This past financial year (2023), the Hub has waived 30.8% of total fees, translating to 101 free appointments, providing crucial support to clients who might otherwise be unable to afford such services from private practices.

Moreover, our commitment extends to educating Australian and CALD communities through a range of education and awareness programs, such as the Mental Health First Aid course, free webinars and seminars, and our signature annual National Mental Health Month campaign, aimed at breaking down

barriers of stigma surrounding mental health and fostering awareness within our communities.

## Tasks and Volunteer Opportunities

The MHFA values volunteers from diverse professional and academic backgrounds to further our mission of promoting improved mental health for all. The tasks assigned will vary based on your areas of expertise and interests. Your contribution as a volunteer can significantly impact the lives of those seeking mental health support, and would be a great introduction to working within a community-based not-for-profit mental health organisation.

## Am I suitable for this role?

If you are passionate about making a difference in supporting mental health initiatives, applying to volunteer at the MHFA could be an ideal opportunity to contribute to this vital cause.

## Apply Here

For more information about volunteering with the MHFA, visit our website here: <https://www.mhfa.org.au/volunteer>

To apply, fill out this form: <https://form.jotform.com/Projco/EOI-Volunteer-MHFA>

## Contact

W: <http://mhfa.org.au/>

P: (03) 8825 3500

A: G1, 10 Yarra Street, South Yarra VIC 3141



**MENTAL HEALTH**  
Foundation Australia



# REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

# ADULT MIGRANT ENGLISH PROGRAM

## **What is the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) ?**

The AMEP provides unlimited hours of free English language tuition to eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants to help them to improve their English language skills. Learning English helps new arrivals settle in to their new lives and develop skills which can help them to work and make friends in Australia. This year, the AMEP celebrated its 75th anniversary of teaching English, helping new arrivals with their settlement and career pathways.

## **Volunteer Tutor Scheme**

The Melbourne AMEP Volunteer Tutor Scheme (VTS) team coordinates all volunteer recruitment, training, and guides volunteers throughout their time supporting an AMEP learner. The Melbourne AMEP Volunteer Tutor Scheme pairs volunteers with people from migrant and refugee backgrounds learning English.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

### *Tutoring*

Tutoring can be either online or face to face in a public space such as a library. Tutors can choose to have blended learning (some online and face to face). The application process can be found at: <https://app.betterimpact.com/PublicOrganization/b80b0186-2ffe-40e5-a574-778bd24b261f/1>

### *Conversation Clubs*

Conversation clubs are available to students to give them the opportunity to gain confidence in speaking English in a more informal conversation setting. These sessions are held online 3 times a week via ZOOM. Volunteers just need to turn up and participate as there is limited preparation. Requires 1 hour per week for at least 10 weeks.

Please contact us on 03 9269 1514 or email [ameppts@melbournepolytechnic.edu.au](mailto:ameppts@melbournepolytechnic.edu.au) to register.

### *Professional Development Workshops and Events*

Through the VTS, you will develop skills by attending ongoing information sessions, professional development workshops, and network with new people in social gatherings such as picnics with Tutors and learners. Volunteering with the Melbourne AMEP-VTS has been a pathway to employment to many of the VTS Tutors.

### *English for the Workplace Tutoring*

Available to students completing a SLPET course, an English for the Workplace course and undertaking work placements. Volunteers support students to better understand the Australian workplace culture, gain skills to apply for jobs and undertake interviews and build their confidence in communicating effectively in English. Requires 1 hour per week for at least 10 weeks.

## Requirements

- Over 18 years old
- Live in Victoria
- Working with Children Check (free of cost)
- National Police Check (Cost is covered by Melbourne Polytechnic)

Free online training will be provided with continuous support from the VTS staff. Potential Tutors can complete the training in their own time. We run a couple of practical activities that complement the online training modules.

## Applying

Sign up to volunteer:

<https://www.melbourneamep.com.au/volunteer/>

## Contact

**W:** <https://www.melbourneamep.com.au/>

**E:** [amepvt@melbournepolytechnic.edu.au](mailto:amepvt@melbournepolytechnic.edu.au)

**P:** 03 9269 1514



# ADULT MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION SERVICES

## **What is Adult Multicultural Education Services and Volunteering?**

For 70 years, Adult Multicultural Education Services Volunteering Australia (AMES) has helped new and recently arrived refugees and migrants to settle into Victoria. AMES Australia offers much more than just teaching English – you not only work with new arrivals but also with the community, business and Government to develop sustainable and effective settlement solutions for the whole Victorian community. The vision is for ‘full participation for all in a cohesive and diverse society’.

### **Types of volunteers**

#### *Settlement Volunteer*

You will provide practical hands-on support, links to the community and an understanding of Australian culture to newly arrived refugee and humanitarian entrants.

#### *Professional Mentor*

You will assist newly arrived skill and professional migrant careers. Mentors provide ‘inside information’ on job insights as well as networking opportunities.



## **Am I suitable for this role?**

#### *Settlement Volunteer*

Volunteers are provided with an intensive training session and workshops. Volunteers must have current police and working with children’s checks.

#### *Professional Mentor*

AMES is currently only seeking volunteers who are experienced in and currently working in Australia in one of these professions:

- Marketing and Communications
- Recruitment/ Human Resource
- Project Management/ IT
- Academic/ Education

All mentors take part in a thorough induction session, which provides insight on cross-cultural awareness, particularly relation to job search and workplace issues.

### **Applying**

Apply by emailing the AMES Australia volunteering team at [volunteer@ames.net.au](mailto:volunteer@ames.net.au) or the mentor coordinator at [chans@ames.net.au](mailto:chans@ames.net.au)

### **Contact**

**W:** <https://www.ames.net.au/>

**P:** 9926 4035

**A:** 255 William St, Melbourne VIC 3000

# ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE

## What is the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre?

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) is a not-for-profit organisation that is committed to upholding the human rights of all people seeking asylum.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Roles are diverse, and each requires a different set of skills, experience and availability. All volunteer recruitment is done through the ASRC website.

## Am I suitable for the role?

The ASRC looks for volunteers who are:

- Over the age of 18
- Reliable and deeply committed to the welfare of people seeking asylum and the values of the ASRC
- Prepared to complete an online induction and sign the ASRC Volunteer Agreement
- Willing to apply for a Police Check (at your own expense) and a Working With Children Check (no cost)
- Able and prepared to undertake program specific training as required

*Minimum commitment:* Generally one day per week for 12 months. Some roles can be performed remotely, but generally still require availability during business hours.

