

The Law and More

National Community Legal Centres Conference
Ngunnawal Country – Canberra
2–5 September 2025



Community Legal Centres
Australia

National conference
Program

Conference at a glance

	Tuesday 2/09	Wednesday 3/09	Thursday 4/09	Friday 5/09
Morning	Network meetings	Masterclasses M1-M4	Breakouts B1-B5 Breakouts B6-B10	Plenary 3 Closing session
Afternoon	Network meetings	Smoking ceremony, Welcome to Country Opening addresses Plenary 1 Plenary 2	Lunchtime sessions Breakouts B11-B15 Breakouts B16-B20	
Evening		Welcome Reception	Conference Dinner	

Tuesday 2 September

National Network meetings

8:30

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Disability Rights Network

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Human Rights Network

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Rural, Regional, Remote and Very Remote (4Rs) Community Legal Sector Network

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Youth Advocacy Network

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men's Network

NETWORK MEETING

AIATSIS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Network

13:00

14:00

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Community Services Network

Open to community support workers only

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Employment Law Network

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Older Persons' Legal Service Network

NETWORK MEETING

MARIE REAY TEACHING CENTRE ANU

Student Legal Services Network

NETWORK MEETING

CANBERRA COMMUNITY LAW

National PII Network

17:30



Wednesday 3 September MORNING

Masterclasses

8:30	M1 MARIE REAY 502 Working well: A trauma-informed, culturally-safe approach to managing trauma in the workplace	M2 MARIE REAY 402 Navigating federal politics and the media	M3 MARIE REAY 302 Data and storytelling	M4 Room TBC AI and the law	8:30 <i>SHE SHAPES HISTORY WALKING TOUR</i> 9:30	8:30 <i>CULTURE ON THE MOVE BASKET WEAVING WORKSHOP</i>
	Amanda Whelan, Exective Director, Innovation and Capability Building, <i>knowmore</i> Gary Oliver, Executive Director First Nations and Strategic Engagement <i>knowmore</i>	Lee Carnie, Director of Policy and Advocacy <i>Federation of Community Legal Centres Vic</i> Edwina McDonald, Chief Strategy Officer <i>ACOSS</i> Mehreen Faruqi, Senator for NSW and Deputy Leader <i>Australian Greens</i> Jacquie Lambie, Independent Senator for Tasmania	Dr Tom Verhelst, Director <i>Insights Data Lab, Griffith University</i>	Sophie Farthing <i>University of Technology Sydney</i> Lee Schofield <i>University of Technology Sydney</i>	Walking tours leave from in front of Harry Hartog Booksellers, Kambri precinct 11:00 <i>SHE SHAPES HISTORY WALKING TOUR</i> 12:00	11:30
12:30	MORNING TEA provided for all masterclass attendees	Kate Chaney, Independent Member for Curtin, WA				

Wednesday 3 September AFTERNOON

Conference opening, plenaries, Welcome Reception

13:30 Smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country MANNING CLARK

Selina Walker, emerging Ngunnawal Elder and community leader

14:00 Opening addresses MANNING CLARK

Dr Tim Leach, Chief Executive Officer
CLCs Australia

14:30

14:45 PLENARY 1 MANNING CLARK

First Nations justice

Selina Walker, emerging Ngunnawal Elder and community leader

15:45 AFTERNOON TEA

16:15 PLENARY 2 MANNING CLARK

The personal is political: (Re)building communities through solidarity, accountability and self-determination

17:30

18:00 WELCOME RECEPTION

Justice Louise Taylor, Justice of the *ACT Supreme Court*

Arlia Fleming, Chair
CLCs Australia

Dr Tim Leach, Chief Executive Officer
CLCs Australia

19:30



Thursday 4 September MORNING

Breakouts, lunchtime sessions

	LAWS	ADVOCACY AND SYSTEM REFORM	WORKING HOLISTICALLY	STAYING STRONG AND SUSTAINABLE	LOOKING TO THE FUTURE
9:00	B01 CINEMA Waging lawfare or making law fair? Controversies surrounding access to justice in public interest litigation Eleanor Fenge Belinda Rayment Revel Pointon <i>Environmental Defenders Office</i>	B02 DRAMA THEATRE Supporting people with lived experience to engage with the media Chantelle Lines Rochelle Allison-Moore <i>Community Legal WA</i>	B03 MANNING CLARK Integration in action – How multidisciplinary practice impacts people and communities and strengthens collaboration Marika Manioudakis <i>Eastern Community Legal Centre</i> Cathy Bucolo <i>Health Justice Australia</i> Deborah Fisher <i>Hume Riverina CLC</i> Jenna Conway-Jones <i>knowmore</i> Suzie Nesbitt <i>Women's Legal Services Victoria</i> Sarah Lefevre <i>Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic)</i> Katherine Ogilvie <i>Centre for Innovation Justice, RMIT University</i> Paul Were <i>Eastern CLC</i>	B04 T2 Digital Transformation in our sector and the National Data Repository	B05 GALLERY Facilitating access to justice, legal support and safety through strategic partnerships with community legal centres Claudia Fatone <i>Women's Legal Service Victoria</i> Roshan Bhandary <i>Women's Legal Service Victoria</i> Jess DeVries <i>Women's Legal Service Victoria</i> Louisa Gibbs <i>Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic)</i> Lynne Haultain <i>Victoria Law Foundation</i> Sandra Roennfeldt <i>Gippsland Community Legal Centre</i> Belquis Obura <i>Gippsland Community Legal Centre</i>
10:15	MORNING TEA				

