

# FACT SHEET

## About Bayside Community

### Legal Service



***Our mission is to maximise access to professional legal advice and assistance on behalf of persons who would otherwise be unable to access such advice or assistance.***

Our vision is to help build a safe, just, and inclusive society that values diversity. We aim to do this by recognising and responding to the legal needs of socially or economically disadvantaged people.

Our core activities include providing legal advice, information and referrals, facilitating mediations, and engaging in community legal education.

We are assisted by volunteer lawyers, mediators, and students. If these volunteers did not assist us, we would not be able to provide the services we offer.

#### **FREE General Legal Advice**

We provide FREE 30-minute legal consultations. We can assist with the following issues in family, civil and criminal law.

#### **Family Law**

- Domestic violence orders
- Separation/divorce
- Parenting

#### **Civil Matters**

- Debt/consumer complaints
- Property damage from a motor vehicle accident
- Tenancy
- Peace and good behaviour orders
- Consumer complaints

#### **Criminal Law**

- Criminal charges (excluding driving offences)
- Breach of domestic violence orders

#### **FREE Mediation Service**

Our mediation service helps people solve disputes confidentially, quickly and with as little formality and technicality as possible. Parties may attend mediation by choice or by court order.

BCLS provides co-mediation – two mediators instead of one. During mediation, no lawyers are present. The mediator has no determinative role but will assist each party to identify issues in dispute, develop options and consider alternatives to reach a mutually acceptable outcome.

Our mediation service can assist clients with:

- Family issues;
- Debt issues;
- Consumer issues; and
- Neighbour disputes.

#### **How to book an appointment**

To make an appointment simply call or email us (details below). The person initially contacting you will not be a lawyer, but they will be able to arrange an appointment for you to speak with one. Our office hours are Monday to Thursday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

[www.bcls.org.au](http://www.bcls.org.au)

[info@bcls.org.au](mailto:info@bcls.org.au)

07 3162 3282

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PO Box 103, Wynnum QLD 4178

*Bayside Community Legal Service acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands across Queensland, and in particular the Quandamooka peoples, the traditional owners of this land where our Bayside community is situated. We pay our respect to elders past, present and emerging.*