



National Association of Community Legal Centres Inc. ABRN 163 101 737 ABN 67 757 001 303
(Incorporated in the ACT with limited liability of its members)
Tel: 61 2 9264 9595
Fax: 61 2 9264 9594
Email: naclc@clc.net.au
Twitter [@NACLCComms](https://twitter.com/NACLCComms)
Web: www.naclc.org.au
Mail: PO Box A2245 Sydney South NSW 1235 Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 15 May 2013

NACLC welcomes \$10.3 million additional funding for Community Legal Centres

The National Association of Community Legal Centres Inc (NACLC) welcomes the \$10.3 million in additional funding over four years that has been allocated to Community Legal Centres (CLCs) in the Federal budget.

“NACLC is very pleased to see this additional support for CLCs and we acknowledge that this is roughly a 7% increase in Commonwealth funding.

“NACLC welcomes the government’s clear acknowledgement of the increasing demand for quality legal help for people in need” said Michael Smith, NACLC National Convenor. Whether for family law and family violence matters, tenancy, debt, employment or a range of other issues, CLCs are providing vital legal assistance in local communities across Australia.

Funding for legal and other support around the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse was also supported.

“The Royal Commission is a unique opportunity to ensure victims’ voices are heard and identify systemic long-term changes. NACLC’s Legal Advisory Service is being established quickly and will have a vital role in assisting people engaged with the Royal Commission,” Mr Smith said.

“NACLC is also pleased to see additional funding allocations to Legal Aid and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services. Each of the legal assistance service providers has a vital role to play in ensuring all Australians have access to justice.

“Of course, there is still some way to go to ensure that every Australian has access to justice. NACLC has called for a true partnership approach between the States, Territories and the Commonwealth.

“However, these are very positive steps that will make a big difference to people in local communities needing legal help.” concluded Mr Smith.

-----Ends-----

To arrange an interview contact Communication Manager
Te Raehira Wihapi 0404 624 049