

\$1m boost for Mackay legal centre

A RAY of hope exists for the Mackay Regional Community Legal Centre now that the Queensland Government announces almost \$1 million worth of funding over the next three years.

While a welcome relief, it will not plug the gap left by the Federal Government after it decided to slash money for community legal centres by 30% from July 1.

The funding is part of a joint \$53.1 million State and Federal Government package for 36 community legal centres in Queensland.

Mackay Regional Community Legal Centre principal solicitor and manager Jessica Brake said since Cyclone Debbie their organisation had been helping renters with damaged properties.

"This is just one example of many legal issues that residents can face following a natural disaster," Ms Brake said. "At this stage the demand for legal services is not at its peak, but past experience shows that the legal issues will surface in the coming weeks and months, as people get back on their feet."