## Applying

Please apply for volunteer roles by filling in the online application form on the ASRC website. New roles are added to the website every Wednesday.

The ASRC does not have the capacity to manage general expressions of interest and only accept applications for the roles advertised on the website.

ASRC have provided a link for Monash law students to express their interest in volunteering:

<https://www.tfaforms.com/4996060>

## Contact

**W:** <https://www.asrc.org.au>

**E:** [volunteer@asrc.org.au](mailto:volunteer@asrc.org.au)

**P:** 03 9326 6066

**A:** 214 Nicholson Street, Footscray VIC 3011



# REFUGEE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

## What is the Refugee Council of Australia?

The Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) is the national umbrella body for refugees and the organisations and individuals who support them. RCOA is a non-profit, nongovernment organisation and is funded through contributions from its members and by project grants from philanthropic bodies and government agencies.

The priority activities for RCOA are set by its members, as represented by an elected Board. RCOA's own work is centred around 5 key areas: policy, support for refugees, support for its members, community education and administration.

## What tasks will I undertake?

General volunteers perform a wide range of tasks, including:

- Researching and drafting publications
- Writing content for RCOA's website and bulletins
- Attending member and network events and
- Organising events
- Gathering and analysing data, including statistics
- Answering public enquiries.

People with specialist skills also help with translating documents, designing the RCOA website and communications and giving advice on areas within their expertise.

## Am I suitable for this role?

To be suitable for the role, you will have a passion for the development of humane, lawful and constructive policies towards refugees and asylum seekers by the Australian and other governments. Communication skills, flexibility and commitment are required. RCOA generally requires a minimum commitment of 1 day a week for at least 6 months of the year.

## Applying

Vacancies will be advertised at <https://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/volunteering/>.

Alternatively, you can fill out an expression of interest form at <https://airtable.com/shrOIXFipzshKitYZ>.

## Contact

W: [www.refugeecouncil.org.au](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au)

E: [admin@refugeecouncil.org.au](mailto:admin@refugeecouncil.org.au)

P: (03) 9600 3302



# SISTERWORKS

## What is Sisterworks?

SisterWorks is a not-for-profit social enterprise, with its head office based in Springvale, Melbourne. SisterWorks' mission is to support women from refugee, asylum seeker or migrant backgrounds to improve their confidence, mental wellbeing, sense of belonging and economic outlook. SisterWorks does this through providing learning opportunities in a safe environment where Sisters can build their skills and community, and gain both the knowledge and the confidence to seek employment or further study. Our vision is an Australia where all migrant women are given the opportunities to become economically empowered.

The SisterWorks model, 'Work Empowers Women', is centred around empowerment, fostering a sense of independence and providing opportunities for building a community, learning new skills, and earning an income. This is achieved via our Empowerment Hubs in Richmond, Bendigo and Dandenong hub.

SisterWorks has been able to expand the reach of its model via an exciting partnership with UN Women. This partnership has provided a platform for growth, transformation and enhanced external advocacy opportunities and influence, and enabled the organisation to expand its reach outside of Melbourne into regional Victoria.

During this period of growth, SisterWorks has remained committed to seeking engagement and guidance from the women it supports, and is constantly looking for new ways to positively impact on the lives of more Sisters.

## What tasks will I undertake ?

There are a number of different volunteering opportunities available at Sisterworks - ranging from engagement coordinators to workshop child assistants to sewing teachers!

See <https://sisterworks.org.au/volunteering/> for the full range of opportunities available.

## Requirements

Sisterworks need volunteers who can commit to at least 1 day per week.

## Applying

We have a diverse range of skilled and unskilled volunteering opportunities available across our Hubs. View current volunteer opportunities and submit your volunteer interest and applications through SEEK Volunteer.

If you have questions about volunteering opportunities or would like further information about volunteering with SisterWorks, please email [volunteers@sisterworks.org.au](mailto:volunteers@sisterworks.org.au) and provide your contact information, available days and times (between Monday-Friday, 9-5pm), a current CV and areas of interest.

Please note, all volunteers will need to attend an interview and provide a current Working with Children Check prior to commencement.

## Contact

**W:** [www.sisterworks.org.au](http://www.sisterworks.org.au)

**E:** [volunteers@sisterworks.org.au](mailto:volunteers@sisterworks.org.au)

**P:** +61 420 213 930 (Head Office Mobile Number)

**sisterworks**



# HOMELESSNESS

# LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION

## What is Lighthouse Foundation?

Lighthouse Foundation provides young people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, with the care and support they need to heal, thrive and achieve a lifelong sense of belonging.

Through community collaboration and their evidence-based Lighthouse Model of Care, they create therapeutic homes and deliver tailored support programs to transform the lives of young people.

Their Lighthouse Homes, Foster and Family Care and In Community care environments ensure their support reaches the children and youth who need it, where they need it, for as long as they need it.

## What tasks will I undertake?

Volunteers support the program in a variety of ways - helping to upkeep residential homes, fundraising and assisting at events, completing various tasks at their Youth Resource Hub and supporting their careers and young people through community committees.

## Am I suitable for the role?

In order to uphold their commitment to protecting the wellbeing of vulnerable young people throughout all areas of their work, all volunteers are required to complete the following:

- Working with Children Check

- Criminal Check
- Privacy and Confidentiality Statement
- Child Safety Code of Conduct Agreement

Volunteers who will have direct contact with the children or young people are also required to undertake a psychometric social screen with a Lighthouse psychologist.

## Applying

See:

<https://www.lighthousefoundation.org.au/how-to-help/volunteering-and-committees/> for current opportunities.

For volunteer enquiries:

marketing@

lighthousefoundation.org.au.

## Contact

**W:**

<https://www.lighthousefoundation.org.au>

**E:**

fundraising@lighthousefoundation.org.au

**P:** 03 9093 7500

**A:** 13 Adolph Street, Cremorne VIC 3121



**LIGHTHOUSE**  
FOUNDATION *for youth*

# SACRED HEART MISSION

## What is Sacred Heart Mission?

Every day of the year, Sacred Heart Mission welcomes adults of all ages and backgrounds who are experiencing homelessness, disadvantage and social exclusion to a free meal, care and support.

Through our wide-ranging homelessness services, research and innovation we strongly advocate for an inclusive, fair and compassionate community where people can overcome disadvantage and have a contributing life.

## What tasks will I undertake?

There are volunteering opportunities in the following:

- Op Shops
- Women's House
- Meals Program (Dining Hall)
- Community Visitor Scheme
- Redistribution Centre
- Administration
- Fundraising
- Events

For more info and current volunteering opportunities:

<https://www.sacredheartmission.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

## Am I suitable for the role?

Volunteers must have a keen interest in the wellbeing of those experiencing homelessness and want to improve the quality of life for all involved.

## Applying

If you are interested in volunteering, please check the opportunities available on the website and then submit your application online.

## Contact

**W:**

<https://www.sacredheartmission.org>

**E:**

[volunteer@sacredheartmission.org](mailto:volunteer@sacredheartmission.org)

**P:** 0400 497 139

**A:** 87 Grey Street, St Kilda VIC 3182



# 5

# INTERNSHIPS AND CAREERS





# INTERNSHIPS



# AURORA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## **What is the Aurora Internship Program?**

The Aurora Internship Program offers full time internships for 4-6 weeks or part-time equivalents at organisations working to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Aurora supports both Indigenous and non-Indigenous interns to develop practical skills, gain real-world career experience and build professional networks.

Internships are offered at over 200 organisations within the Indigenous sector, in areas such as native title, land rights, policy development, and environmental law.

Internships for non-Indigenous students are unpaid. Scholarship funding is available for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students and graduates in the sector.

The Program benefits interns through practical skill development and assists students and graduates to transition from tertiary education into paid work. More than 700 interns have transitioned into paid work following their internship with the Aurora Internship Program.

The Program strengthens the capacity of Indigenous organisations and Indigenous sector organisations to effectively deliver services to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, and provides critical support to the broader Indigenous sector in attracting and retaining talented staff.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

Interns can be placed in a legal role at a number of host organisations where they will support the legal, policy/advocacy or research staff. Interns should expect to be given a balance of challenging and interesting tasks along with administration tasks (database entry, filing etc). The work might involve native title and land rights-related tasks, however, the work may also cover constitutional law and local government regulations.

## **Am I suitable for this role?**

For a legal internship, applicants must have:

- A solid academic record
- An interest in social justice with a focus on the Indigenous sector
- Strong cultural awareness and sensitivity
- Good interpersonal skills
- Preferably in your penultimate or final year of study

There are 2 placement rounds each year. Over the winter round, interns are placed between June and October; and over the summer round from November through to before Christmas, and from January through to May. Apply today:

[aurorafoundation.com.au/our-work/internship-program](http://aurorafoundation.com.au/our-work/internship-program).

## **Applying**

The process involves the following steps:

1. Online applications are open in February and August each year
2. Applications are reviewed and candidates are shortlisted for interview
3. Online interviews take place
4. Successful applicants will become 'Eligible' to be placed
5. Matching process - according to the needs of the hosts and the aspirations of the applicants
6. Confirmation of internship and intern obligations/expectations
7. Internship team will monitor your internship
8. Evaluation feedback

### **What are your chances of being successful?**

This is a competitive program attracting high calibre passionate candidates each round. Selection criteria takes into consideration the overall strength of each application and applicants are assessed against their university cohort, their state cohort as well as the number of applicants in each stream. Criteria includes their academic merit, their demonstrated interest in social justice, Indigenous and multicultural affairs, their cultural awareness and their communications skills. Alumni are welcome to apply however preference will always be given to the new cohort of applicants in each round.

Aurora receives around 300 applications each round. They rely on the demand from the various host organisations each round to determine the number of available placements. They arrange approximately 120 to 150 placements per round.

Applicants who were unsuccessful are encouraged to reapply. It is strongly encouraged not to leave application submission to the last day.

### **Additional Information**

Unless you are an Indigenous Commonwealth-funded intern, you will be required to cover your own day-to-day expenses, accommodation and transport. You may obtain funding through the Student Mobility Fund; however, you must meet the eligibility requirements found at: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/study-opportunities/student-mobility-fund>.

As well as legal internships, the Aurora Internship Program also offers social science, social welfare and health policy internships. Please see the website for more information.

### **Contact**

**W:**

<https://aurorafoundation.com.au/our-work/internship-program/>

**E:**

internships@aurorafoundation.com.au

**A:** 100 Botany Road, Alexandria  
NSW  
2015



**AURORA**  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION

# CASTAN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

## **About the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law**

The Castan Centre for Human Rights Law, based in the Faculty of Law at Monash University, is a research, education and policy centre that aims to create a more just world where human rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled, allowing all people to flourish in freedom and dignity. The Castan Centre was founded in 2000 and was named in honour of Australian barrister and human rights advocate, Ron Castan AM QC, who played a leading role in some of Australia's most important cases, including the Mabo case which led to the recognition of the land rights of First Nations people in Australian law for the first time.

## **What is the Castan Centre Human Rights Clinic and what will I do?**

The Castan Centre Human Rights Clinic provides Monash Law students with the opportunity to engage in practical human rights work. For example, students may work with external clients (such as domestic or international human rights organisations) on one or more policy or advocacy projects that have real-life impacts. Alternatively, students may be involved in drafting submissions to parliamentary inquiries or shadow reports to United Nations Treaty Bodies. Students will work on projects in small groups under the close supervision of

the Clinic Supervisor. Weekly meetings and seminars will run alongside client projects to equip students with key skills relevant to law-related work in the human rights field.

## **Am I suitable for this role?**

To be considered for a Castan Centre Clinic, students must:

- Be studying a Bachelor of Laws (Hons), Juris Doctor or Master of Laws degree at Monash University and be enrolled as a student at the time of the internship
- Must have completed a human rights subject as part of their law degree (eg, LAW4155 International Human Rights, LAW4172 Human Rights Law in Australia, or an equivalent)
- Have achieved a minimum credit (60%) across their law studies.

## **Applications**

Students are encouraged to apply through the Faculty of Law for the LAW4811 In-House Clinical Placement unit and select the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law as their preference. Announcements about applications will be made by the Faculty of Law.

## **Contact**

If you have any questions about the Castan Centre internships, please email the Castan Centre at [castan.centre@monash.edu](mailto:castan.centre@monash.edu).

# CASTAN CENTRE SUMMER/WINTER VACATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## **What is the Castan Centre Summer/Winter Vacation Scholarship Program?**

The Castan Centre Summer/Winter Vacation Scholarship Program is a professional research placement, which provides students with the opportunity to conduct human rights-related research for a concentrated period over the Summer/Winter University break to support the work of the Castan Centre and its Academic Members.

The program aims to provide students with:

- Experience in an area of human rights-related research;
- An insight into future opportunities within research;
- Encouragement to pursue a career in research or academia.

