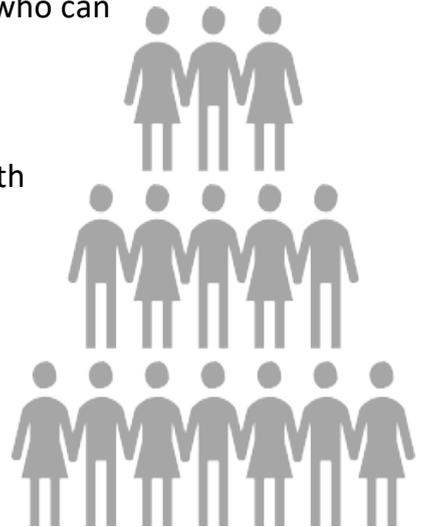


Recommendations

What should happen to get better access to justice for Barkly people.

1. There should be more community education about legal rights and processes and this should be done regularly. Information shared with the community should use the good material already created and make more to fill gaps, using different formats like online, posters, films, radio and more.
2. All government agencies must make sure that community members get the basic information that they need to do their business with government and know their rights and responsibilities. Government agencies must tell people about and refer people to the right legal services to help them with their problems when needed.
3. Set up a job for one or more people at the court / legal offices who can help the community understand legal papers and how the legal system works.
4. Legal services must hire social workers who can help people with their problems and work well with other services in Tennant Creek.
5. Raise up the role of Aboriginal client service officers (CSOs) so they can help Aboriginal clients with legal and other problems and ensure cultural safety and connections.
6. Help community members learn about the role of interpreters and train lawyers so that they know why, how and when to use interpreters to help them communicate well with Aboriginal clients.
7. Make sure that all legal, government and community services know how to refer a client to another service properly, safely and professionally.
8. Make agreements, regular meetings and a shared calendar so all the legal services work well together. This means no gaps or double services, using their money wisely and planning together and with the community how to run services.



9. Work out how to share the people and money between agencies to put services where there are gaps, especially in remote communities.
10. Have agreements between government agencies and legal services so that they work better together and deliver good services to community.
11. Build up and set up more Health Justice Partnerships – legal and health services working together, including in remote communities. Use legal health checks to help health workers get people legal help early.
12. Set up at least one Aboriginal liaison officer (like a CSO) to help all the legal services work in culturally safe ways. They should be based in Tennant Creek and also travel to communities. Legal and other services must hire and train cultural brokers in remote communities to help community members know their rights and take action on their legal problems.
13. Use video-conferencing more in remote communities so people can get help for and deal with legal problems without travelling. Make sure video conferencing is in a place that is private and safe to protect people.
14. Set up ‘Justice partnerships’ where legal and other services in remote communities work together to help people meet their legal needs. They might share a building and video call rooms, give information to the community, or help in other ways.
15. The Barkly Regional Deal and other government programs should use information from legal services about legal needs and other issues that affect access to justice in their decision making.
16. Legal services must listen to and support the actions the community is leading and doing to prevent and solve legal problems. These actions include community based conflict workers (mediators), Night patrols run by the community, and training local people to help others.

