

About Us

Barwon Community Legal Service is an independent community legal centre offering free legal advice, education and support to people who live in the Geelong, Bellarine Peninsula, Surfcoast and Colac Otway regions.

Our Purpose

To contribute to the provision of legal services in order to promote, protect and enhance the rights and interests of individuals and groups within our region who are disadvantaged in their access to justice.

To contribute to the provision of legal education and community development activities to educate and empower individuals and groups within our region who are disadvantaged in their access to knowledge.

To contribute to the reform of laws and structural inequities to achieve humane fair and equitable outcomes for individuals and groups within our region and the wider community.

Strategic Priorities & Goals

Continue work to ensure financial stability

- Diversified funding sources achieved through better focus on business development activities
- Improved security of funding sources

Move the culture toward one of accountability

- Individual accountability
- Organisational accountability

Improve staff planning and development

- Clear responsibility for knowledge currency and co-ordination of education and networking activities for identified areas of law practiced
- Robust staffing structures which provide organisational resilience

Find and work with the most 'at need' clients

- Develop a comprehensive and contemporary understanding of legal need within the local communities
- Match service offering to identified need
- Reach the most 'at need' clients

Deliver holistic services across client services, education and law reform which are strategic, well-targeted and showcase exemplar CLC practice

- Ensure all service offerings meet a strategic purpose
- BCLS services provide a showcase for exemplar CLC practice