10:45

B06 CINEMA Protecting rights – Older people and supported decision-making – Issues for people with disability as tenants. Naomi Anderson <i>Villamanta Disability LS</i> Sian Thomas <i>Queensland Advocacy for Inclusion</i> Ken Beilby <i>Seniors Rights Service NSW</i>	B07 DRAMA THEATRE Justice where you live: Workshop with the 4Rs Network and Economic Justice Australia Judy Harrison Taylah Bell <i>Economic Justice Australia</i> Katherine Boyle <i>Welfare Rights Centre</i> James Farrell <i>Basic Rights Queensland</i> Bronwyn Bell <i>Environmental Defenders Office</i> A Weldon-Oti <i>Welfare Rights Centre</i> Catherine Eagle <i>Welfare Rights and Advocacy Service</i> Siobhan Mackay <i>Women's Legal Service Tasmania</i> Corina Martin <i>Aboriginal Family Legal Services WA</i>	B08 GALLERY From crisis to recovery to healing through holistic, trauma-informed client care and fearless advocacy Melissa Hardham <i>Westjustice</i> Cleona Fueurring <i>Westjustice</i> Westjustice client	B09 T2 Best practice in governance for community legal centres Michelle Cutler	B10 MANNING CLARK Futureproofing climate justice Kate Gibson <i>Eastern CLC</i> Kate Clohesy <i>Arc Justice</i> Louisa Gibbs <i>Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic)</i>
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12:00

LUNCH

12:30

MANNING CLARK Australian Services Union meeting	CINEMA Film screening	DRAMA THEATRE LexisNexis training	T2 Citation Group HR training	GALLERY Stitch 'n' b*tch
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13:15



Thursday 4 September AFTERNOON

Breakouts, Conference Dinner

13:30

B11	CINEMA	B12	MANNING CLARK	B13	DRAMA THEATRE	B14	T2	B15	GALLERY
Creatively engaging at-risk youth with theatre and legal support Guglielmo Plain <i>Uniting Communities LC</i> Kirsten Young <i>Peninsula CLC</i> Ian Frost, actor Maree Barnett, actor		Justice responses to sexual violence – Insights from Women's Legal Services supporting victims and survivors through the justice system Lara Freidin <i>Women's Legal Services Australia</i>		By, with and for: Integrated approaches to working with people with disability and mental ill-health Karyn Gellie <i>Health Justice Australia</i> Anisha Hegde <i>Canberra Community Law</i> Charlotte Jones <i>Mental Health Legal Centre</i> Isabel Moss <i>Canberra Community Law</i> Bryony Wilson, lived and living experience consumer consultant Kate Windmill <i>Mental Health Legal Centre</i>		Confronting concerns about legal professional privilege, and professional obligations in integrated services Sarah Toovey <i>Ruah Legal Services</i> Luke Cassidy <i>Ruah Legal Services</i> Garth Tinsley <i>Norton Rose Fulbright</i>		Measuring outcomes: It's not that hard Katy Welch <i>Circle Green</i> Rohini Thomas <i>Circle Green</i> Jess Moniodis <i>Circle Green</i> Tim McMahon <i>Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic)</i> Dr Hugh McDonald <i>Victorian Law Foundation</i> Skye Forster <i>Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic)</i>	

14:45 AFTERNOON TEA

15:15

B16	CINEMA	B17	T2	B18	MANNING CLARK	B19	GALLERY	B20	DRAMA THEATRE
Now more than ever: Supporting LGBTIQ+ people in the legal system Jean Kearney <i>Refugee Advice and Casework Service</i> Matilda Alexander <i>LGBTI Legal Service</i> Julie Howes <i>LGBTI Legal Service</i>		When Change Happens – Reflections on sexual harassment law reform Emma Golledge <i>Kingsford Legal Centre</i> Diane Anagnos <i>Kingsford Legal Centre</i> Katherine McKernan <i>National Legal Aid</i> Melanie Schleiger <i>Victoria Legal Aid</i>		Session presented by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Network Celeste Woolfe <i>Southern Aboriginal Corporation FVPLS</i> Lauren Rose <i>Southern Aboriginal Corporation FVPLS</i>		National PII policy and legal practice <i>Open to community legal sector workers only</i> Catherine Eagle <i>Welfare Rights and Advocacy</i> National PII Network representatives		Fighting back against scams Lucas Rutten Su Robertson <i>Consumer Action Law Centre</i>	

16:30

18:30

PRE-DINNER DRINKS

GANDELL ATRIUM, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

19:30

CONFERENCE DINNER

GANDELL ATRIUM, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

22:30



Friday 5 September MORNING

Third plenary, closing session

9:30

PLENARY 3

MANNING CLARK

Will we ever win fair funding?

Dr Warren Mundy

Rosslyn Munro, Executive Director
Community Legal Centres Queensland

10:45

MORNING TEA

11:15

CLOSING SESSION

MANNING CLARK

In conversation with...

Felicia Djamirze, First Nations woman, trauma therapist, advocate, researcher, writer and CEO of Neuro Vitality and Trauma Recovery Network

12:30