Media Release: Family Violence Support Funds for Melton July 14 2020

Melton residents will have better access to family violence support services thanks to \$321,500 funding allocated to Comm Unity Plus Services who operate Brimbank Melton Community Legal Centre (BMCLC).

The funding will mean more accessible support services for Melton families experiencing family violence and a specific focus on related Family Law matters.

Local Member for Melton, Steve McGhie congratulated Comm Unity Plus Services, BMCLC – as one of 28 centres across Victoria to receive a Community Legal Centre (CLC) Family Violence Fund grant.

The statewide grants will support community legal centres across Victoria with a range of family violence-related services including:

- Responding to increased service demand arising out of the Covid 19 lockdown
- Assisting women with disabilities who are also experiencing family violence
- Development of early intervention and community education programs

Other successful Centres include WestJustice and Barwon Community Legal Service.

"Community legal centres play a key role to help victims in court, and resolve family violence-related debts."

Quotes attributable to Member for Melton, Steve McGhie

"This funding will help the Brimbank Melton Legal Service to support some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our community."

"I congratulate Community Plus and thank the staff for the important work they do to support Melton residents who experience family violence."

Quotes attributable to Comm Unity Plus CEO, Dr George Giuliani

I acknowledge and thank the Victorian Attorney General's Office and <u>Victoria Legal</u> <u>Aid</u> in supporting BMCLC to expand assistance to high growth areas such as Melton and Brimbank.

As we respond to the impact of Covid 19 we are aware that Community Legal Services and Family Violence support will be stretched to the limit - our vision is to build on this significant grant to better respond to the Melton community.

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Other links:

www.comm-unityplus.org.au

https://www.comm-unityplus.org.au/news-events/news-media/26-general-news/363-bmclc-funding

https://www.fclc.org.au/fundingboost

