



Community Legal Centres Queensland

2025

COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE PROGRAM



COMMUNITYLEGALQLD.ORG.AU

Day 1 – Wednesday, 4 June		
8:15am – 8:50am	Registration & Coffee	
	Opening plenary session – Room: Roma/Terrace/Wickham	
9:00am – 9:30am	<p>Welcome to Country – Derek Oram Sandy</p> <p>Conference Official Opening – Queensland Attorney-General The Hon Deb Frecklington MP</p>	
9:30am – 10:30am	<p>The National Anti-Racism Framework presented by Giridharan Sivaraman – Race Discrimination Commissioner</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1 point, Professional Skills)</i></p>	
10:30am – 11:00am	Morning Tea	
	Plenary – Room: Roma/Terrace	CLC Workshop – Room: Wickham
11:00am – 12:30pm	<p>Automating (in)justice: thinking beyond the hype of AI and automated decision making</p> <p>Presented by Lizzie O'Shea, - Chair of Digital Rights Watch</p> <p>Is AI our saviour or our demise? Will it lead to a high-tech utopia, or go full terminator?</p> <p>In this session we'll look beyond the hype to unpack the risks, consequences and human rights implications of AI and automated decision-making systems, including AI tools that claim to assist with providing access to justice.</p> <p>Join Lizzie as she dissects the promises and perils of AI and ADM, especially as they relate to social equality and justice.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 point, Practice Management & Business Skills)</i></p>	<p>Community Legal Centre Sector Planning Workshop*</p> <p>Community Legal Centres Queensland is working with members to develop a 10-year sector plan.</p> <p>The plan will provide a framework to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tell a compelling story about our aspiration for a shared vision for our community and organisations; • work collaboratively; and • inform policy advocacy with government. <p>*This session to restricted to CLC member organisations ONLY.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 point, Practice Management & Business Skills)</i></p>
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Lunch	
12:45pm – 1:15pm	Lunch & Learn – The Services Union (Wickham Room)	

	Stream 1: Running a community legal centre Room: Roma	Stream 2: Frontline workers Room: Terrace	Stream 3: Supporting people & communities Room: Wickham
1:30pm – 3:00pm	<p>Fostering positive and productive CLC workplaces: Exploring practical approaches</p> <p>Panel featuring Stephen Grace – Lawright, Rose Mackay – LawRight, Hayley Grainger – North Queensland Women’s Legal Service and facilitated by Joan Wilson-Jones.</p> <p>With significant headwinds in recruiting and retaining our CLC workforce, questions of why people would want to work in a CLC – and why they would want to stay – are more pressing than ever.</p> <p>Alongside legislative obligations, the evolution of what it means to be a modern not-for-profit and an employer of choice are creating strong forces for change in how we lead and support our people.</p> <p>Our panel of representatives will talk with Joan Wilson-Jones about their own experiences in grappling with key workforce issues, explore the drivers for change in each organisation, what’s been successful as well as challenging, and what lies ahead.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills)</i></p>	<p>Embedding Outcome Measurement in CLC Practice – getting started and levelling up</p> <p>Presented by Skye Forster, Data Transformation Specialist at Federation of Community Legal Centres Victoria</p> <p>Outcomes measurement can seem daunting and resource intensive, but it doesn’t have to be. This session will demonstrate a simple, scalable, flexible model that has been co-designed with multiple CLCs to embed neatly into everyday practices and systems to centre the client experience.</p> <p>Come along to find out what can be achieved with a small amount of consideration and effort.</p> <p>Session will include case studies, evidence and practical guidance supported by resources for you to take, adapt and use.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 points, Practice Management & Business Skills)</i></p>	<p>Embedding Disaster and Climate Justice in Community Legal Practice</p> <p>Presented by Bronwyn Lay, Disaster Legal Help Victoria</p> <p>Join us for a workshop dedicated to integrating disaster and climate justice into the community legal sector.</p> <p>This session will explore practical strategies for embedding these critical issues into organizational culture, service delivery, and advocacy efforts. Drawing from the Victorian experience, Bronwyn Lay of Disaster Legal Help Victoria will share valuable lessons and insights on disaster and climate justice responses.</p> <p>Additionally, we will hear from Queensland Community Legal Centres (CLCs) as they present their lived experiences and case studies from impacted regions. This workshop offers a unique opportunity to learn from real-world examples and engage in meaningful exchanges on how to enhance our collective response to disaster and climate justice.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills/Substantive Law)</i></p>
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea		

