

DATE: 8/08/2017

# TOOWOOMBA AND CHINCHILLA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELP

Women's Legal Service will host free legal education workshops and legal advice clinics to help local community agencies support women experiencing domestic violence.

The workshops, which are made possible through a grant by Arrow Energy, will be held in Toowoomba and Chinchilla. Topics will include: an overview of family and domestic violence and the law, making an application for a domestic violence protection order, family law and parenting, family law and property and how to access free legal services.

Women's Legal Service Principal Solicitor, Rachel Neil believes women in regional areas often face more challenges in seeking support and escaping violence.

"There's less privacy. Everyone knows everyone else's business", Ms Neil said.

"Even when regional areas have local free legal services, many women who contact our service from regional areas have been conflicted out of those local services. Unfortunately we know a higher proportion of overall homicide victims in rural and remote areas are women killed in domestic violence."

"Through the training, we're hoping to equip local community service providers with the tools to better help women to stay safe from violence and rebuild their lives", Ms Neil said.

Women's Legal Service also offers free individual legal assistance through a Rural, Regional and Remote Legal Advice Line (1800 457 117) which is open Tuesdays 9.30am – 1.30pm and a State-wide Legal Advice Helpline (1800 957 957) which is open Monday to Friday 9am – 3pm.

## Media Contact

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## EVENT DETAILS

#### TOOWOOMBA

Thursday 9 November 2017, 8.45am - 4.30pm Toowoomba City Library 155 Herries Street Toowoomba

RSVP: https://womens-legal-service.iwannaticket.com.au/event/free-domesticviolence-and-family-law-workshop-for-community-agencies-and-service-providerstoowoomba-MTMyMDk

## CHINCHILLA

Tuesday 7 November 2017, 8.45am - 4.30pm Chinchilla Family Support Centre Inc 67 - 71 Middle Street Chinchilla

RSVP: https://womens-legal-service.iwannaticket.com.au/event/free-domesticviolence-and-family-law-workshop-for-community-agencies-and-service-providerschinchilla-MTMyMDg