Projects designed for the program will be of approximately two weeks' duration. Successful applicants will be compensated \$500 per week.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

Students will take part in research and related activities, such as:

- Research for parliamentary, United Nations and other policy submissions made on behalf of the Castan Centre;
- Research for publication which are co-authored by two or more Castan Centre Academic Members;

- Dissemination of Castan Centre research and dissemination of research in the public domain through the Castan Centre *Human Rights Law Blog* and social media.

## **Build your research and academic skills**

The Castan Centre Vacation Scholarship Program allows students to:

- Connect and engage with academics and experts in human rights
- Conduct high-quality academic research
- Support design and development of the Castan Centre's research and public policy work to advance human rights in Australia and internationally
- Work in a professional research team alongside world-renowned human rights researchers
- Engage in human rights advocacy.

## **Am I suitable for this role?**

To be considered for a Castan Centre program, students must:

- Be studying a Bachelor of Laws (Hons), Juris Doctor or Master of Laws degree at Monash University and be enrolled as a student at the time of the internship
- Meet the prerequisites required by each project's supervising academic.

## **Applications**

Applications for the program are made through Monash University.

# EVERYDAY JUSTICE

## **What is Everyday Justice?**

Everyday Justice is a charitable law firm owned by Mills Oakley, one of Australia's leading law firms. Everyday Justice is dedicated to providing legal services to the 'missing middle' – people who need legal assistance but cannot obtain Legal Aid or access the legal system without incurring substantial financial hardship.

Everyday Justice offers free legal services in a range of jurisdictions, stages of legal issues, and civil law areas, including employment law, tenancy, credit & debt, small business disputes, bankruptcy, financial abuse, fines & infringements, and human rights. Everyday Justice is committed to using innovative legal tech solutions to deliver these services as effectively and efficiently as possible. More information about the firm can be found at <https://everydayjustice.com.au>.

Everyday Justice partners with Monash University to create a holistic learning environment for students who are interested in gaining legal and client management experience in a range of civil law and public interest matters in a social justice setting.

Everyday Justice offers a Clinical Placement program for Monash Law students. There are eight places each clinical placement round.

Everyday Justice is located within the premises of leading national law firm Mills Oakley on Collins Street, Melbourne.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

Everyday Justice aims to offer interns the opportunity to develop legal and other professional experience and skills in a range of areas relevant to our legal practice. Key responsibilities as a volunteer will include assisting with:

- The intake and triage of online and telephone enquiries;
- Taking instructions and communicating with clients and third parties under supervision;
- Legal research, analysis and problem solving;
- Preparing advice plans for client appointments;
- Observing some client appointments and preparing file notes;
- Preparing chronologies, correspondence, court documents and briefs to barristers;
- Delivering general legal information and facilitated external referrals to clients under supervision;
- Recording and maintaining accurate information on Everyday Justice's case management platform;
- Generally supporting the legal work of Everyday Justice lawyers, including shadowing lawyers at meetings and

- Attendance at Court/Tribunal proceedings;
- Other Everyday Justice activities; including creating content for our website and social media from time to time.

### ***Am I suitable for this role?***

The ideal candidate will have:

- Completing their law degree;
- Strong written and verbal communication skills;
- Strong research skills and attention to detail;
- An interest in developing legal experience in Everyday Justice's practice areas;
- A commitment to engage with our legal practice's systems and processes;
- A demonstrated understanding of and commitment to social justice;
- The ability to work independently or as part of a team, at least 2 days per week.

This is a voluntary, unpaid position. Everyday Justice will negotiate working hours suitable to both the ideal candidate and the firm.

### ***Applying***

Everyday Justice internships are arranged through Monash University's clinical placement program.

### ***Contact***

**W:** <https://everydayjustice.com.au/>

**E:** [info@everydayjustice.com.au](mailto:info@everydayjustice.com.au)

**P:** 1800 161 196

At Everyday Justice, I worked with people across Australia, united by the common cause of increasing access to justice (with the help of Microsoft Teams of course). I was exposed to a range of legal matters including bankruptcy, housing, family violence, fines and infringements, and wills.

Although virtual, this did not hinder my experience. It was fantastic connecting with people all over the country, hearing their matters and comparing the prevalence of various legal issues arising in different jurisdictions. The nature of the work very much reflected the social climate of the COVID-19 pandemic. I came to understand the important work CLCs undertake in adapting their services to provide legal assistance that is responsive to the world currently.

I undertook legal tasks including researching various legal areas, writing client emails and letters, conducting client intakes and interviews, creating chronologies, creating precedents to be used by other law students within the organisation and shadowing senior lawyers on more complex legal matters. I also gained invaluable insight into innovative legal technology services, such as Josef Legal. A stand-out for me was the incredible mentorship I received from the lawyers working at the organisation who without fail sought to explain different concepts and matters to me and nurtured my legal skills.



**Isabella Burton**

# LEO CUSSEN

## VIRTUAL INTERNSHIPS

### **What are the Leo Cussen Virtual Internships?**

In partnership with Forage, Leo Cussen has created **free virtual internships** designed to provide students with insight and practical application into Family Law, Criminal Law and Human Rights Law, all conducted online and at the students' own pace. Students will have the opportunity to place themselves in the shoes of a lawyer practicing in these areas of law, and gain insight into what it is really like to solve real legal issues in legal practice.

The internship is entirely online and therefore can be conducted entirely in your own time with no set deadlines. It is open to anyone interested in these legal fields provided or thinking of practising in these areas in the future.

### **What tasks will I undertake?**

Each virtual internship allows students to develop legal and other professional experience and skills relevant to their chosen area of law. These include:

#### *Family Law*

- Learn about parenting and property arrangements
- Prepare court documents
- Assisting clients with missing children
- Developing legal research and communication skills

#### *Criminal Law*

- Gain experience in forensic analysis and strategic foresight
- Advocate for clients effectively

#### *Human Rights Law*

- Develop legal communication skills
- Advising on employment dismissal, discrimination, and deportation cases

### **Applying**

The internship is open to all, simply enrol at <https://www.leocussen.edu.au/virtual-legal-internships/>

### **Contact**

**W:** <https://www.leocussen.edu.au/>

**E:** [enquiries@leocussen.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@leocussen.edu.au)

**P:** 1300 039 031

# TEACH FOR AUSTRALIA

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

### **What is Teach For Australia?**

Teach For Australia (TFA) is a not-for-profit organisation, part of the global network called Teach For All, a movement dedicated to developing leadership in classrooms and communities to ensure all children achieve their potential. TFA's vision is of an Australia where education gives every child greater choice for their future. Its mission is to grow a community of leaders committed to equity for children, by recruiting and developing exceptional people to teach and lead across Australia.

