

Michael B. Smith
Chief Executive Officer
Eastern Community Legal Centre

Dear Michael,

Thank you for reaching out, and thank you for your care for all those vulnerable people. Everything the Greens stand for, all that we do, is based on “The Four Pillars of the Greens”

<https://greens.org.au/about/four-pillars>

Ecological sustainability
Grassroots participatory democracy
Social Justice
Peace and non-violence.

From this, you can deduce that we are very much on side with you. While there have been no recent Greens announcements on the issue of adequate funding for legal aid, here is a definitive statement that is almost a copy of your “hands up” document:

https://electionwatch.unimelb.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/2930436/Greens-Legal-Aid-and-Centres.pdf

This is a Victorian State press release, but equally relevant in the national sphere. Our attitudes have not changed, and we are very much in support of the kinds of services you have described, and of caring for the vulnerable people your document addresses.

A major part of our election platform is to tax billionaires and big corporations their fair share, and to charge royalties for minerals extracted as in Norway, instead of subsidising the big mining companies by billions of dollars. This will provide the income for funding a great many programs of social benefit such as homelessness, and all the other aspects of your service.

If there is a minority Labor government, we will be in balance of power and do our best to advocate for social justice.

You can view our policy platform here. It is regularly updated as more announcements are made:

<https://greens.org.au/platform>

It contains specific proposed measures for addressing homelessness, gender inequality, the treatment of First Nations people (Treaty is one of our major demands, and all four of our Victorian Senate candidates are Koori), disaster response, climate action, asylum seekers and refugees (<https://greens.org.au/policies/immigration-and-refugees>), and generally working for a fair, just and equitable society.

Sincerely,
Jenny Game
Greens candidate for Casey.