

broadcast clip

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Compere: Melissa Maddison Summary ID: X00069049732

Demographics: Male 16+ 2000 Female 16+ 1700

Interviewees: James Farrell, Director, Community Legal Centres Queensland

Qld's community legal centres say they've only been able to help about half of the people who contacted them for support as they provided assistance to more than 60,000 people last financial year but had to turn away nearly 55,000 due to resourcing constraints. Centres have also seen significantly more people about domestic violence issues, which rose by more than 600% in the past five years. James Farrell, director of CLC Queensland, says lawyers already donate 100,000 hours of their time and more funding is needed. He says federal funding cuts will take effect in July. A spokeswoman for the Attorney General's Office says the government has overall increased funding for legal aid, CLCs, and specialised domestic violence services since 2015.