Having leaders in classrooms is why its flagship program – the Leadership Development Program (LDP) – exists. This is a two-year program that places recent university graduates and career changers in low-socioeconomic schools across the country. As Associates, they are provided with an extensive support network of mentors and peers, enabling them to develop the fundamental skills that make them ready to teach and lead in the classroom from day one.

While they are positioned at a school, Associates will earn a full-time salary and benefits, all the while completing a nationally accredited Master of Teaching (Secondary) degree delivered in partnership with ACU, on a government-provided assisted scholarship (conditions apply).

### **What is involved?**

The Leadership Development program is a two-year commitment, however, Associates will be required to commence an intensive before starting their placement at the school. This is called the National Initial Intensive, which commences in late October (the year prior to placement). This is a six-week intensive, classified as the summer semester, and accounts for 25% of the Masters degree.

The program provides Associates with many of the employment-based, leadership and classroom management skills required to be a successful leader in the classroom and the TFA communities.

### **Am I suitable for this role?**

Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent AU resident at the time of applying for the program. They must have completed a Bachelor's degree in a discipline other than teaching, and meet the eligible learning area requirements on the Teach For Australia website: [leadership.teachforaustralia.org](http://leadership.teachforaustralia.org).

It is recommended that applicants speak to a Recruitment Manager to ascertain if they meet the eligibility criteria.

Coco is the Recruitment Manager for Monash University graduates and can be contacted at:  
coco.carter@teachforaustralia.org

Applicants who are successful in the Teach For Australia's selection process, must be able to demonstrate they meet the six competency criteria being assessed. Applicants must have a clear motivation for joining TFA's equity-focused employment-based pathway, demonstrate their relationship building and strategic thinking skills, communication abilities, learning potential, and adaptability.

### ***Applying***

Expressions of Interest can be made at:  
<https://leadership.teachforaustralia.org/the-program>

Applications open on Monday 17th February 2025.

### ***Contact***

**W:** [www.teachforaustralia.org](http://www.teachforaustralia.org)  
**E:** coco.carter@teachforaustralia.org  
(Recruitment Manager)  
**P:** (03) 7020 6207

# UNITED NATIONS

## VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM

### **What is the United Nations Volunteering program?**

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) program contributes to peace and development through volunteerism. UNV is inspired by the conviction that volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development and by the idea that everyone can contribute their time and energy towards peace and development.

Their dual mission is to promote volunteerism and mobilise volunteers. UNV partners with governments and with UN, non-profit and private sector organisations in order to support development programs. UNV delivers a prompt, efficient and value-adding service to identify and engage professionals who can deliver services and fulfil a wide range of specialised tasks.

### **What tasks will I undertake?**

Tasks will vary greatly according to your role. Please look to the website for further details

(<https://www.unv.org/index.php/become-volunteer>).

International UN Volunteers are encouraged to look at a variety of focus areas including development, legal, technology, health and public information.

To find a detailed table pertaining to the areas of expertise please see:

<https://www.unv.org/volunteer-abroad/volunteer-abroad-profiles-demand#:~:text=UNV%20can%20assist%20UN%20agency, Sanitation%20and%20Monitoring%20and%20Evaluation.>

### **Am I suitable for this role?**

UN Volunteers are required to have a university degree or higher technical diploma unless they are community volunteers. They must also have a minimum of two years of relevant work experience. The minimum age of a national UN Volunteer has been set at 22 years of age and an international volunteer must be at least 25 years old.

### **Applying**

Register a profile in their Global Talent Pool; profiles from this pool are then matched with assignments offered with UN Partner agencies. Special calls are made for assignments in demand, each call has a unique code which must be directly selected from your profile page. Approximately 2000 assignments become available per year and most are filled from the pool without being advertised.

### **Contact**

**W:** <https://www.unv.org/>

**E:** [registry@unv.org](mailto:registry@unv.org)

# VICTORIA LAW FOUNDATION: INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

## **What does Victoria Law Foundation do?**

Victoria Law Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation improving the justice system through research, education, and grants. Serving the Victorian community for over 50 years, we collaborate with agencies in the justice sector, universities, education and community organisations to help build legal capability and improve access to justice for Victorians.

## **How do we do this?**

### *Research*

Working to build a better justice system through coordinating and sharing data and empirical evidence on the legal and related needs of Victorians.

### *Education*

Helping the public, legal professionals and students better understand, communicate within and access the legal system.

### *Grants*

Providing financial support and advice for legal community organisations to develop projects that understand community legal needs.

## **Intern Program**

Get experience working for a not-for-profit legal organisation, grow your network and get exposure to a range of alternative legal careers with our internship program.

## **What tasks will I undertake?**

Our interns get exposure to all areas of the Foundation's work -- research, education, grants and communications -- and have the opportunity to visit some of Victoria's most prestigious legal institutions and meet the people who work in them.

## **Am I suitable for this role?**

You must be a current law student at a Victorian university undertaking an undergraduate law degree or a JD.

## **Applying**

Applications for our 2025/26 Internship program will open from mid-December 2024. Visit our website to learn more: [www.victorialawfoundation.org.au/about#Work-With-Us](http://www.victorialawfoundation.org.au/about#Work-With-Us)

## **Contact**

**W:** [www.victorialawfoundation.org.au/about#Work-With-Us](http://www.victorialawfoundation.org.au/about#Work-With-Us)

**E:** [internship@victorialawfoundation.org.au](mailto:internship@victorialawfoundation.org.au)

**P:** (03) 9604 8100

**Victoria Law  
Foundation**  
Supporting better justice through  
research, education and grants



# CAREER INTERVIEWS



# MARK BURTON



**Mark is a member of the Victorian Bar who practises in public and administrative law and criminal law. Mark specialises in disciplinary and regulatory matters, inquests and commissions of inquiry. In addition, Mark is a member of the board of Slavery Links Australia Inc whereby he confronts 'modern slavery' issues in Australia and also has a proud history of representing clients in matters under the Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997.**

**You have quite the extraordinary career path previously working as a registered general nurse and serving on the Royal Australian Air Force and Navy, could you share with us what led you to join the bar?**

The best and most interesting pathways have the habit of meandering through a variety of environments and landscapes. I have been—and I make no apology for shaping my identity by what I have been or am becoming—a registered nurse; an officer in both the Royal Australian Air Force and the Royal Australian Navy; an Anglican deacon, priest and bishop (which I remain); and a member of the Victorian Bar. We can—should, may be better—all be greater than the sum of our various, indispensable parts. Each of these vocational expressions informs (and hopefully enriches) the others.

