

# CAWLS NEWS

September 2016

## Welcome to CAWLS NEWS!

This new quarterly newsletter is intended to keep our colleagues, stakeholders and clients up to date on our service.

CAWLS is a free and confidential legal service for all women in Central Australia. We also service the Barkly region and visit Tennant Creek twice a month when the Court is sitting. We provide legal advice and some representation to women in relation to:

- Domestic violence
- Child protection
- Family Law
- Victims of Crime Compensation
- Tenancy
- Discrimination
- Housing
- General Civil Law

Save the Date!  
Our next AGM is  
the 9th of  
November



CAWLS Staff celebrating #WearItPurple Day by wearing our purple beanies in support of LGBTI youth - You have a right to be proud of who you are!

## CAWLS Services

### Legal advice and support in relation to domestic violence

Drop in to our office or call

**1800 684 055 or 8952 4055**

Mon to Fri between 8.30am and 5.00pm

### Legal advice in relation to other matters

Call **1800 684 055 or 8952 4055**

Mon to Fri between 8.30am and 5.00pm to make an appointment for our clinics on Tuesday and Thursday mornings

Phone appointments are available.

## Community Legal Education

Did you know that CAWLS can provide free Community Legal Education for community and staff groups throughout Central Australia and the Barkly region?

Community Legal Education (CLE) equips people with knowledge, skills and understanding to help them better identify and manage legal issues in their lives. Awareness of the law and legal rights can help people to address legal problems and seek assistance before these problems grow.

CAWLS runs sessions in relation to a variety of different legal issues including domestic violence orders, child protection, family law, victims of crime compensation and tenancy.

If you are interested in organising a CLE session for your organisation, contact our CLE Lawyer Julia Parkin at [julia.parkin@cawls.org.au](mailto:julia.parkin@cawls.org.au).

## CAWLS will be in Tennant Creek on the following dates in 2016

When in Tennant Creek we are based out of the NT Legal Aid Commission office at 163 Patterson Street. All women in the Barkly region seeking legal advice are welcome to contact our office to make an appointment. Phone appointments are available outside of scheduled visits. Call **1800 684 055** to arrange or visit the office.



21-23 September  
4-6 October  
18-21 October

1-3 November  
16-18 November  
29 November - 1 December  
13-16 December

## Women'sHeLP Update

On 14 June 2016 Sue Korner, Chief Operating Officer of Central Australia Health Services and CAWLS' Managing Principal Solicitor Janet Taylor signed a Memorandum of Understanding enabling the Health



*Signing of the MOU.*

Justice Partnership between our two services, now known as 'Women's HeLP', to get up and running.

The Health Justice Partnership Project operates at the Alice Springs Hospital on Tuesdays and Fridays. The lawyer is available to see any women for legal advice in relation to domestic violence. An on call service operates Monday - Friday during business hours for clients accessing Central Australia Health Services such as Alice Springs Hospital and Flynn Drive Medical Centre. To make an appointment to see a lawyer at one of these health services, please call 1800 684 055.

Since the commencement of the Women's HeLP service on 19 July 2016, clients have been referred from Flynn Drive and Alice Springs Hospital Emergency Department as well as well as medical and surgical wards.

Legal education for health professionals has also been delivered for staff at Central Australian Aboriginal Congress and a number of Alice Springs Hospital wards as well as Ti Tree Health Clinic, Anyinginyi Congress in Tennant Creek and Tennant Creek Women's Refuge. The aim of these trainings is to inform staff about the ways in which CAWLS is working with the medical profession to provide better support to women who have experienced domestic violence.

In addition to these individual education sessions, a day-long training for health professionals about domestic violence and the services which are available in Central Australia has been developed. The day incorporates a cross section of different service

providers from Central Australia who will discuss how their services support victims of domestic violence. The training is currently being accredited by 6 medical colleges for continuing professional development points.

The training is free and the inaugural session will be held on 17 November 2016 at the Centre for Remote Health in Alice Springs. For more information, please call 1800 684 055 or email [admin@cawls.org.au](mailto:admin@cawls.org.au).

## National Association of Community Legal Centres Conference

Three CAWLS staff attended the NACLCL conference in Fremantle from 9 – 12 August. The theme for the conference was 'Innovation and Collaboration' and it was a fantastic opportunity to connect with other Community Legal Centres and learn about the exciting and innovative projects which are happening across the country. There was a strong focus on Health Justice Partnerships and the way in which the legal and medical professions can work together to support clients who are experiencing domestic violence. This was a great opportunity for our Health Justice Lawyer to meet and exchange notes with other practitioners who are setting up Health Justice Partnerships across Australia.

Our Community Legal Education (CLE) Lawyer assisted in a presentation about the Northern Territory CLE Network. The presentation was run by Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission's CLE Officer and was a great opportunity to reflect on and showcase the great collaborative work which is happening in community legal education in the Territory.



*Presentation by NT CLE Network.*