

CASE STUDY: WESTJUSTICE



WEstjustice employment law project seeks to improve employment outcomes for newly arrived migrants and refugee communities

AT A GLANCE



Target Participants
Migrants and refugees



Aim
To provide accessible employment law advice and assistance



Organisations Involved
Western Community Legal Centre



Location
West Melbourne, Victoria



Funding
Private Philanthropy

As a response to an unmet need, the WEstjustice

Employment Law Project was originally established as a pilot program, providing employment law services and community legal education to a growing number of clients across Melbourne's western suburbs.

The Project assists with legal issues that arise under employment or anti-discrimination laws including underpayment or non-payment of wages and entitlements, sham contracting, warnings, termination, discrimination, bullying, sexual harassment, victimisation and workplace injury.

The project also has a staunch commitment to raising awareness of laws and services within target communities by running information sessions for community members and community workers, explaining employment laws, rights and responsibilities.

Over a 3 year period, the Project assisted 200 clients from 30 countries, demonstrating a widespread need for employment law assistance.

The legal advice and assistance provided has helped clients deal with numerous workplace issues and recovered hundreds of thousands of dollars in unpaid entitlements and compensation for unlawful termination.

The Project has also developed a range of training resources, explaining Australian legal concepts, which are available free on its website.

WEstjustice

'Words cannot say it. Thank you so much. I knew I was right and should bring my case. People told me not to. My boss is very powerful. At times I was scared, I was not sure. But you stood beside me and so I kept going. Even when I wasn't going to I continued, because of you.'

Anonymous client

For More Information Visit:

<http://www.westjustice.org.au/>