I studied law part-time for a year in 1979 at what is now UTS; I was working full-time night duty in the operating theatres at the same time. I confess that the concept of law fascinated me, especially the little that I grasped of the 'rule of law', which held almost magical appeal. I could see even then that without a coherent, robust system of law, best expressed, perhaps by Dr Thomas Fuller (d 1734)—'Be you never so high, the Law is above you'—life would descend into chaos. I resolved that, 'one day', should the opportunity present itself, I would return to the study of the law.

Following graduation and subsequent completion of the requirements for admission, I decided to go straight to the Bar: as one of 'riper years' (as the Book of Common Prayer puts it!), I trod a now-overgrown path and bypassed work as a solicitor and struck out on my own—but always in the company of professional colleagues, one of the great strengths of the Bar. My decision was predicated not only on the practicalities of time, but also on the sense that advocacy, written and oral, was the most direct means by which I could experience and apply the law.

**What does a typical day in the life of a barrister specialising in an array of disciplines look like?**

The concept of the 'typical day' is itself, atypical. Every barrister is required to be a sole practitioner as r 12 of the Legal Profession Uniform Conduct (Barristers) Rules 2015, requires. As such, a day spent in chambers may be as social or as solitary as the collective effects of numerous colleagues' diaries allow.

The COVID lockdowns of recent years have altered greatly the 'sense of chambers', in my view. Many of us adapted quickly to the work-from-home/appear-via-Zoom regime; life and practice took on the strange, two-dimensional characteristics of a flat screen. In my experience of late, the generally unexciting but necessary business of directions hearings in the courts within the Victorian hierarchy is still, for the most part, conducted remotely.

If one has a range of separate briefs running at the same time, then a degree of nimbleness and a sense of priority are of the essence. The 'interesting' is always likely to be more attractive than the mundane, yet the latter may demand a greater degree of attention in the short term if only because it is routine. What appears of little account to the practitioner may be for the client a time of crisis and trial, never to be underestimated or treated lightly.

When a case is before a court for determination, every matter, irrespective of the forum, must be given one's best efforts, because much is at stake for the client, whether plaintiff or defendant.

Hence, attention to detail, familiarity with the material and the facts, and a knowledge of the relevant law are indispensable.

**Could you share with us what your role on the board of Slavery Links Australia Inc entails? How did you develop a special interest in modern slavery issues?**

I have never, to the best of my knowledge, ever met a slave. Sadly, however, slavery in its so-called 'modern' forms operates under numerous guises and seems capable of hiding in plain sight, even in Australia. I have, however, met people who have been convicted of slavery offences. Had I encountered them in the street, I would never have guessed.

Membership of Slavery Links Australia Inc ('SLA') has given me detailed and often disturbing insights into the nature and practice of slavery both around the globe and in contemporary Australia. SLA's founder and CEO, Mr Roscoe Howell, established it as a not-for-profit group in 2009. I was introduced to, and convinced by, the work of SLA while I was the Dean of Saint Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, at which SLA held a powerful photographic exhibition on the plight on slaves in the contemporary world.

Its aims are simple, yet difficult to achieve: SLA strives to educate, develop policy, research and subsequently publish material, all in the effort to both assist in exposing and suppressing slavery. As such, SLA confines itself to the international and Australian law that touches upon slavery and slavery-like offences.

One of the pitfalls in anti-slavery advocacy is the question of definition: much like the contemporary over-use and sometimes indiscriminate application by non-lawyers of the term, 'genocide', the definition of slavery is confused and distorted by both mischief and ignorance. The only working definition at law that matters in the Australian context is that found in the Criminal Code 1995 (Cth) at Division 270; this is derived from the Supplementary Convention on the abolition of slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery 1956, United Nations ECOSOC resolution 609 (XXI) 30 April 1956; entered into force 30 April 1957. The High Court of Australia applied this definition in *R v Wei Tang* (2008) 237 CLR 1.

I, in company with others from SLA, have had the privilege of arguing before select Commonwealth parliamentary committees and before DFAT panels on questions relating to 'modern slavery'. One of the lessons learned by dint of experience and observation is that such advocacy must be founded primarily on international and Australian criminal law as it touches slavery: descent into the emotional relating of anecdotes does little to sway legislators and policymakers. Drawing attention to international and Commonwealth law and High Court opinion, does, however, pay dividends. As with any court appearance, preparation is key; there is no substitute for knowing current law.

**Given your involvement with the Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997 and related mental health tribunal work, do you believe that the law's current approach to those with a mental impairment is adequate?**

During my reader's year at the New South Wales Bar, I was on the pro bono Duty Barrister roster on a regular basis. As such, I had the privilege of being directly briefed by clients whom I had only just met and who were to appear within the hour in the New South Wales Local Court (and occasionally, the District Court) in the Downing Centre in Sydney. Many of these clients appeared, crumpled Court Appearance Notice in hand, bewildered and frightened in the door of what passed for the Duty Barrister's 'office' at the Downing Centre.

More than a few of these clients were suffering from undiagnosed or poorly-controlled mental illnesses. (As the vicar of a Melbourne parish, I had frequent contact with men and women displaying florid psychotic symptoms, who would appear at the door in need of food, shelter and assistance with court appearances. Nursing experience and the generous assistance of a friend who was then a psychiatry registrar provided a muddling way through a then-inadequate public mental health system.)

My role in representing clients suffering from acute/chronic psychiatric illness was minor, generally asking the magistrate to adjourn the matter or to have the client assessed for a diversion or treatment programme. Almost without exception, I found the bench patient, compassionate and creative—despite the fact that the lists were seemingly endless and complicated—with an impressive degree of genuine respect for the person before the court. I also found that the police prosecutors were, for the most part, similarly disposed. I learned, too, that the Law Society of New South Wales exercised a wide-ranging and generous pro bono scheme to which I could refer clients.

While I am not qualified to comment in detail on the adequacy of the legal system's current approach to mental impairment, while sitting in the body of the busy Magistrates' Courts in Victoria, waiting to be called, I have seen magistrates handle difficult matters with aplomb and fairness. Systemic inadequacies to one side, my own view is that judicial officers of this calibre can and frequently do, apply the law with compassion, respect and commonsense.

**What advice would you give to law students who are seeking to use their law degrees to enact positive social change?**

Were I to be asked for advice by a law student seeking to effect social change, then I would start with the maxim used by a rabbi friend of mine (now returned to New York) who would simply say, 'First of all, be a Mensch!' In other words, be a decent human being; be moved by the plight of others (while never being condescending); be sure of your ground; and be convinced that things can change.

