

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP
Attorney-General
Minister for Racing



Monday, 27 June, 2016

FAMILY VIOLENCE FUND ASSISTS VULNERABLE VICTORIANS

The Andrews Labor Government today launched a new grants program to support Victorians affected by family violence.

Attorney General Martin Pakula announced the *Community Legal Centre Family Violence Fund* during a visit to the Springvale Monash Legal Service.

The fund will offer \$1.3 million in grants to community legal centres and Aboriginal legal services to provide family violence-related services to vulnerable and disadvantaged Victorians.

Individual agencies will be eligible for grants of up to \$50,000 to continue or expand family violence services during the next financial year.

People affected by family violence often have complex needs. The fund will also support legal centres that provide allied legal assistance services for needs and issues arising out of family violence, such as tenancy and debt matters.

A further \$1.2 million will be distributed to for the 23 centres who received grants last year through the *Family Violence Duty Lawyer Fund*.

This funding will enable centres to continue delivering legal advice and vital duty lawyer services in Magistrates' Courts across Victoria.

Further information about the grants program is available at the Department of Justice and Regulation's Community Legal Centre Grants website at CLCgrants.smartygrants.com.au

Applications for funding will close at midnight on 29 July 2016.

Quotes attributable to Attorney General Martin Pakula

"Family violence is a scourge on our community – the Andrews Labor Government is doing everything it can to protect victims and hold perpetrators to account."

"Victoria receives the lowest per capita share of Commonwealth funding for legal aid and community legal centres, which puts us at considerable disadvantage."

"This new grants program assures Victorians that we will continue to support this at-risk group and we will also continue to advocate for more Commonwealth funding."