

## **March Update**

This month we welcomed 6 new staff members to the MLC team: Alex Kim (Operations Officer), Meghan Kemp (Digital Transformation Specialist), Rowshan Aziz and Ishana Srivastava-Khan (Junior Tenancy Advocates), Simar Matar and Jad Al-Masri (Paralegals) and Odessa Mykytowyckz (Client Intake Supervisor). There was also a lot for us to celebrate, including our volunteers at your Vollie Appreciation Party, launch of our new pro bono partnership with Migration Affairs, International Women's Day and Seniors Week, as well as commemorating the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21 March. Our 2nd Table Tennis Tournament Fundraiser is also happening soon! Registrations are now open for tickets to our annual event.

### You're invited: 2nd Annual Table Tennis Tournament Fundraiser

Our annual table tennis tournament fundraiser is back for its second year! Join us for a fun night of food, drinks, raffles and fierce competition to raise much needed funds for our centre. If you would like to join us as a spectator, you can purchase tickets **HERE**.

General Admission tickets to the event includes food, 1 drink and 1 raffle ticket. If you would like to register a team to compete in the tournament, please contact our Fundraising and Communications Officer, Mickey Arai, at marai@mlc.org.au.



**Pictured:** Former MLC staff and representatives from our pro bono firms at our Inaugural Table Tennis Tournament Fundraiser in 2023.

# MLC launches new pro bono partnership with Migration Affairs



This month we launched our pro bono partnership with migration company, Migration Affairs. This new partnership will help extend our legal support and assistance to newly arrived

migrants and temporary visa holders. Temporary visa holders are more vulnerable to exploitation and discrimination as they generally have limited knowledge and understanding of Australian laws and where to go for help. Starting in April, Migration Affairs will be supporting our Immigration Advice Clinic on a fortnightly basis to advise clients with immigration law matters.

If you are interested in supporting MLC as a pro bono partner, please contact our Communications and Strategic Partnership Manager, Tu Le, at tle@mlc.org.au.

**Pictured:** Attendees of the Partnership Launch Lunch held at our Addi Road Office in March, including staff, volunteers, community partners and supporters of MLC.

## MLC in the community





#### **Celebrating Seniors Week in Burwood**

In celebration of Seniors Week, MLC participated as an exhibitor in the Burwood Senior Services Expo organised by Burwood Council. Over 100 seniors attended the event to learn more about their local community services and enjoyed a comedy show and lunch at the Burwood RSL, proudly funded by the NSW Government.

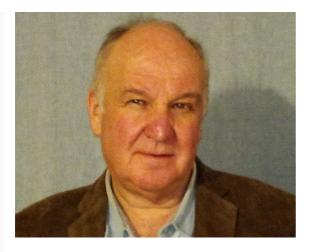
Pictured: Comms and Strategic Partnerships Manager,
Tu Le, and Mayor of Burwood Council, John Faker.

#### MLC at Addi Road Food Pantry

The Addi Road Food Pantry is a low-cost grocery store that rescues food from supermarkets and sells it at a discounted price. You can find our team there on Mondays from 11am-1pm and Wednesdays from 5-7pm for Wednesday Nights Lights - where free meals, medical check-ups courtesy of <a href="Street Side Medics">Street Side Medics</a> and other services are provided to the local community.

**Pictured:** Sparke Helmore secondee, Dylan Perumal, and CEO, Vasili Maroulis, in front of the Addi Road Food Pantry.

### **Champion of MLC: Robert**



#### Cockburn

This month's champion of MLC is Robert Cockburn. A writer, journalist and program maker working for 50 years across UK, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Australia. He's worked for the BBC, Observer, London Times, and he's contributed to News Ltd and Fairfax papers, Radio Redfern and the National Indigenous Times, SBS and ABC.

On why he supports MLC, Robert says: "I got to know Marrickville making The School of Babel about a teaching miracle at Tempe High School for SBS with local teachers, students and their families. I was drawn to MLC by its renowned legal work for rental tenants. A secure home is the most vital foundation of our lives. Being homeless is the most frightening, debilitating and isolating experience for a person and family. Its insidious effects reach into every part of life, bringing unfair social stigma, physical, emotional, financial, educational and employment damage."

Pictured: Robert Cockburn

## **Volunteer Appreciation Party**



MLC would not be able to operate as efficiently and effectively as we do without the support of all our wonderful volunteers. From client intake officers, legal assistants, PLT students,

solicitors, and admin volunteers, MLC is fortunate to have over 200 volunteers from all walks of life who believe in our mission of #Justiceforusall. To celebrate our volunteers and their valuable contributions to the centre, we held our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Party to recognise the time and effort they put into helping us achieve our mission. If you are interested in volunteering with MLC, sign up on our website HERE.







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