I would add my own observations, too.

First, realise that outrage is never enough and is definitely not performance art. Private outrage may be a place to start, but it can become an end in itself. Hence, understand from a moral and legal standpoint why the current situation is in need of change, and note any misalignment between the two.

Secondly, if 'the law' is faulty, then understand the present legal position in detail, backwards and forwards. If it is a problem with the common law, then know your authorities, locating the highest you can find. If it is statutory law, then a dog-eared copy of the relevant act and regulations, much annotated, is a must.

Fifthly, use the law degree for which you have laboured. Be assured that you have learned much more than you presently appreciate: method and logic, while not particularly exciting in themselves, are likely to carry the day. Build your case, writing your closing submissions (as it were) at the outset; know where you're going.

Sixthly (and finally) take comfort in the rule of law, not as a slogan, but as an instrument. Wield it. An apposite observation by the late former Lord Justice of England, the Rt Honourable Tom Bingham (later, Baron Bingham of Cornfield), was made in the light of Dr Fuller's statement, above (Bingham's 'first point'). His Lordship wrote,

“ So, if you maltreat a penguin in the London Zoo, you do not escape prosecution because you are Archbishop of Canterbury; if you sell honours for a cash reward, it does not help that you are Prime Minister. But the second point is important, too. There is no special law or court which deals with archbishops and prime ministers: the same law, administered in the same courts, applies to them as to everyone else. ”

Penguins matter, too...

Dr Mark Burton  
January 2025

# PAUL BURGESS

**Paul Burgess is a Senior Lecturer and Law Academic at Monash University. His publications focus on the Rule of Law – the concept that opposes arbitrary exercise of power – and how recent developments in AI are going to drastically alter our understanding of the Rule of Law. His research straddle the disciplines of Law and IT, giving him unique perspective into how AI models and LLMs are affecting the legal field and the implications of worldwide AI usage**



**Could you please describe your journey from law school (and before) to your current position?**

My route to the law and to legal academia has been non-traditional. After completing a geography degree in a Welsh university, I had brief careers in both the fitness industry as well as the police force before moving to Australia. After I arrived, I worked in sales and in publishing whilst completing a law degree part time at the University of Queensland. That led me to my first job as a lawyer in a commercial litigation firm that specialised in lawyers' professional indemnity work; essentially, we worked for the insurer of lawyers that were being sued by their former clients.

Whilst I really enjoyed working at the firm, I had no interest in being a partner. After some thought, and with no real understanding of what was involved, I decided that being a legal academic would be the next step. So I went back to school – first to New York University to study an LLM in legal theory and then a PhD at the University of Edinburgh.

After a few years working at University College London, I was offered a position at Monash. Where, I am very happy to say, I remain.

**What does the rule of law mean in our society now? And why is it important to understand and employ the rule of law?**

Whilst the meaning of the concept is contested, at its heart, the Rule of Law is a concept that opposes the arbitrary exercise of power. When viewed in this sense, the Rule of Law is of fundamental importance to most societies. In more precise (yet still popular) terms, the Rule of Law is an idea that all are subject to the law – including, and especially, those that are powerful and those that make the law.

It is important to understand the meaning of the concept of the Rule of Law for a number of reasons. The most trivial is simply because it is mentioned and discussed frequently in media, politics, and in the law. So, having some idea about what it means is essential to understanding what people mean when they talk about ‘the rule of law’.

In a more substantive sense, it is important to understand the meaning of the Rule of Law in order to ensure that those that are in power can properly be held accountable according to the law; after all, if we do not understand that those that are in power are also subject to the law then how can we hold them accountable to it.

**Your academic research focuses on the rule of law and AI, what were your motivations in choosing this topic?**

My Rule of Law work stemmed from my PhD and, before that, my LLM. I was fortunate enough to have a thesis supervisor at NYU who is a world renowned expert on the Rule of Law: Jeremy Waldron. Through taking classes with him I became fascinated with the concept and its meaning over time.

My interest in AI came from a very non-academic source: a movie. The movie was the Werner Herzog documentary *Lo and Behold, Reveries of the Connected World*. As a result of watching that, I co-authored a paper that was broadly based around AI (it considered how we would legally treat a form of intelligence if it spontaneously generated on the internet). That was the first of several papers that considered the legal philosophical implications of AI.

From that point, it was a relatively small step to bring together the Rule of Law and the AI aspects. This culminated in writing a book – *AI and the Rule of Law* – in 2024 that considered the ways in which the concept of the Rule of Law may need to change in order to account for a world in which AI is used in the exercise of power.

**How do you see LLMs affecting the legal system and how individuals interact with it? And do you think there will be an impact on the level of social justice and equity that the system is able to deliver?**

This is a massive and very relevant question. Individuals are already interacting with the legal system in ways that we had not previously seen. Now, instead of a person googling the legal issue that they may have, they enter a query into ChatGPT or Claude. Due to their propensity to hallucinate and use non-Australian training data, the answers given by the most well-known LLMs cannot be relied upon for legal answers in Australia (or anywhere); its outputs are convincing and, to all but the already well-informed, they seem to be right.

Whilst there is still the potential for inaccurate websites to be returned via a Google search, many of us have become better at identifying a (more) reliable source for an answer to a legal question – i.e. the difference between a post on Reddit compared to a large law firm's website. This is not a skill that we have attained with LLMs. This has the potential to exacerbate the relative knowledge gap between members of society and, at least in the short term, impact the ability of many to understand and engage with the legal system.

**What advice would you give to law students who are entering a legal field where the prevalence of using AI models is growing? Do they have a duty to learn about these technologies?**

Lawyers have a duty to learn about these technologies in the same way that lawyers in the past had a duty to learn about boolean search terms, loose leaf periodicals, or library index cards; lawyers need to know what technologies exist that can help them best serve their clients' interests. Lawyers now entering the field do, however, have an additional obligation that didn't operate previously: they need to understand quite how wrong or fictitious the answers they obtain may be. This means that law students need to be able, like never before, to understand the fundamental basics of the law in order to both be able to identify when answers are wrong as well as to understand when those fundamental basics are being misrepresented.

