

Position Description
First Nations Justice Solicitor
Identified role for First Nations lawyers only

Sydney based
One year contract, full time or part time
Supervision: Principal 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

The First Nations justice solicitor will consult with local First Nations people and organisations to identify areas of unmet legal need, and to provide legal services in a culturally appropriate and accessible way that responds to that unmet legal need, in partnership with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations. The First Nations justice solicitor will work collaboratively with the First Nations Engagement Worker and other specialist practice areas to provide holistic and culturally appropriate legal services to First Nations people. Through consultation with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, the First Nations justice solicitor will identify priority issues for community legal education and policy and law reform.

3. Position Responsibilities

- 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.
- Through consultation identify areas of unmet legal need in civil law and provide legal information, advice and representation in those areas of law.

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- Through stakeholder consultation, identify and work collaboratively with colleagues to drive change in focus areas for systemic policy and law reform;
- Engage with First Nations stakeholders through attendance at events, conferences and meetings;
- Identify areas for community legal education and work with other practice areas to deliver relevant community legal education sessions.

4. Knowledge, skills and experience

Essential

- 1. Be of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent and identify and be accepted as such in the community.
- 2. Qualified to practice as a solicitor in NSW and eligible to hold a current practicing certificate.
- 3. Experience working or volunteering with clients experiencing disadvantage and delivering a trauma informed, culturally safe service, including communicating information in an accessible way.
- 4. Demonstrated understanding of the intersectional challenges caused by colonisation that impact First Nations people.
- 5. Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- 6. Excellent stakeholder engagement skills and capacity to foster strong relationships.
- 7. Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as part of a team.
- 8. Demonstrated passion for social justice and the community sector.

Desirable

- 1. Demonstrated experience providing legal advice and representation in civil law.
- 2. Experience conducting law reform and policy work.

5. Conditions

Salary and benefits: \$90,934 - \$123,454 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.

Redfern Legal Centre is a flexible, supportive and diverse workplace. We offer a 35-hour working week, time in lieu options and a paid end of year closure of two weeks (including public holidays) on top of four weeks annual leave. We offer cultural supervision and First Nations cultural leave.

6. Applications

Applications close: 9am Monday 3 June 2024

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.

Inquiries should be directed to Catherine Hewett on catherine@rlc.org.au