

## Media Release

### *Law Week: Advancing Justice in Your Community*

Peninsula Community Legal Centre is rising to the call of the Victoria Law Foundation in Law Week 2012 (May 14-20) to challenge the myths about the law and legal system, and encourage all Victorians to think differently about the role of law in our community.

Peninsula Community Legal Centre is a not-for-profit organisation that has been providing free legal services for 35 years. In the past year alone, the Centre has: given information and referrals to over 12,000 people; provided more than 7,000 legal advices, provided ongoing assistance and court or tribunal representation; and undertaken a range of community legal education and law reform activities.

Principal Lawyer of Peninsula Community Legal Centre, Victoria Mullings, says:

“Many clients have a negative perception about the law, believing that their situation is hopeless, or that their rights are meaningless because they cannot afford a lawyer. It is our Centre’s mission to ensure that is not the case.

We aim to not only help clients with their current legal issue, but to educate and empower them so that issues are less likely to arise or escalate in the future. We also work closely with other community organisations to help address the non-legal issues that clients may be facing, such as financial problems or relationship issues.

This Law Week, we are encouraging people to be proactive about seeking legal help. Just as you would see a doctor if you had medical symptoms, we want people to seek legal advice early – don’t wait until the situation worsens! Our services are free, and dealing with the issue early could save you a lot of time, money and stress.

In 2012, Law Week coincides with National Volunteer Week, so we are taking this opportunity to thank our team of 140 lawyer and paralegal volunteers who help more than a thousand clients each year.”

Peninsula Community Legal Centre offers free legal services from its offices in Frankston, Frankston North, Cranbourne, Rosebud and Bentleigh, as well as visiting services in Chelsea and Hastings and duty lawyer services at Dandenong Family Law Courts and Frankston Magistrates’ Court (Intervention Orders).

For more information about free legal services, please call the Centre on 97833600 or visit [www.pclc.org.au](http://www.pclc.org.au).

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the financial assistance of:

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- Mornington Peninsula Shire



President’s Award Winner – Legal Organisation of the Year Award

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Service to the  
**Community**  
since 1977

