

Our contact details

Phone: (02) 6218 7900

FreeCall: 1800 787 529 or 1800 445 665

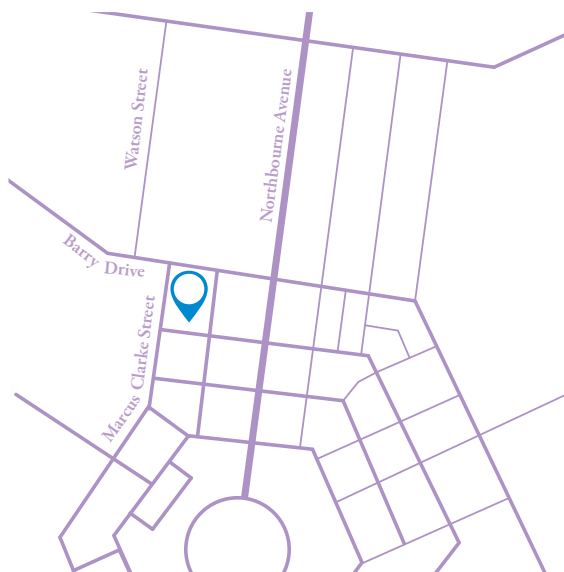
Fax: (02) 6247 2816

Email: info@canberracommunitylaw.org.au

Website: www.canberracommunitylaw.org.au

Postal Address: PO Box 547, Canberra ACT 2601

Street Address: Level 5 / 10 Rudd St, Canberra City



This Centre is accredited by



Community Legal Centres
Australia

Donations welcome.

What other services does Canberra Community Law provide?

Disability Discrimination Law

Legal advice and assistance in disability discrimination matters — (02) 6218 7900.

Street Law

Outreach legal service for people who are experiencing homelessness — 1800 STRLAW (1800 787 529) or (02) 6218 7900.

Mental Health Justice Clinic

Legal help for people with lived experience of mental ill-health on 6218 7900.

Night Time Legal Advice Service

Legal advice and referrals — please call (02) 6218 7900 on Tuesday night between 6pm to 7pm.

Feedback welcome!

Canberra Community Law welcomes your feedback. You can telephone the Executive Director/Principal Solicitor on (02) 6218 7900 or by email at feedback@canberracommunitylaw.org.au

Alternatively you can write to the Chairperson care of our postal address marking your letter “Confidential”.

CANBERRA COMMUNITY LAW

Domestic Violence —
Housing and Social Security
Legal Help



Call Parachute on (02) 6218 7900

Who are we?

Domestic violence can have a big impact on your housing situation and can cause problems with Centrelink and Public Housing.

Canberra Community Law is a specialist legal service that can provide free advice and assistance with Public Housing and Centrelink. We also have a dedicated service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients.

Parachute is a service of Canberra Community Law.

Public Housing

Experiencing domestic violence can have a big impact on your housing situation. Getting into public housing can be difficult.

If you are already a public housing tenant, you may need to move properties or you may have a debt if your partner has damaged the property.

Some examples of common housing issues for people experiencing domestic violence include:

- Problems getting into public housing
- Problems getting a transfer
- Housing repair debts

Social Security (Centrelink)

Domestic violence can cause problems with Centrelink. These problems can occur for many reasons, including:

- the way that Centrelink calculates your income and assets

- whether Centrelink think you are a member of a couple
- any rules that affect whether you can apply for a payment

Some examples of common Centrelink and social security issues for people escaping domestic violence include:

- Claims refused because of a partner's income
- Debt recovery because Centrelink thinks you have been overpaid
- Problems with Parenting Payment and Family Tax Benefit
- Not being able to claim Centrelink because of a compensation preclusion period

How can we help?

Parachute can provide women experiencing family violence with free legal advice on housing and Centrelink matters.

In some cases, we may also be able to:

- Talk to Housing ACT or Centrelink on your behalf
- Help you to seek reassessment to the Priority Housing List
- Help you to appeal decisions
- Represent you in the Tribunal

Getting in touch with us:

Phone: (02) 6218 7900

Dhurrawang Aboriginal Human Rights Program



Artwork Acknowledgement

We acknowledge Wiradjuri artist Leanne Pope for the use of her artwork 'Fresh Life After Rain' 2017 for our identifier, marketing and promotional materials.

The original artwork is located at the offices of Canberra Community Law, Canberra ACT.

Legal advice and assistance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ACT on housing, Centrelink and race discrimination issues on (02) 6218 7900.

Canberra Community Law acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we work in the ACT and surrounding region and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We pay our respects to First Nations elders past, present and future for they hold the stories, traditions and the cultures of their people.

We are grateful that we share this land and express our sorrow for the costs of this sharing to Australia's First Peoples. We will continue to acknowledge the legacy of our history and strive in our goals to empower our community through social justice. We hope that our efforts will contribute to a realisation of equity, justice and partnership with the Traditional Custodians of this land.

