

Free legal advice proves invaluable at a time you will need it most

FREE legal advice has proved invaluable for many people using the Taylor Street Community Legal Service.

The Taylor Street Community Legal Service is a not-for-profit, community based organisation providing free, confidential legal advice and community education across the Fraser Coast, Gympie, Bundaberg and North Burnett regions.

In a 15-minute consultation with a qualified solicitor, people have the opportunity to learn about their rights and responsibilities to help resolve their legal problem.

Consultations are provided by local solicitors who volunteer their time and expertise to assist the community. All sessions are strictly by appointment only. To make an appointment call: 4194 2663.

Whether a person is seeking help in relation to family separation, discrimination or simply clarification as to who is responsible for the cost of a new fence, the solicitors at the Taylor Street Community Legal Service can assist with most matters of law.

Areas of law commonly dealt with by the service include:

- Family law
- Tenancy
- Debt and bankruptcy
- Neighbourhood matters
- Employment law
- Anti-discrimination law; and

■ Criminal matters

The service is not able to assist with commercial law, personal injury claims and immigration law matters.

Some matters are complex and require ongoing legal assistance. In most cases however, people can be guided to the next phase in the process, or referred on to an appropriate service. Clients also have the option of making additional appointments as needed.

All legal sessions are free and confidential, however, due to resource limitations,

a maximum of 15 minutes is allowed for each consultation. Clients accessing the service are encouraged to best utilise their time by being prepared with any particular questions they have about their matter. Although free legal advice is available to everyone, the service aims to provide access to a solicitor for people who may not otherwise be able to afford legal advice.

While face-to-face advice sessions for Bundaberg residents are held at the Family Relationship Centre, residents of the outlying regions are also able to access the Taylor Street Community Legal Service. Free legal advice is accessible to all residents of the Bundaberg and North Burnett regions including Childers, Gin Gin, Biggenden, Gayndah, Eidsvold, Mundubbera and Monto. Making an appointment is as simple as ringing: 4194 2663.

DIVORCE:

The Taylor Street Community Legal Service also runs regular divorce workshops so people contemplating divorce can

complete their own application. A solicitor guides people through the

necessary paperwork to give them the confidence to proceed on their own behalf.

Topics covered in the divorce workshops include:

- Divorce – what does it mean?
- When can I apply for a divorce?
- How do I apply for a divorce?

■ Step-by-step guide to completing the Application for Divorce Kit

■ Divorce hearing date and documents

- Serving papers
- Attending the hearing
- Outcome of hearing
- Getting further help

The next divorce workshop will be held on July 20 at the Family Relationship Centre, 5 Bingera Street, Bundaberg.

Bookings are essential for these workshops: 4194 2663.

Divorce Workshops for the remainder of the year are scheduled for: August 24, September 21, October 19, November 23, December 14

OUR VOLUNTEERS:

The Taylor Street Community Legal Service acknowledges the generous

contribution of the local receptionists and solicitors who volunteer their time and skills to meet community need for free legal advice.

The Taylor Street Community Legal Service commends Bill McMillian, Barrister-at-Law and the following firms for supporting the commitment of their legal staff to serving

their community: Baker O'Brien & Toll, Finemore Walters & Story, Miller Street Law, MRH Lawyers, Payne Butler Lang, Shine Lawyers.