



INFORMATION ABOUT VOLUNTEERING

About Peninsula Community Legal Centre

Peninsula Community Legal Centre is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that has been providing free legal services to Melbourne's south-eastern communities for more than 35 years.

The Centre helps people use the law to protect and advance their rights, offering free advice on most legal issues. Ongoing assistance is targeted to assist clients who are experiencing disadvantage. In addition to its general services, the Centre operates Family Law, Child Support, Family Violence, Tenant and Consumer Advocacy Programs.

Community legal education, special projects and participation in law reform are also important aspects of the Centre's work.

Mission Statement

To empower and support disadvantaged and vulnerable people in our community to address their legal need.

What Volunteers Do

Peninsula Community Legal Centre utilises the skills and work of volunteers to extend and enhance its operations and service delivery. We currently run eight volunteer sessions per week. Most of these sessions are completely volunteer-run, which maximises our limited resources.

At our volunteer advice sessions, qualified lawyer volunteers provide clients with free legal advice. Paralegal / non-lawyer volunteers' co-ordinate the session, conduct a preliminary client interview and provide assistance to lawyer volunteers (such as resource and referral information and administrative support). Paralegal volunteers may also sit in on interviews to gain an understanding of legal issues and the advice required. Volunteers may also be involved in administrative and project work.

Induction and Training

It is compulsory for all paralegal volunteers to undertake training before commencing. Training sessions are conducted as required, either in group sessions or on a one-on-one basis. Group training usually runs for a full day, while one-on-one training may be spread over several shorter training sessions. This will vary according to PCLC volunteer requirements at the time.

An induction for volunteer lawyers will be undertaken prior to commencing.

Volunteer commitment

It is expected that volunteers at PCLC will commit to a minimum of 12 months participation on the volunteer roster.

PCLC priorities for accepting volunteers

Applicants should be 18 years of age or over, and priority will be given to applicants who live, work or study in the PCLC catchment area and/or provide the skills and experience which PCLC and its client communities need.

HOW TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER WITH PENINSULA COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE

Peninsula Community Legal Centre is not always able to provide volunteer positions for all applicants. Capacity to place applicants will depend upon the need for particular skills, applicants' ability to meet those skills requirements, and the number of volunteers already working with us.

1. Complete and return the Volunteer Application form (see below).
2. Prior to induction/training, you will be provided, and expected to become familiar with, the PCLC Volunteer Worker Manual.
3. When you have completed the relevant induction and/or training requirements, and signed the Worker Privacy and Confidentiality Undertaking, you will be eligible to be included on the volunteer roster when an appropriate vacancy arises.
4. As per PCLC policy, all lawyer volunteers must hold a current Practising Certificate. Please note that if you don't currently have one, you may be eligible for a Volunteer Practising Certificate which can only be used for volunteering at a Community Legal Centre. There is no charge for this certificate. For more information, please visit the Victoria Legal Services Board and Commissioner website at <http://www.lsb.vic.gov.au/>

Following is the Application Form for becoming a volunteer at Peninsula Community Legal Centre. Please return your completed Application Form and any attachments to our Head Office:



Peninsula Community Legal Centre
441 Nepean Highway
FRANKSTON VIC 3199

Please ensure you enclose the following:



- Completed Volunteer Application Form;
- Copy of Practising Certificate;
- Resume (optional)

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact:



Volunteer and Education Program
Peninsula Community Legal Centre
Ph: (03) 9783 3600
Email: Volunteers@pclc.org.au



Peninsula Community
Legal Centre Inc

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Home Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Postal Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Numbers: After Hours _____ Work _____

Mobile _____

Emergency Contact: Name _____ Number: _____

Do you hold a current Practising Certificate?

Yes (Please attach copy of Certificate) No

If you are currently employed, please complete the following:

Name of Firm/Employer: _____

Address: _____

Mail Address (or DX): _____

Phone Number: _____

If you become a volunteer lawyer with Peninsula Community Legal Centre, would you/your firm like to be included on the Centre's Referral List?

Yes No

If you answered yes to the above, please list your firm's areas of legal practice:

Does your firm do Legal Aid work? Yes No

Do you speak a language other than English? If yes, please state which language/s:

How did you find out about Peninsula CLC's Volunteer Program? _____



Peninsula Community
Legal Centre Inc

What are your main areas of legal practice and/or expertise?

Please list any other skills or experience you think may be relevant to volunteering with Peninsula Community Legal Centre (attach extra sheets if necessary):

Please explain briefly why you are interested in volunteering with Peninsula Community Legal Centre:

As part of our recruitment process we may contact referees to help us determine your suitability for a volunteer position. Please provide details of two referees.

| Name | Title | Organisation | Contact Telephone |
|------|-------|--------------|-------------------|
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VOLUNTEER AVAILABILITY (Mark "P" for preferred and "A" for available)

| Branch | Session | Weekly | Fortnightly | Monthly |
|------------|------------------|--------|-------------|---------|
| Frankston | Monday 5:30pm | | | |
| Frankston | Wednesday 7:00pm | | | |
| Frankston | Thursday 1:00pm | | | |
| Cranbourne | Tuesday 6:30pm | | | |
| Bentleigh | Monday 6:30pm | | | |
| Bentleigh | Thursday 6:30pm | | | |
| Rosebud | Tuesday 6:30pm | | | |

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| <p>Please note any dates you are unavailable:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
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Privacy:

I hereby consent to the above details being made available to staff members and volunteers (if required) of Peninsula Community Legal Centre Inc. (For a copy of our Privacy Policy, please contact the Centre)

Signed:

Date: