



WOMEN'S SUPPORT OFFICER

(ALSWA website version)

Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia (Inc)

Striving for justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for over thirty years

www.als.org.au - Freecall ALSWA within WA 1800 019 900

ALSWA Services for Women

Community and prisoner support is provided by ALSWA for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in Western Australia.

This includes visiting women in the community, in refuges and in prisons and providing support and referral so that women can access ALSWA and other services as required.

All ALSWA services are available to prisoners and ALSWA also runs a prisoner support and rehabilitation program.

ALSWA also assists women with domestic violence issues.

Women's Support Officer

Our Women's Support Officer is also a qualified Court Officer who visits Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women at Bandyup and Boronia each week.

These visits provide support and information for women during their time in prison.

Our Women's Support Officer also assists women in our community who are experiencing domestic violence.

Support within prisons

Weekly visits to Bandyup and Boronia provide assistance with:

- Resolving legal and parole related problems early;
- Providing information and appropriate referrals to other service providers who can also offer support;
- Making appropriate referrals for advice and assistance, e.g. legal advice/representation;
- Being a support to both the women and their families.

Other wide ranging support and/or referrals is also offered for individuals or groups and our Women's Support Officer can also assist with processes such as complaints. The Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia is also able to provide appropriate referrals for assistance, such as Social Security, accommodation or transport.

Domestic Violence

Our Women's Support Officer also works with any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who are experiencing **domestic violence**.

This assistance, given individually or via groups, includes advising and/or representing women in applications for Violence Restraining Order matters where appropriate (provided there is no conflict of interests).

ALSWA will explain the penalties for breach of a Violence Restraining Order and the correct process to go through if you need to vary or cancel a Violence Restraining Order.

This role also involves making appropriate assisted referrals for legal advice and/or representation in relation to other matters relating to domestic violence such as Family Law and/or Criminal Injuries Compensation, for financial assistance, for accommodation, and other assistance as required, such as making a report to police or making police complaints relating to domestic violence where required.

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For legal advice please contact your nearest office of the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia (Inc).
ALSWA'S Head Office is at 7 Aberdeen Street, Perth and other ALSWA offices are located at Albany, Broome, Bunbury, Carnarvon, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Geraldton, Halls Creek, Kalgoorlie, Kununurra, Laverton, Meekatharra, Newman, Northam, Roebourne, South Hedland and Warburton.*



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