**What roles do lawyers play in the deliverance of legal AIs that are not just unbiased, but also can actually improve access to justice?**

Lawyers are not essential to the process of unbiased AI in general – but, their skills will likely be essential in determining exactly when an AI is being biased. Lawyers are, however, integral to ensuring that legal AI can improve access to justice. Those that design and build AI systems are not experts in the content or application of those systems. Lawyers have, for as long as law has been a profession, been at the forefront of the law's application. Whilst there are lawyers and law firms that will doubtless find ways to use AI in ways that benefit them or their firm, many lawyers (myself included) are working to ensure that the potential benefits that AI offers – efficiency, speed, accuracy – are harnessed in a way that benefits those that may not have access to law firms. With their professional expertise, lawyers are the only ones that can do this.

# DALE WALKER

**Could you describe your journey from your previous roles to your current position as Head of Partnerships and Fundraising at Anika Legal?**

Marketing, communications, partnerships, and fundraising are essentially about sales —you're trying to "sell" a cause or an idea to someone. In this case, it's about giving people the opportunity to feel good about making a difference.

Many professionals have strong experience in sales and communications, but it can be challenging to shift the mindset from purely generating revenue to creating meaningful impact. Working for a nonprofit is a great way to apply those skills in a way that genuinely improves lives.

**Dale Walker is the Head of Partnerships & Fundraising at Anika Legal, bringing over eight years of experience in leading teams and managing strategic partnerships across the private and not-for-profit sectors.**



**What advice would you give to someone looking to use marketing communications to create a positive social impact, particularly in the legal or nonprofit sector?**

I started in the private sector, working in Foxtel sales for over seven years, moving between sales and management roles, and eventually running the retail department across Australia. Towards the end of that period, some personal events, including the loss of my brother, made me reflect on my career and how I wanted to spend my time.

I decided to leave the private sector and move into the nonprofit space, working in various partnerships roles in the charity sector. When I saw this opportunity at Anika, it really appealed to me. Access to justice is a crucial issue, and systemic problems affecting vulnerable Victorians and people everywhere can only be solved if there are individuals willing to dedicate themselves to the cause. The team at Anika does incredible work, and for me, it was a natural progression. This is the kind of organization where you can see the direct impact of your work every day, and that makes it incredibly rewarding.

**How do you ensure that Anika Legal's communications resonate with the target audience while staying true to the organization's values?**

For Anika, it's relatively straightforward because we are almost entirely funded through philanthropy and fundraising. The core of our message is the impact we're making, and that's what resonates with funders. When marketing, we focus on two key audiences:

- **Renters and end beneficiaries** – We ensure that people who need our services are aware of Anika and can access our support. Since our services are free, it's important that renters know we exist and how we can help them.
- **Supporters and changemakers** – This includes funders, government bodies, individual donors, lawyers, and students who want to contribute to a fairer housing system. Our marketing focuses on how we can support renters to thrive in safe, affordable homes. As long as we stay true to this message, we attract the right people—whether they need our services or want to support the cause.

**What are some challenges you face, and do you have any final advice?**

One of the biggest challenges in the nonprofit sector is market saturation. There are so many incredible charities out there, with new ones emerging every year, all tackling important causes.

This creates competition when it comes to securing grants, fundraising dollars, and volunteer time. The key challenge is demonstrating that this issue is urgent, solvable, and worth supporting over other equally deserving causes.

“ You don't have to leave the private sector to make a difference. There are many ways to contribute—using your pro bono hours to work at a community legal center, organizing workplace giving, donating a portion of your salary, or volunteering your time on weekends. It doesn't have to be an "all or nothing" decision between corporate and charity work. **Find a cause that matters to you and find a way to support it in a way that fits your life.** ”

# NOEL LIM



**Noel Lim is the founding CEO of Anika Legal, an organisation dedicated to empowering renters and promoting social entrepreneurship.**

**What inspired you to create Anika Legal and how did the idea for the organisation first come about?**

The idea for Anika Legal came from a global legal hackathon, where a team and I worked on solving access to justice through a tech solution. We identified two key issues: millions of people in Australia couldn't access the legal support they needed, and tens of thousands of law students wanted practical experience but lacked opportunities.

We developed a service model and technology to bridge this gap. The idea was well received, winning the first round of the Global Legal Hackathon and placing as a runner-up in the global final in New York.

Professionally, seeing the direct impact on clients—helping those in unsafe housing situations secure their rights and improve their living conditions—is incredibly rewarding. Additionally, Anika Legal has contributed to systemic change, such as the Broken Bonds Report, which exposed unfair rental bond claims and led to law reforms protecting renters in Victoria. Seeing our work influence legal changes that benefit 1.5 million renters is a career highlight.

**What advice would you give to someone who wants to start their own nonprofit or social enterprise in the legal sector?**

First, ensure you are doing it for the right reasons—making a difference rather than for pride or ego—because perseverance through challenges is key.

Second, research existing organizations in the space. If you lack professional experience, it's valuable to gain skills first to avoid duplicating efforts and competing for limited resources. Starting with experience in the sector can help you build a stronger, more impactful initiative.

**What has been the most rewarding aspect of founding Anika Legal, both personally and professionally?**

**What skills or qualities do you think are essential for someone working in the nonprofit legal sector?**

Three key qualities are curiosity, collaboration, and the ability to handle complexity.

The nonprofit legal sector is highly complex, requiring problem-solving in uncertain situations. Collaboration is crucial due to limited resources, making teamwork essential for maximizing impact.

Finally, curiosity and innovation drive the development of new legal solutions to address unmet legal needs.

**How does Anika Legal balance providing legal assistance with advocating for systemic change in the legal system?**

Anika Legal focuses on legal issues that align with our advocacy goals. We take on cases that provide insight into systemic problems, helping us build an evidence base for legal reforms.

By concentrating on specific issues like housing security, we generate data that strengthens our case for change, ensuring our legal assistance contributes to broader systemic improvements.

**What advice would you give to law students or recent graduates interested in working at the intersection of law and social justice?**

Gain hands-on experience, particularly in practical and interpersonal skills. Law school focuses on technical legal knowledge, but skills like emotional intelligence, communication, and stakeholder management are essential for real-world legal practice.

Programs like Anika Legal provide direct case management experience, allowing students to develop these skills while exploring different legal career paths.

**What trends or challenges in the legal sector do you think will have the greatest impact on organisations like Anika Legal in the coming years?**

The biggest challenge remains the overwhelming demand for legal services compared to available resources, especially in tenancy law amidst the housing crisis. However, positive trends include recent tenancy law reforms and growing openness to innovative legal solutions.

If the sector embraces new approaches, organizations like Anika Legal can develop creative strategies to expand access to justice.



On behalf of the 2025 Social Justice and Equity Directors, Social Justice and Equity Publications Officer, and Publications Subcommittee, we would like to thank you for reading this guide.

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