

Position Description**Senior Social Worker – Financial Abuse Service NSW**

Sydney based**Permanent, full time with part time considered****Supervision: Managing Solicitor****1. Redfern Legal Centre**

Redfern Legal Centre is a non-profit community legal centre that promotes social justice and creates change. We provide free legal advice, legal services and education to people experiencing disadvantage in New South Wales. We drive innovation and change through policy and law reform work to address inequalities in the legal system, policies and social practices that cause disadvantage.

We provide effective and integrated free legal services that are client focussed, collaborative, non-discriminatory and responsive to changing community needs - to our local community as well as state-wide. Our specialist legal services focus on tenancy, credit, debt and consumer law, financial abuse, employment law, international students, First Nations justice, police accountability, and provide outreach services including through our health justice partnership.

2. Position Overview

Work with management to establish social work services within Redfern Legal Centre's Financial Abuse Service NSW, and provide case management support responding to the complex social and legal needs of victim survivors experiencing family and domestic abuse from an intimate partner.

This position will supervise and mentor one other social worker and work collaboratively with lawyers and financial counsellors in an integrated model to assist people across New South Wales through different channels - telephone, teleconferencing, email and in person. Our specialist, cross-jurisdictional, and integrated approach provides holistic legal and non-legal support to clients, increasing their safety and wellbeing and leading to financial independence and empowerment.

This role has ongoing opportunities to contribute to the development of systemic advocacy, policy and law reform to both address the causes of financial and economic abuse and improve outcomes for victim survivors.

3. Position Responsibilities

- Work with management to establish and maintain social work services, including processes and systems to ensure the service is an effective integrated legal, financial counselling and social work practice.
- Supervise other social worker/s at the centre, and attend regular external supervision.
- Provide trauma informed case management to clients with complex needs according to the centre's eligibility criteria including but not limited to:
 - Assessment, referral, safety planning, and case management.
 - Assistance to obtain documents and personal information about their financial position and liabilities.
 - Having knowledge of and making referrals to a wide range of support services statewide such as housing, family violence, and mental health.
 - Advocating with services.
 - Making housing applications and applications to Victims Services.
 - Building capacity and agency for long term empowerment and financial independence.
 - Outreach support at court and other locations as appropriate.
- Work collaboratively with lawyers, financial counsellors and other social workers to provide holistic services that achieve the best possible outcomes for the client.
- Identify systemic legal and policy issues and participate in the Centre's broader policy and law reform initiatives including active participation in regular meetings and contributing to policy positions, submissions, publications and other related activities.
- Comply with the Community Legal Centres' Risk Management Guide as applicable, including but not limited to confidentiality, conflict checking, maintaining client files at a high professional standard and entering all client records into the designated database.
- Contribute to creating and maintaining a culturally safe service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and other groups experiencing systemic marginalisation.
- Contribute to Redfern Legal Centre through attendance at staff meetings, contribution to board and funding reports, assistance with intake including intake supervision shifts, supervision of volunteers and contribution to the effective implementation of our Reconciliation Action Plan.

4. Knowledge, skills and experience

Essential

1. Professional qualifications in Social Work, Psychology or directly relevant other qualification.
2. Professional registration or eligibility for registration (e.g. social worker membership to Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) or equivalent).
3. Minimum 5 years' experience providing case management in a relevant sector/workplace.
4. Experience supervising and/or mentoring other social workers or equivalent.
5. Experience working with victim survivors of family and domestic abuse including provision of risk and needs assessment, safety planning, crisis support, case management, advocacy and referrals.

6. Excellent written and oral communication skills, with the demonstrated ability to engage and communicate with people experiencing vulnerability, support services, government, and industry bodies.

Desirable

7. Experience working with clients who have legal matters involving family law, debt or in courts and tribunals.
8. Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively in a multi-disciplinary team.
9. Experience working with First Nations communities and/or culturally and linguistically diverse clients, and a commitment to culturally safe practice.
10. Ability to identify systemic barriers, and interest in working towards systemic change in legislation and policy.

5. Conditions

Salary and benefits: \$109,625.40 - \$130,112.74 p.a. (pro rata for part time) depending on qualifications and experience.

Superannuation and annual leave loading are paid in addition to this and salary packaging is available.

In addition to being a flexible workplace, Redfern Legal Centre offers a 35-hour working week, and a paid end of year closure of two weeks (including public holidays) on top of four weeks annual leave. As a Public Benevolent Institution, Redfern Legal Centre is able to offer staff generous salary packaging options.

6. Applications

Applications close: 9am Monday 29 January 2024.

Interviews will be conducted on Tuesday 6 February 2024.

Redfern Legal Centre is a diverse and inclusive workplace. We strongly encourage applications from First Nations applicants, people from diverse cultural backgrounds and people with disability.

Your application should be no more than six pages long and should include a cover letter, your resume and must include responses to the selection criteria included in the job description. Please send your application to recruitment@rlc.org.au.

Non-lawyers employed by Redfern Legal Centre are required to comply with s 121 of the Legal Profession Uniform Law.

Staff at Redfern Legal Centre must be fully vaccinated for Covid-19.

Inquiries should be directed to Catherine Hewitt, Chief Operations Officer on catherine@rlc.org.au.