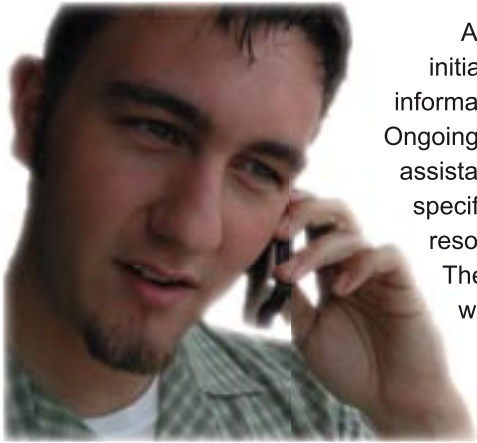


Is South West Community Legal Centre the same as Legal Aid?

NO. Victoria Legal Aid is a government department and has strict eligibility criteria for assistance. South West Community Legal Centre, although funded by the government, is not a government department and no means test applies.

Who can access South West Community Legal Centre?



Anyone can seek initial advice and information. Ongoing casework assistance is limited to specific matters and resource availability. There may be a waiting period.

For further information
or an appointment contact
South West Community Legal Centre

1300 361 680*

*(Cost of a local call)

South West Community Legal Centre is funded by the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department and the Victorian Department of Justice

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What is Community Connections ?

Community Connections (Vic) Ltd is an independent, not-for-profit, non-government organisation that provides a range of human and social justice services to families, children and individuals who are residents of the southwestern region of Victoria. We aim to provide human and community services in a way that reflects the needs and aspirations of the communities serviced, with due respect to the worth of the individual, the right to quality of life and personal dignity.

Regional Offices

- **Warrnambool**
135 Kepler Street Warrnambool
- **Hamilton**
92-94 Thompson Street Hamilton
- **Portland District Health Centre**
33 Otway Street Portland
- **Colac Area Health**
Connor Steet Colac

PO Box 404 Warrnambool
VIC Australia 3280

Facsimile 03 5560 3700

Email ccvl@comconnect.com.au

Website [http:// www.comconnect.com.au](http://www.comconnect.com.au)

ABN 23 083 100 118



1300 361 680

South West Community Legal Centre



1300 361 680

South West Community Legal Centre

- Provides free and confidential advice and information on a range of legal issues and services
- Provides equitable access to justice
- Works in partnership with client groups to resolve legal problems
- Educates the community about the law and justice issues
- Works with smaller communities in the South West region of Victoria
- Works collaboratively with community and government agencies to achieve social justice aims

What is South West Community Legal Centre and what does it do?

South West Community Legal Centre is staffed by solicitors, a manager, volunteer solicitors and trained volunteer para-legal staff.

The service provides free legal advice, information and referrals to communities of the south west region of Victoria. The Centre's main client work involves family law issues, including family violence and separation, the service regularly deals with cases that involve debt, minor crime, wills and other civil law matters.

There are certain matters the Centre does not deal with, but options for alternative assistance can be provided.



Volunteer Solicitors and Paralegals

South West Community Legal Centre offers a service on Tuesday evenings with volunteer solicitors from local law firms. The appointments are generally an advice and referral session only.

An additional service is available on Thursday mornings. Clients consult with a trained volunteer paralegal. The client always receives a solicitor's advice through the paralegal worker.

For more information on paralegal work and details regarding training courses, contact the Centre manager.



Community Legal Information

South West Community Legal Centre undertakes community education projects on a regular basis. For example:

- Annual Social Justice Forum
- Wills and Power of Attorney information sessions
- Legal Youth Forum
- Duty of care information seminars

We are committed to providing an accessible service across the South West and can deliver workshops in your area. Contact the Centre manager on 1300 361 680 to discuss your group's requirements.



To book an appointment

Call 1300 361 680 or visit our main office at 135 Kepler Street Warrnambool.

Client appointments are held at our offices in:

- Warrnambool
- Colac
- Portland
- Hamilton

Telephone Advice

Available 9.30am - 10.30am Monday to Friday



Community Legal Education and publication requests can also be discussed with The South West Community Legal Centre staff.