



2026

**COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES
QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE
PROGRAM**

	Day 1: Wednesday 3 June
8:15am - 8:55am	Registration and Coffee
	Plenary - Rooms 1, 2 & 3 (upstairs)
9:00am - 9:30am	<p>Welcome to Country - Turrbal Dippil</p> <p>Official Conference Opening - Sarah Cruickshank, Director-General, Department of Justice</p>
9:30am - 10:30am	<p>When systems harm in the name of safety: A breach of duty to First Nations children</p> <p>presented by Natalie Lewis - Former Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Commissioner</p> <p>As youth crime and community safety dominate public debate, governments are expanding coercive powers and intensifying intervention in the lives of children. Yet outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children continue to worsen. This is not a policy gap. It is a systemic failure.</p> <p>The address challenges a central assumption. These systems are not simply failing to protect. They are operating as designed. They prioritise control over care and produce predictable outcomes. Children known to the state for protection become known to the state for punishment. The proposition is direct: if systems cannot demonstrate that children are safer and better off, they are failing in their most basic human rights duty.</p> <p>CPD: 1 point, Professional Skills</p>
10:30am - 11:00am	Morning Tea (served downstairs)



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**Thanks to HopgoodGanim Lawyers
for sponsoring the Coffee Cart!**

Day 1: Wednesday 3 June	
11:00am - 12:30pm	<p>Strengthening CLCs through Effective Staff Supervision</p> <p>presented by Dr Tracey Harris - CEO Amovita International</p> <p>Quality supervision discussions play a critical role in supporting staff to reflect on the professional aspects of their role, meet organisational requirements and deliver safe and ethical legal and community practice.</p> <p>Whether currently in a supervision role or reporting to a supervisor, this session will build understanding of the critical role of effective supervision in supporting high-performing teams, managing psychosocial risk, and strengthening workforce capability and wellbeing.</p> <p>Delegates will be introduced to the LAWE™ Model as a framework specifically designed for the community legal context to guide meaningful discussions in supervision and improve supervision practice.</p> <p>CPD: 1.5 points, Practice Management & Business Skills</p>
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch (served downstairs)
12:45pm - 1:20pm	Lunch & Learn with the The Services Union (Room 1)



This unique artwork was designed and created by Warren C. Waters, known as Charlie Waters, a proud Kamilaroi man, Aboriginal artist and cultural educator.

The artwork reflects the diversity of the community legal sector in Queensland and the connecting role that CLCQ plays in bringing together the knowledge and capability of all of the centres across the state.

Charlie's work blends contemporary artistic expression with a deep cultural wisdom passed down through generations, reflecting his connection to land, culture and community.

Day 1: Wednesday 3 June

	Day 1: Wednesday 3 June		
	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3
	Running a community legal centre	Supporting people & communities	Frontline Workers
1:30pm - 3:00pm	<p>Staff Survey Says ... *</p> <p>presented by Kate Scanlon - CLCQ</p> <p>(*This session is restricted to CLCs only)</p> <p>Unpacking the results of CLCQ's 2025 workforce survey and exploring the trends and changes from the 2023 survey and what that means for your centre.</p> <p>CPD: 1.5 points, Practice Management & Business Skills</p>	<p>What you didn't consider: seeing the blind spots that shape cultural safety</p> <p>Presented by Tammy Baart - Blak Ignited</p> <p>Most harm isn't loud or dramatic, it's cumulative. It's what happens when things go unchallenged, unmoderated or unnamed.</p> <p>This session will help you unpack your blind spots and plan beyond good intentions to create true cultural safety in your organisation.</p> <p>CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills</p>	<p>Elder Abuse Panel Discussion</p> <p>Panel featuring John Chesterman - Public Advocate, Rebecca Anderson - ADA Law, Shaun Chng - Clayton Utz & facilitated by Leanne Collingburn, HopgoodGanim Lawyers</p> <p>Community Legal Centres (CLCs) are often on the frontline of responding to elder abuse, even where it is not their primary area of funded work.</p> <p>This session will explore the complex realities of supporting clients experiencing elder abuse and consider emerging opportunities for reform.</p> <p>CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills/Substantive Law</p>
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Afternoon tea (served downstairs)		



Thanks to QLeave for sponsoring tonight's Networking Event!

Day 1: Wednesday 3 June			
	Room 1 Frontline Workers	Room 2 Running a community legal centre	Room 3 Supporting people & communities
3:30pm - 4:30pm	<p>Role of the Office of the Ombudsman in supporting access to justice and human rights</p> <p>Presented by Anthony Reilly - Queensland Ombudsman and Inspector of Detention Services</p> <p>Anthony Reilly will discuss the role of the Queensland Ombudsman, role of the Inspector of Detention Services and explore Public Interest Disclosures and how these functions support access to justice and human rights.</p> <p>CPD: 1 point, Professional Skills</p>	<p>Sector Update*</p> <p>featuring Tim Leach - CEO, Community Legal Centres Australia and Usha Sherwell - Executive Director, Department of Justice</p> <p>(*This session is restricted to CLCs only)</p> <p>CPD: 1 point, Practice Management & Business Skills</p>	<p>I wonder which way I ought to go?: Exploring how “Alice in Wonderland” clarifies how Adult Learning Principles can optimise your CLE</p> <p>Presented by Anne Louise McCawley - Caxton Community Legal Centre</p> <p>Many community legal centres provide education to other service providers or consumers but how much do we know about the theory and practice of educating adults so we can optimise their learning and implementation to their practice?</p> <p>This session will cover the theory of adult learning principles but also engage the audience in exploring how this may fit into their educational delivery.</p> <p>All through the lens of Alice in Wonderland as we go down the rabbit hole together!</p> <p>CPD: 1 point, Professional Skills</p>
		<p>Quiet Space (downstairs)</p> <p>Reflect, Connect & Create – reimagining responding to trauma</p> <p>facilitated by Anna Gilet, Basic Rights Queensland</p> <p>A creative art and social action workshop to reflect, reframe and reimagine trauma informed practice.</p> <p>This workshop creates a valuable space for participants to connect with others, reflect and create with a variety of art mediums.</p>	
4:30pm - 6:30pm	<p>Networking Drinks sponsored by QLeave in Downstairs Courtyard</p>		