	Stream 1: Running a community legal centre Room: Roma	Stream 2: Frontline workers Room: Terrace	Stream 3: Supporting people & communities Room: Wickham
3:30pm-4:30pm	<p>Sector Update (CLCs ONLY)</p> <p>Presented by Rosslyn Monro, Community Legal Centres Queensland Director and Tim Leach, Community Legal Centres Australia CEO.</p> <p>The Sector Update will share information about the current issues impacting the CLC sector from the perspectives of Community Legal Centres Australia and Community Legal Centres Queensland.</p> <p>*Attendance at this session is restricted to staff from Queensland CLCs.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1 point, Practice Management & Business Skills)</i></p>	<p>Connecting with communities and Queenslanders – how the QPT support and connects with communities</p> <p>Presented by Samay Zhouand, the Public Trustee of Queensland and CEO.</p> <p>Samay will explore how QPT supports and connects with Queensland communities – from the organisation’s reform agenda, key services and ongoing service delivery improvements to how it is deepening engagement with communities. The session includes Q&A opportunities for the audience to engage with Samay.</p> <p>Hear from one of our key public sector leaders about a transformation journey that is shaping trust, transparency and service delivery for Queenslanders.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1 point, Professional Skills/Substantive Law)</i></p>	<p>Connect & Persuade: Mastering the Principles of Effective Data Storytelling and Visualisation</p> <p>Presented by Dr Tom Verhelst, Director, Griffith University’s Relational Insights Data Lab (RIDL)</p> <p>Professionals everywhere often grapple with presenting complex data in a way that resonates with clients, community, judges, and juries and the stakes for clear communication are high, but traditional methods of sharing data can fail to engage or persuade.</p> <p>This one-hour session is designed to transform how community legal professionals communicate data. This session will empower you to turn raw data into clarity and persuasion – because in law, the story you tell can change the verdict.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1 point, Practice Management & Business Skills)</i></p>
4:30pm-6:30pm	Networking Drinks sponsored by Actionstep and QLeave		

Day 2 – Thursday, 5 June	
8:15am – 8:50am	Registration & Coffee
Plenary Session – Room: Roma/Terrace	
9:00am – 9:15am	Acknowledgement of Country by Waveney Yasso Launch of Community Legal Centres Queensland's First Nations Framework
9:15 am – 10:30am	<p>Amplifying First Nations women for more just and sustainable future</p> <p>presented by Terri Reid, Wiyi Yani U Thangani Institute for First Nations Gender Justice</p> <p>This session explores the importance of amplifying First Nations women's voices and leadership across systems of justice, governance, and care. Drawing on the Wiyi Yani U Thangani (Women's Voices) project, led by June Oscar AO, the session will reflect on what gender justice means in practice for First Nations communities today.</p> <p>It will consider how legal and community-based sectors can better uphold peacebuilding and healing practices across communities' wellbeing, and contribute to meaningful, community-led change.</p> <p>Participants will be invited to reflect on their own roles in advancing First Nations gender justice, and how they can help reweave the social fabric to create more just and caring futures.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 points Professional Skills)</i></p>
10:30am – 11:00am	Morning Tea
11:00am – 12:30pm	<p>The Future of Human Rights in Queensland – panel discussion</p> <p>Featuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hugh de Kretser, President Australian Human Rights Commission • Scott McDougall, Queensland Human Rights Commissioner • Katherine Hayes, CEO Youth Advocacy Centre • and facilitated by Mandy Shircore Adjunct Associate Professor Southern Cross University. <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills)</i></p>
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Lunch
12:45pm – 1:15pm	Lunch & Learn – How to Pro Bono (Wickham Room)
12:45pm – 1:25pm	First Nations Employee Network Lunch & Yarn (Downstairs in Conference Room 6)

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1:30pm – 3:00pm	<p>Enhancing Financial Acumen</p> <p>presented by Dr John Sing, Director of Ramafin</p> <p>The workshop session consists of an introduction to financial information for decision making within a not-for-profit context with the specific learning objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the underpinning finance principles & assumptions • Build confidence in reading, analysing and interpreting financial information • Examine the relationships between the key financial statements • Explain how the information contained in the financial statements can be analysed and interpreted to enable informed decision making <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 points, Practice Management & Business Skills)</i></p>	<p>Changes to Coercive Control Legislation</p> <p>presented by Courtney Thorne, Leanne Collingburn and Margaret Arthur, HopgoodGanim Lawyers</p> <p>This session will consider the suite of legislative and policy reforms in response to coercive control across Australia, but with a focus on Queensland.</p> <p>We will consider the practical application of some of these reforms both in the context of intimate partner violence and broader intergenerational violence and abuse.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 points, Substantive Law)</i></p>	<p>Supporting Neurodiversity in the Workplace</p> <p>presented by Brendon Eglinton, Learning and Development Manager ASA</p> <p>This session will feature a broad overview of neurodiversity and explore how neurodivergence can present at work and why a neurodivergent work environment can benefit everyone.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills)</i></p>
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea		

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3:30pm – 4:30pm	<p>Climate Risk Governance Guide</p> <p>presented by Monica Taylor, QUT</p> <p>It is often easy to lose sight of the profound existential threat posed by climate change when it is viewed as a risk to be managed.</p> <p>Queensland is on the frontline of climate change impacts; it is the most disaster-prone state in Australia and will experience some of the harshest climatic projections in the coming decades.</p> <p>Does your CLC have the knowledge and strategies necessary to address the complex legal and risk management challenges that climate change presents? This session will unpack the Climate and Nature-related Risk Governance Guide for CLCs.</p> <p><i>(CPD: 1 point, Practice Management & Business Skills)</i></p>	<p>PII session: Assessing capacity for decision-making in practice: contemporary expectations in legal practice*</p> <p>presented by Dr Anne-Louise McCawley, Community Engagement and Education Lead Caxton Legal Centre</p> <p>Dr McCawley's presentation will be followed by an update on the new Risk Management Guide (RMG).</p> <p><i>*This session is only available to Queensland CLCs. The responsible or a nominated person from each CLC must attend this session.</i></p> <p><i>(CPD: 1 point, Practical Legal Ethics)</i></p>	<p>Welcome to the Sector</p> <p>Trivia and networking for CLC newcomers.</p> <p>Are you new to the Community Legal Centre sector?</p> <p>Come along and meet new people while testing your CLC trivia knowledge.</p> <p>Prizes to be won!</p>

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