

## Legal Issues & Domestic & Family Violence For Community Workers

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Solicitors



The Mid North Coast Legal Centre acknowledges all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands.

We acknowledge the Birpai and Gumbaynggirr Peoples and acknowledge that this presentation is being delivered in Gumbaynggirr land.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.



#### Disclaimer

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this presentation is as accurate as possible, it is not legal advice. The law is complex and may change. It is not designed to comprehensively deal with every scenario but as a starting point. Individuals are advised to seek specific legal advice in relation to their particular situation.

Mid North Coast Legal Centre does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage caused as a result of any information contained in or omitted from this presentation.

For legal advice, contact us on (02) 6580 2111.

Alternatively, you can contact LawAccess on 1300 888 529 for a referral to the most appropriate legal service.





#### What will be covered:

- All things Mid North Coast Legal Centre
- Legal issues women experiencing D&FV might need assistance with
- Working with lawyers to assist your clients in a trauma informed way
- Where clients can get help





### MNCLC

Have you heard about us?



#### What we do

Provide free legal advice & information for people in the LGAs of Coffs Harbour, Nambucca Heads, Bellingen, Port Macquarie, Midcoast (Taree) & Kempsey

**Casework** for people with disadvantage

Community legal **education** and projects

Law reform and policy change







## Our catchment area

- MidCoast (Taree)
- Port Macquarie-Hastings
- Kempsey Shire
- Nambucca Shire
- Bellingen Shire
- Coffs Harbour (south of Woolgoolga)

#### **Birpai Land**

Suite 7, Level 1, 68 Clarence Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

**Gumbaynggirr Land** 

Shop 6/13-15 Park Ave, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

#### Where you can find us



- Legal Outreach
  - Taree
  - Kempsey
  - Nambucca
  - Bellingen
  - Mid North Coast Correctional Centre
- Traffic Program
  - Taree
  - Macksville

- Community Legal Education
  - Online
  - In person
  - Collaborating with local libraries
- LAMP
  - Embedded in local mental health support services
- By phone or in our offices







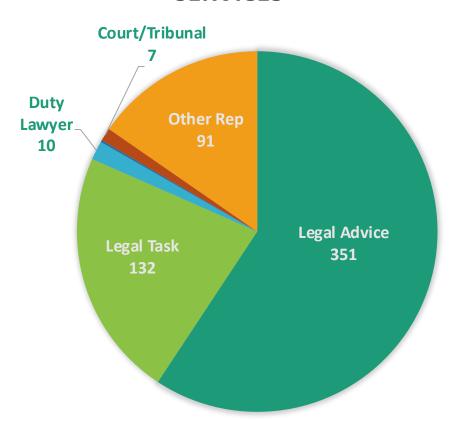
# Legal issues women experiencing D&FV might need assistance with

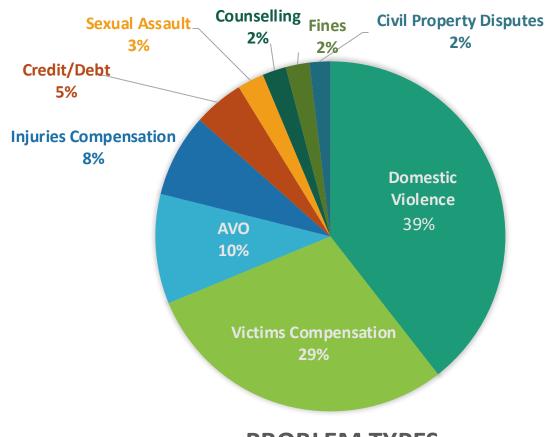
What we see

#### How we assist



#### **SERVICES**





**PROBLEM TYPES** 

#### Legal issues we see



- Victims Support Applications
- Financial-debt
- AVOs
- Tenancy/housing
- Liaison with police (Offences/breaches)
- Family Law



#### How to screen for legal issues



- Ask your client directly- do you have any legal problems?
- Do you have any debts or fines?
- Are the terms of your ADVO working for you?
- Are you experiencing tenancy issues?
- Have you had issues with employment?
- Do you need help with Victims Services? Have you received any support from them?



# Working with lawyers to assist clients

#### **Trauma informed**

#### Trauma informed services



Understanding trauma sensitivity

Safe spaces

Collaborative approach

Empowering clients

Confidentiality

Cultural safety

#### When referring clients





Phone, Email & Website

Provide all relevant information without compromising confidentiality

Explain the Legal Services offered/set up client expectations

Emphasise we are a confidential service

Provide clients with current and appropriate resources

Timeline of outcomes

We want to hear your feedback



If you're not sure whether to refer..



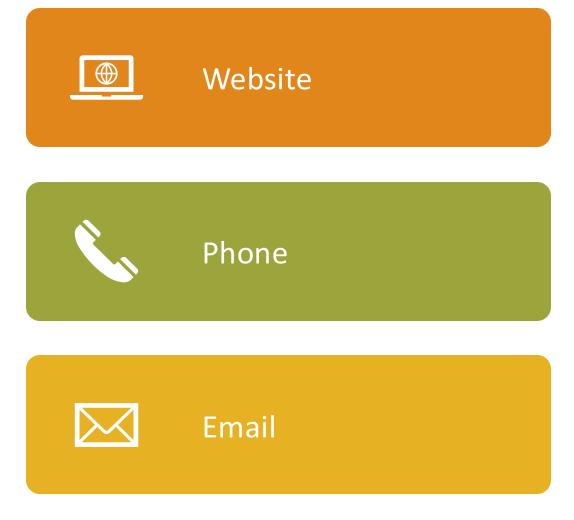


## Getting help

All the options



## Referring a client





#### **Contact us:**



(02) 6580 2111



info@mnclegal.org.au

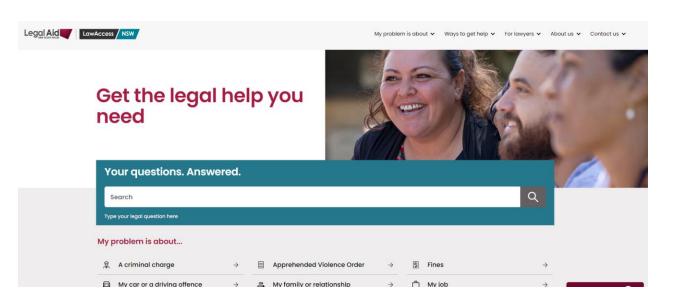
mnclegal.org.au



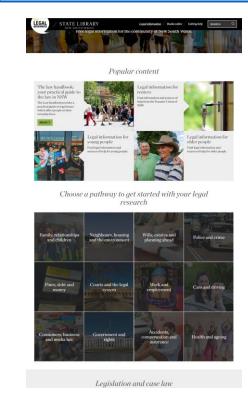
#### **Important Websites**



www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/



• www.legalanswers.sl.nsw.gov.au



#### Other key services































#### Follow us!













#### Support

If any of today's content has raised issues concerns or distress, please call 1800 Respect or Lifeline.

If you are in immediate danger, call 000.

1800RESPECT
NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE



#### Summary



- ✓ We are a free civil law service, local to MNC and our offices are in Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour
- ✓ We covered legal issues women experiencing D&FV might need assistance with particularly Victim Support Scheme and AVOs
- ✓ We gave you tips on working with lawyers to assist your clients in a trauma informed way
- ✓ We also covered some helpful websites and other services that may assist your clients



#### Survey







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**Port Macquarie | Coffs Harbour** 

#### End of presentation

Drafted by:
Date drafted:
Approved by:
Date of approval:
Amended details: