

BACK TO THE FUTURE



COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES NSW STATE CONFERENCE

Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 May, 2021

PROGRAM INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	We acknowledge the Lands upon which these meetings take place. Community Legal Centres NSW acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora nation as the sovereign owners of the land upon which our office operates and this conference is held. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. Sovereignty was never ceded. Always was, always will be.
THEME	This year's theme is Back to the Future. We'll reflect on our activist origins as a sector, how we have evolved as advocates and service providers, and refocus on our collective future.
VENUES	Please note that Day One and Day Two of the State Conference will be held at different venues. Day One is at the Teachers Federation Conference Centre in Surry Hills. Day Two is at the University of Technology Sydney. Please see the pages to follow for the full addresses.
HYBRID FORMAT & HOW TO JOIN REMOTELY	<p>The conference will be a hybrid format, with sessions held in-person in Sydney and streamed over Zoom.</p> <p>How to join remotely. People who registered to attend remotely will receive a document with links to join each session.</p> <p>Recordings. Most sessions will be recorded, but we are unable to record select interactive sessions, and these are marked in the program. All of the recordings will be uploaded onto Community Legal Centres NSW's private YouTube account. For access to our private channel, please email OfficeManager@clcnsw.org.au. The Emergence session will be uploaded onto the Community Legal Centres Australia website.</p>
CPD POINTS	You may be eligible to claim CPD points for some of the sessions in the conference. Community Legal Centres NSW takes no responsibility if the content does not meet CPD requirements. Sessions are not accredited by the NSW Law Society. Community legal centre solicitors should make their own assessment of whether the session meets their CPD requirements, and maintain their own records for meeting CPD requirements. Further information about CPD requirements are available on the Law Society NSW website.
THANK YOU	Thank you to all of the contributions of speakers, network convenors, volunteers, and community legal centre staff who have generously offered their time to make this conference happen. We're nothing without you. Thank you to MinterEllison Sydney for generously printing all of our conference materials.
CLASS HELPDESK	<p>At the conference, bring your questions and queries about CLASS for one on one advice from the experts.</p> <p>Tuesday 25 May, 11.00am-5.00pm: Oliver Moore and Reuben Johnson (Community Legal Centres Australia). Wednesday 26 May 2021 9.30am-3.30pm: Oliver Moore and Rhys Ambler (Community Legal Centres Australia).</p>
COVID-SAFETY	We've got a COVID Safe plan in line with current NSW Health guidelines. Attendees will need to check-in, are encouraged to wear a mask, wash their hands regularly, and maintain a safe social distance from one another.
QUESTIONS?	<p>On the day, if you have any questions or problems accessing your meeting, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- For Yarn Up - Zachary on 0468 345 782 or zachary@clcnsw.org.au- For the State Conference - Imogen on 0423 611 371 or officemanager@clcnsw.org.au

DAY ONE

8.45am-9.15am	Registration opens	
9.15am-9.30am	Welcome to Country by Uncle Allen Madden (Room 1)	
9.30am-11.00am	<p>OPENING PLENARY: FIRE AND WATER - OUR FUTURE IN CLIMATE JUSTICE (ROOM 1)</p> <p>Whether we consider ourselves environmental lawyers or not, there is no avoiding the fact that many of our clients are feeling the impacts of climate change. We know that there are vulnerable people at risk of not being able to meet the costs of protecting themselves and their livelihoods from climate change. After the devastation from fire and floods in NSW our communities are facing climate-induced displacement and rising insurance costs. All community legal centres have a role to play in the climate justice battles that are on our doorsteps. How do we hold those most liable for this climate emergency to account for the losses our communities face? How can community legal centres protect those who are most exposed to the impact of climate change through our activism, advocacy and service delivery? We look at what we can expect in the next 10 years and what is happening now.</p>	<p>Dr Karl Mallon CEO and CTO, Climate Risk Sailor Pilot Dancer</p> <p>Belinda Rayment Senior Solicitor Environmental Defenders Office Ocean Lover Traveller Environmentalist</p> <p>Alex Kelly Director of Casework Financial Rights Legal Service Apocalypse Justice Foodie</p> <p>Julia Davis Policy & Communications Officer Financial Rights Legal Service Advocate Extrovert Beach Bum</p>
11.00am-11.30am	Morning tea	
11.30am-1.00pm	<p>SUPPORTING THE RIGHT TO PROTEST: LEGAL OBSERVER TRAINING (ROOM 2)</p> <p>Legal observing – monitoring police actions at protests and community education on protest rights – is a practical way that we can support grassroots activism. This session will feature practical training on how to be a legal observer, as well as a more advanced discussion on the thorny ethical questions legal observing can throw up for people working at community legal centres.</p>	<p>Alison Whittaker Legal Observers NSW Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research</p> <p>Nicola Paris Founder & Coordinator CounterAct</p>
	<p>CLIMATE JUSTICE AND RESILIENCE: LEARNING TO EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED (ROOM 1)</p> <p>Continuing the conversation from the opening plenary, centres in communities affected by fire, floods, hail, a mouse plague, and a pandemic discuss the local impact and how they responded. We'll discuss how we can be involved in climate justice, and how do we prepare for "the new normal" and ensure our staff and our centres are disaster resilient?</p>	<p>Dr Karl Mallon CEO and CTO, Climate Risk Sailor Pilot Dancer</p> <p>Emily Hamilton Policy & Advocacy Manager Community Legal Centres NSW Book Lover Luddite Perennial (Law) Student</p> <p>Erica Weatherly Bushfire Project Solicitor Shoalcoast Community Legal Centre</p> <p>Melanie Kallmier Solicitor Mid-North Coast Community Legal Centre</p>
	<p>COORDINATORS AND DIRECTORS MEETING (ROOM 3)</p> <p>A closed meeting for Coordinators and Directors of community legal centres.</p>	

DAY ONE

<p>1.00pm-1.45pm</p>	<p>Lunch: grab a bite and join us for lunch.</p>	
<p>1.45pm-3.15pm</p>	<p>SOCIAL MOVEMENT LAWYERING: BUILDING PEOPLE POWER (ROOM 1) With the rise of extreme inequality, it can be isolating to work toward transforming the legal system within a profession that lends itself to maintaining the status quo. Social movement or rebellious lawyering pursues meaningful social change by taking direction from impacted communities and organisers, as opposed to imposing our leadership or expertise as legal advocates. It means building people power, not the power of the law. In this session, we'll consider what steps can you take in your own practice: How can you lawyer as a way to build people power?</p>	<p>Dr Louise Boon-Kuo Senior Lecturer University of Sydney Law School Academic in the apocalypse</p> <p>Vicki Sentas Senior Lecturer Faculty of Law UNSW Tea drinker Trumpeter Table over-turner</p> <p>Zaahir Edries Lawyer Advocate Writer Dreamer A Trouble Maker Sneaker Lover</p> <p>Sarah Schwartz Co-organiser ReLaw Australia Senior Lawyer Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service Aspiring Rebellious Lawyer Op-shop Enthusiast</p>
	<p>GET ON YOUR FEET! COURT ADVOCACY WORKSHOP WITH MEMBERS OF THE BAR (ROOM 2) Do you get nervous when you need to appear in court? Are you able to provide practical advice on court process for people who are unrepresented? Drawing on significant court and tribunal experience, this interactive workshop is led by our learned friends at the bar. You will receive tools and tips from the experts to develop your advocacy skills and get you on your feet.</p> <p><i>Limited to 30 people and in-person only. This session will not be recorded.</i></p>	<p>Brenda Tronson Barrister Level 22 Chambers Feminist Jazz Devotee Guerilla Crocheter</p> <p>Melanie Cairns Barrister Alinea Chambers Humanist Mum Experimental Cook</p> <p>Douglas McDonald-Norman Barrister 8 Selborne Chambers Bleeding Heart Trekkie BTS Army</p> <p>Ashley Cameron Barrister Greenway Chambers Food Enthusiast Long-time Netballer Amateur Yogi</p>
	<p>SHARING CLIENT STORIES TO INSPIRE CHANGE (ROOM 3) In this workshop we will discuss good practices for developing case studies and using storytelling techniques in ways that support advocacy work. We will discuss the ways clients' stories can be used to elevate issues and contribute to systemic change. Group work will help us co-create practical guidelines about sharing client stories. We will also introduce elements of a national campaign for the community legal sector and provide opportunities for you to share and elevate client stories in ethical and powerful ways. <i>This session is presented by Community Legal Centres Australia as a part of their Emergence: Our stories in the next decade.</i></p>	<p>Maria H. Graterol Strategic Partnerships Manager CLCs Australia Feminist Latinx Momster</p>

DAY ONE

3.15pm-3.30pm	Afternoon tea	
3.30pm-5.00pm	<p>ASKING FOR A FRIEND: THE GREAT WORKPLACE DEBATE (ROOM 1)</p> <p>In 1690 the first advice column was published to answer questions from readers about “relationships, morals and etiquette”. The public have had a 300 year love affair with the advice column. We present our second Asking for a Friend panel who will answer the question about what they think makes a great workplace. A bit of fun when covering serious issues, the panel will discuss leadership, how they manage difficult interpersonal relationships and the importance of cake.</p>	<p>Helen Campbell Executive Officer Women’s Legal Service NSW Cynical Optimist Feminist</p> <p>Deb Macmillan CEO Central Coast Community Legal Centre Feminist Horse-lover Activist</p> <p>Louise Coady CEO Western Sydney Community Legal Centre Active Tech Compromised Progressive</p> <p>Tim Leach Executive Director Community Legal Centres NSW Not Type A</p>
	<p>SHOW ME THE MONEY: PHILANTHROPY AND SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTING (ROOM 3)</p> <p>Diversification of funding streams has never been more important and community legal centres are well positioned to take advantage of emerging opportunities. The bushfires and the pandemic saw Australian philanthropic organisations increase their grants and provide more untied funding, more realistic funding of overheads and an increase in participatory grant-making. Join this discussion on finding the money.</p>	<p>Tanya Jackson Vaughan TJV Consulting Feminist Advocate Connector</p> <p>Judy Foster National Membership Director Philanthropy Australia</p> <p>Jessica Roth Founder and Director Social Impact Hub Educator Advisor Mobilising capital for impact Mum</p>
	<p>STITCH AND BITCH (ROOM 2)</p> <p>For a change of pace, bring your work and your afternoon tea and let’s create. For all knitters, crocheters and sewers or those would like to be this is multitasking at its finest. Whether you can stitch or not this is a gathering of minds to talk about progressive social and political change. Stitch and Bitch was the name of knitting groups that met regularly as far back as the 1940s. It continues the humble yet integral tradition of women gathering to create and socialize outside the watchful eye of the patriarchy.</p>	
5.00pm-7.00pm	<p>POLITICS IN THE PUB: SOCIAL DRINKS</p> <p>Join us for a drink and a chat (likely the conversation will turn to politics but no promises it will or guarantees it won’t).</p>	

DAY TWO

9.30am-11.00am

YOU'VE MADE A SUBMISSION, SO NOW WHAT? (ROOM 5)

Writing submissions to public inquiries is one of the key ways many community legal centres engage in law reform work. However, research conducted by CLCNSW in 2018 suggested that submissions have the greatest impact when they're just one part of a coordinated set of actions designed to raise awareness and reform appetite within government, parliament and the community. For many, working out the 'so now what' may seem a daunting task. In this panel session, three sector experts will share their knowledge and experiences in a range of activities that happen around submissions, from meeting with MPs behind the scenes, appearing at public hearings and responding to inquiry reports and governments' responses, to publicising their submissions and working with media to influence public debates.

Sean Bowes

Law Reform Solicitor | Kingsford Legal Centre
Reflective | Hopeful | Activist

Alastair Lawrie

Policy Manager | Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC)
Policy nerd | LGBTIQ advocate | Writer

Sarah Dale

Centre Director & Principal Solicitor | Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS)

Patrick O'Callaghan

Principal Solicitor | Western NSW Community Legal Centre

5.2 SOCIAL MEDIA FOR LUDDITES & DON'T LET YOUR IT OWN YOU: LESSONS IN DESIGN THINKING (ROOM 4)

If social media has passed you by and you are not sure what people are talking about, then this session is for you. A visual tour through social media, we will look at the most popular and emerging apps and how you might make use of them to increase your profile and fundraising opportunities.

Do you have IT systems that don't really work, and you end up just working around the problems? Design thinking centres you as the expert in your own work and allows you to design systems that work for you. The session will give you an overview of design thinking and how it has been used to help students with learning difficulties at UTS. Look at how you can apply this in your workplace to use your systems and processes to customise your IT. Finally, tips on how to explain what you want to your IT people. This session is for everyone that uses a computer.

Stella Maynard

Media & Communications Officer | Community Legal Centres NSW
Fumbling accomplice

Kim Neville

Manager | Human Centred Design Team | IT Division | UTS
Poona ly hung

REMAKING THE WORLD WE WANT: BRINGING HOPE AND VISION TO THE WORK THAT YOU DO (ROOM 6)

How can we harness hope, vision and the language of transformation to better lead from where we are? This session, facilitated by Australia reMADE, is about lifting up out of the daily grind, and consciously connecting the work that we do to the world that we want. It's for anyone who wanted to change the world, only to find themselves feeling overburdened and exhausted...and for anyone who's new to this work and is ready to take on the world. We can change systems, not just fight the symptoms of injustice. But first, it helps to get clear on what we want and how to talk about it. Get inspired, get connected, get tools, get ready to reMAKE.

Lily Spencer

Communications Lead | Australia reMADE
Advisor | Feminist | Friend

DAY TWO

11.00am-11.30am	Morning tea	
11.30am-1.00pm	<p>SAFE SPACES: TRANS-INCLUSIVE PRACTICES (ROOM 4)</p> <p>Creating spaces that are inclusive for trans and gender diverse folks may be easier than you think. It starts with understanding. This session will break down the acronym to situate trans and gender diverse people, explain what non-binary actually means and then provide you with practical ways to make your centre a safer place for trans folks to visit.</p>	<p>Imogen Brackin Office Manager Community Legal Centres NSW Trans-inclusivity Trainer Feminist Dog Lover Enabler</p>
	<p>SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP (ROOM 6)</p> <p>Social media is about capturing attention. Organisations need to know where this attention is, and then develop and deliver consistent, quality and varied content to our audience – and be NOTICED. Darren will share all the tips, tricks, insights and strategies that he has learnt over the years as an avid social media practitioner down in the trenches. Topics covered will include understanding our audience, how often to post, understanding analytics and expanding our reach on social media. Hosted by the Communications Network.</p>	<p>Darren Saul Social Media Strategist and Practitioner Suspended Animation High energy Keen observer of human behaviour Relentless student</p>
	<p>WHO CARES ABOUT OUTCOMES FRAMEWORKS-DO THEY MATTER? (ROOM 5)</p> <p>Do we need outcomes frameworks? Are you unclear about whether your organisation needs an outcomes framework or how to create one? Join the panel for a discussion about outcomes frameworks, what they are and whether they an opportunity to demonstrate relevance or just a passing fad. Are they something we need to develop as a “tick box” for funders or can they help us better respond to disadvantage and vulnerability, linking what we do and what we want to achieve?</p>	<p>Jo Schulman EO Redfern Legal Centre Runner Reader Juggling Expert</p> <p>Jonathon Hunyor CEO Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) Lawyer Tinkerer Trumpeter</p> <p>Barnaby Caddy Strategic Design Specialist Strategist Storyteller Cat fancier</p>
1.00pm-1.45pm	Lunch	

DAY TWO

1.45pm-3.15pm

DIVERSION: BREAKING CIRCUITS, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES (ROOM 5)

A growing movement of communities across NSW are developing impactful programs to interrupt cycles of discrimination and marginalisation, and disrupt pathways to prison or out-of-home care. In this panel, people with lived experience of the criminal justice system and workers who deliver early intervention programs will share practical tips and experiences of these 'circuit breaker' programs.

Keenan Mundine

Co-Founder and Ambassador | Deadly Connections Advocate | Disruptor | Biripi/Wakka Wakka Warrior | Daddy x 2

Jenny Loveric

Manager Community Engagement & Partnerships | Just Reinvest NSW
Bolshie | Energetic | Creative

Julie Williams

Community Engagement Lead in Mt Druitt | Just Reinvest NSW
Genuine | Grassroots | Creative

Dean McLaren

Aboriginal Engagement Worker | Intellectual Disability Rights Service
Determined | Passionate | Deadly

Kenn Clift

Care & Protection Solicitor | Intellectual Disability Rights Service
Old, tired & anxious

COURT EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE & SEEKING LEGAL HELP ONLINE (ROOM 6)

Jackie will present on her Churchill Fellowship research on best practice in court education and will discuss how to build and promote engagement, foster critical thinking and improve young people's understanding of the work of courts and the legal system.

On-line resources are important to the increasing cohort of people who can't afford a lawyer or access free public or community legal assistance. As people progressively adopt technology, there are increasing opportunities to find new models of providing cost-efficient and effective free legal assistance at scale. We will discuss the research we undertook in 2020 engaging users to inform better design and deployment of digital self-help resources across the legal services sector.

Jackie Charles

Churchill Fellow | Clerk to Chambers Level 22 Chambers Educator | Optimist | Adventurer

Roj Amedi

Communications and Engagement Manager | Justice Connect

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND THE LAW (ROOM 4)

Using a workshop model we will talk you through common pitfalls in providing sexual harassment advice and help you identify the best remedy for your clients. We will flag issues with the current legal framework and complaint system, and discuss these in the context of the government's 'Roadmap for Respect: Preventing and addressing sexual harassment in Australian workplaces'.

Sharmilla Bargon

Employment Solicitor | Redfern Legal Centre
Enthusiastic | Friendly | A bit grungy

Anita Will

Solicitor and Clinical Supervisor | Kingsford Legal Centre
Kind | Passionate | Beach-lover

Emma Golledge

Director | Kingsford Legal Centre
Optimistic | Pessimist | Multitasker

DAY TWO

3.15pm-3.30pm

Afternoon tea

3.30pm-5.00pm

CLOSING PLENARY: DECRIMINALISATION, NOW (ROOM 5)

In light of growing and irrefutable evidence that prisons and discriminatory policing cause more harm than good, demands for decriminalisation are accelerating across Australia. Drawing upon their legal and academic expertise, this panel will discuss the possibilities of decriminalising offensive language, drug possession, sex work, domestic violence, and laws that criminalise poverty. What social, cultural and health protections could decriminalisation offer? What would the impact of bold, progressive legislative change be in our communities? How do we get there, and how do we get it right?

Sarah Crellin

Solicitor | Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT
Pragmatic | Protective | Passionate

Alice Salomon

Fair Treatment
Changemaker | Educator | Plate Spinner

Jules Kim

CEO | Scarlett Alliance
Sex worker | Feminist | Activist

Leigh Goodmark

Marjorie Cook Professor of Law | Co-Director Clinical Law
Program | University of Maryland
Mom | Obsessive Reader | Abolition Feminist

Arlia Fleming

Feminist | Abolitionist | Ally
Director and Principal Solicitor | Central Tablelands and Blue
Mountains Community Legal Centre