Day 2: Thursday 4 June	
8:15am - 8:55am	Registration and Coffee
Plenary - Rooms 1, 2 & 3 (upstairs)	
9:00am - 10:30am	<p>Legal Recognition of Housing as a Human Right: The time has come</p> <p>presented by Hon Kevin Bell AO KC - Adjunct Professor, Castan Centre for Human Rights Law, Monash University</p> <p>This session will scope housing as a human right under international law and its connection with all other human rights.</p> <p>Kevin will critically analyse state and federal Australian human rights law for failing to incorporate this right and argue that doing so is fundamentally important in these times when housing is so unaffordable and homelessness is so high.</p> <p>CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills</p>
10:30am - 11:00am	Morning Tea (served downstairs)
11:00am - 12:30pm	<p>Legal communication with speakers of First Nations languages and Aboriginal English</p> <p>presented by Ben Grimes, CEO Northern Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency.</p> <p>This session unpacks the concept of ‘first language interference’; the way that a person’s first language influences the way they speak and understand an additional language.</p> <p>Particular focus will be on speakers of Australian Aboriginal languages and Aboriginal English. The session will provide practical advice on how to restructure and re-word legal information to improve accessibility and reduce the likelihood of creating miscommunication or offence.</p> <p>CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills</p>
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch (served downstairs)
12:45pm - 1:20pm	First Nations Employee Network Lunch (Room TBC)

Day 2: Thursday 4 June

Room 1

Running a community legal centre

Two Ways, One Table: Rethinking Governance for Real Impact

presented by **Jahna Cedar** - Jahna Cedar Consulting

What happens when governance frameworks don't reflect the people they're meant to serve?

In this interactive 90 minute session, Jahna Cedar invites participants to explore governance through a "two ways" lens, where corporate governance and lived experience, community voice and organisational responsibility, sit side by side rather than in tension.

For CLCs, this is not a theoretical conversation. It goes to the heart of legitimacy, trust and impact.

Through practical scenarios, real world reflections and facilitated discussion, participants will unpack what it means to hold governance that is both accountable and grounded, not just compliant, but connected.

CPD: 1.5 points, Practice Management & Business Skills

1:30pm - 3:00pm

Room 2

Frontline Workers

Justice Matters: Experiences and Impacts of Strategic Litigation

presented by **Sam Tracy** - Basic Rights Queensland and **Emma Hearne** - National Justice Project

When community legal centres engage in strategic litigation, they can drive change that extends far beyond individual cases.

This session will explore the value of strategic litigation and outline the key practical and operational considerations involved for CLCs in establishing or expanding this work.

CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills/Substantive Law

Room 3

Supporting people & communities

Part 1: Vicarious Trauma, Burnout and Self/Collective Care: Introductory Workshop

presented by **Liliana Sanchez** and **Yasmin Ali** - QPASTT

This training supports intake and frontline staff working in community legal centres to better understand and respond to vicarious trauma.

Participants will develop a shared understanding of the signs and symptoms of vicarious trauma and burnout and learn practical tools and skills to support both self-care and collective care in the workplace.

This session continues after the afternoon tea break.

CPD: 1.5 points, Professional Skills

Day 2: Thursday 4 June			
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Afternoon Tea (served downstairs)		
	Room 1 Running a community legal centre	Room 2 Frontline Workers	Room 3 Supporting people & communities
3:30pm - 4:30pm	<p>Towards Access and Inclusion: Disability Action Plan workshop</p> <p>Presented by Farzana Bruce & Mikaela Panting - Canberra Community Law.</p> <p>Join Canberra Community Law (CCL) for an interactive workshop on developing a Disability Action Plan (DAP) for your organisation.</p> <p>Using CCL's DAP journey as an example, the session will provide guidance on developing a strategy to promote a commitment to disability rights and inclusion within a community legal centre environment.</p> <p>Participants will have an opportunity to plan a framework for draft DAP which they can take back to their organisations for further development.</p> <p>CPD: 1 point, Professional Skills</p>	<p>PII*</p> <p>This session will be facilitated by the Queensland PII representatives and will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • file destruction processes • Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Laws • Q & A about the new Risk Management Guide. <p>A responsible or nominated person from each CLC must attend this session and sign the attendance sheet.</p> <p>(*This session is restricted to CLCs only)</p> <p>CPD: 1 point Ethics/Practice Management & Business Skills</p>	<p>Part 2: Vicarious Trauma, Burnout and Self/Collective Care: Introductory Workshop</p> <p>This is a continuation of the previous session.</p> <p>It is highly recommended that you attend both sessions.</p> <p>CPD: 1 point, Professional Skills</p>

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