

WELCOME TO THE SECOND EDITION OF OUR

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

LGBTI LEGAL SERVICE INC



## COVID-19 UPDATE

On Monday 29 March, the Greater Brisbane area went into a 3-day lockdown due to a community outbreak of COVID-19. As a result, the LGBTI Legal Service offices will be closed until Tuesday, 6 April, which incorporates the Easter long weekend.



**We wish everyone a safe and happy Easter period!**



**We have moved! Our service is now located at Level 1, Oxley House,  
20 Hockings Street West End Qld 4101**

# MEET OUR NEW SOCIAL WORKER, BRIGID

BRIGID DAVIS



**H**i! My name is Brigid Davis. I have the pleasure of introducing myself as the newest member to the LGBTI Legal Service team as the Social Worker. I am thrilled to be introducing myself to the second edition of the LGBTI Legal Service Newsletter.

**“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”** -Helen Keller.

## **What is a Social Worker?**

The Social Work profession is a broad term used to explain what it is we actually do. I often say that Social Workers are a jack of all trades because the industry has countless roles and is broad in service delivery. Social Workers maintain a dual focus on both assisting and improving wellbeing, while identifying and addressing external issues such as Human Rights and Social Justice issues that impact on wellbeing and may create inequality, injustice and discrimination. Social Workers can find themselves in direct service delivery, providing practical support in the areas of Homelessness, Child Protection, Domestic and Family Violence, Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol, Justice and Youth work, just to name a few.

The governing body for Social workers (Australian Association of Social Workers) states that “Social Workers work with individuals, families, groups and communities in the context of their physical, social and cultural environments, their past and current experiences, and their cultural and belief systems”.

As a Social Worker for the past eight years, I have developed a strong framework of Social Justice and Human Rights which closely aligns with the LGBTI Legal Service principles and ethos. I look forward to utilising my skills and knowledge in this area to fill in any gaps of need to ensure our clients are provided with the best support and assistance possible.

## **What is my role within the LGBTI Legal Service?**

The LGBTI Legal Service were able to gain funding to start a Family and Domestic Violence program where I will be providing support to our clients who have experienced Family and Domestic Violence, discrimination or other legal matters. My role will involve providing practical and emotional support, case work and community education to assist our clients. I am a strong ally and advocate of the LGBTIQ community and look forward to being a part of policy work and advocacy with the team.

Often, individuals who identify within the LGBTIQ Community have experienced stigma, which creates a barrier to seeking support from their community or support services. I hope to be able to fill this gap through providing a client-centred framework that addresses the psychosocial and practical needs to meet the desired outcomes for our clients.

Within my role, I will be working to build connections with other Family and Domestic Violence services as well as networking with other support services to build collective collaboration in our community.

## **What I hope to bring to the service and clients?**

The LGBTI Legal Service have built a wonderfully inclusive space for clients and it is my aim to build upon this to continue creating a safe place for clients where they can not only receive support around legal matters but also receive support and connection through myself and referral pathways to other social support services within the Brisbane area.

Within my role, I hope to strengthen the existing service delivery for clients who may need psychosocial support outside of their legal matters. I am passionate about Social Justice and Human Rights, and hope that I can bring positive change to the lives of our current and future clients to improve their overall wellbeing and functioning.

I very much look forward to all the wonderful knowledge I will gain from the team to strengthen my legal knowledge, and in return, share my knowledge and skills as a Social Worker. I am enthusiastic to work with and build positive outcomes for our clients to create future change individually, and systematically.

Follow us on  
our socials

 LGBTI Community Legal Service

 @LGBTILegalService

 @LGBTILegal

## WHAT WE DO

The LGBTI Legal Service Inc. provides free legal advice and assistance in a number of areas of law, including, but not limited to, family law, Domestic Violence, child protection, criminal law, general civil law, discrimination, and employment law.

We currently provide telephone advices on a Tuesday and Wednesday night and hope to soon also provide these advices face to face. We also provide some limited face to face and telephone advices during weekdays, strictly by appointments only.

In addition to advices, we have been fortunate to have been able to expand our Service and provide some representation in some limited domestic violence and criminal matter before the Magistrates Court and discrimination matters before the Human Rights Commission and the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal and Queensland Industrial Relations Commission. Now that we have welcomed our Social Worker, Brigid, we have been able to assist more clients by implementing a multidisciplinary approach to Domestic Violence matters where our lawyer and Social Worker work together to better assist our clients in a more holistic model.

If you would like to make an appointment, please do not hesitate to contact us on 07 3124 7160 and speak with our friendly admin support, Paul, or send us an email at [mail@lgbtilegalservice.org](mailto:mail@lgbtilegalservice.org).



## WHAT AREAS OF LAW CAN WE ADVISE ON?

- FAMILY LAW
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- CRIMINAL LAW
- EMPLOYMENT
- DISCRIMINATION
- GENERAL CIVIL LAW

So, how do I make an appointment to get some legal advice?

Call us on **3124 7160** and one of our staff will talk you through the process. Or you can email us at: [\*\*mail@lgbtilegalservice.org\*\*](mailto:mail@lgbtilegalservice.org)



Follow us on social media to keep updated on news and upcoming events

