

# Marrickville Legal Centre From the inner west, serving NSW

# **June Newsletter**

A big thank you to all of our pro bono and community partners, supporters and volunteers for making our 2nd Annual Table Tennis Tournament a huge success this month. Thanks to your invaluable involvement, we were able to raise funds for the centre, bring our community together and host another fun and competitive tournament!

As we approach the end of the financial year, we ask for your much-needed support so that we can continue to make a profound difference in our community and improve access to #JusticeForUsAll.

# Youth Justice Ambassador Program Showcase Event

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Since October 2023, 8 participants have been learning about various areas of law from our solicitors and guest speakers and are being supported to develop targeted community legal education for young people through our Youth Justice Ambassador Program. To celebrate the end of the training program, MLC are hosting an exciting showcase and graduation event where the Youth Justice Ambassadors will be sharing and delivering what they've learnt through a 'Young People and Your Rights' workshop. We are delighted to announce that the Mayor of Inner West Council, Darcy Byrne and the NSW Youth Justice Minister, Jihad Dib, will be attending the event.

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Friends and supporters of MLC are invited to attend to see firsthand the work we do in the community to improve access to justice through community participation and inclusion.

Date: Friday, 14 June 2024 Time: 10am-12pm Venue: Gumbramorra Hall, 142 Addison Road Marrickville 2204

YOUTH

**Click here to register** 

Our 2nd Annual Table Tennis Tournament Fundraiser



Pictured: Players and attendees at MLC's 2nd Table Tennis Tournament Fundraiser.

On 2 May, MLC hosted our 2nd Annual Table Tennis Tournament Fundraiser, rallying our community together in support of our legal centre. The night was a blast with fierce competition, great food and a few friendly rivalries.

A huge shoutout of gratitude to everyone who joined us on the court and at the sidelines, contributing your time, energy, and passion. Your support and enthusiasm made this event truly special and impactful. Together, we've not only witnessed some great table tennis but also raised crucial funds to support our legal centre's mission.

### With many special thanks to our community and pro bono partners from:

Addi Road Community Organisation, Santone Lawyers, Johnson Winter Slattery, Colin Biggers & Paisley, Baker McKenzie, Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, Sparke Helmore Lawyers, Allens, Ethnic Community Services Co-operative (ECSC), Gilbert + Tobin, Laxon Lex Lawyers, HWL Ebsworth Lawyers, Wotton + Kearney and Barhead Solutions, the winners of the tournament!

Barhead Solutions are helping us to build *Consensus for Purpose*, a legal practice management platform that will streamline the client journey and reduce the administrative burden, freeing up CLCs to focus on legal advice and speeding up the process for those needing help.

Thank you to Tony Aduckiewicz, Jennifer Aduckiewicz, Edward Caruana and Michael Green from The NSW Veterans Table Tennis Association who kindly volunteered their time to umpire all the matches and to Marrickville PCYC for lending us their professional table tennis tables.

We also had a very special guest drop in to witness the fierce competition, the incoming Governor General of Australia, Sam Mostyn. Here's to serving up more fun and laughter for next year's tournament!



Pictured: Tu Le (Comms and Strategic Partnerships Manager), Sam Mostyn, LJ Loch and Ian Neil (Board Directors of MLC)



# Volunteer Solicitor Spotlight: Oliver Lacey

This month we spotlight Oliver Lacey, a Senior Associate at Doolan Wagner Family Lawyers, a specialist family law firm in North Sydney, and a volunteer solicitor at MLC. Oliver on his experience volunteering with MLC:

"Disadvantaged clients typically have difficult legal problems and limited resources. Volunteering at MLC is professionally challenging as you need to identify simple, practical solutions to complex legal problems. It's personally rewarding assisting people through one of the most difficult times of their lives to move on financially and improve their relationships...

Pictured: Oliver Lacey, Senior Associate at Doolan Wagner Family Lawyers and MLC Volunteer Solicitor

...I'd strongly recommend volunteering, especially for young lawyers who are looking to improve their skills and learn from other lawyers. The nights can be a lot of fun and the team at MLC is great to work with. If you're interested, you should definitely sign up!"



# How you can help our centre this end of financial year

This end of financial year, we're asking for your support so that MLC can continue providing essential legal services to those facing homelessness, domestic violence, exploitation, and debt. It will also support community legal education, outreach, and the expansion of innovative services.

Every dollar donated to MLC goes further, ensuring that more individuals receive the legal support they desperately need. Your tax-deductible donation will not only make a difference in the lives of those we serve but also help drive our innovation solutions to bridge the justice gap in Australia.

Please consider making a donation to Marrickville Legal Centre today.

If you're unable to give right now, you can support us by <u>sharing the word of our work</u> to those in your network.

