

press clip



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CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

Plans to improve support for seniors and disabled

ON Friday, March 9 around 100 delegates including lawyers, social workers, volunteers and representatives from government agencies gathered at the Community Legal Centres Queensland State Conference in Brisbane to explore ways to better support older Queenslanders and people with disability.

Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors, Coralee O'Rourke, addressed the audience.

"Community Legal Centres are front and centre of efforts to provide legal advocacy and information to people with disability and older people experiencing elder abuse," Mrs O'Rourke said.

"The government's vision is to build thriving communities across Queensland that have happy, healthy, fulfilled people no matter what their age or ability.

"We see thriving communities as having a strong social connec-

tion between all people, where the focus is embracing diversity and including, not marginalizing, our young people, older people, and people with disabilities."

There are 33 Community Legal Centres across Queensland, with five receiving government funding.

Mrs O'Rourke said, "We have provided \$2.7 million in ongoing funding to deliver legal and support services to seniors in five Community Legal Centres across the state, in Brisbane, Hervey Bay, Toowoomba, Townsville and Cairns," she said.

The establishment of the new seniors legal and support services responds to a recommendation in the recent Parliamentary Inquiry into the adequacy of financial protections for seniors.