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Access | Justice

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National Access to Justice and Pro Bono Conference March 2019

Donnella Mills



Donnella Mills: LawRight

Donnella is a Torres Strait Islander woman with ancestral and family links to Masig and Nagir in the Torres Strait.

She is a Cairns-based lawyer with LawRight, a Community Legal Centre which coordinates the provision of pro-bono civil legal services to disadvantaged and vulnerable members of the community. Donnella is currently the project lawyer for the Wuchopperen Health Justice Partnership through a partnership with LawRight. This innovative Health Justice Partnership is an exciting model of providing access to justice, where lawyers and health professionals collaborate to provide better health outcomes and access to justice for patients with legal issues. Donnella is also the current Chairperson of NACCHO.

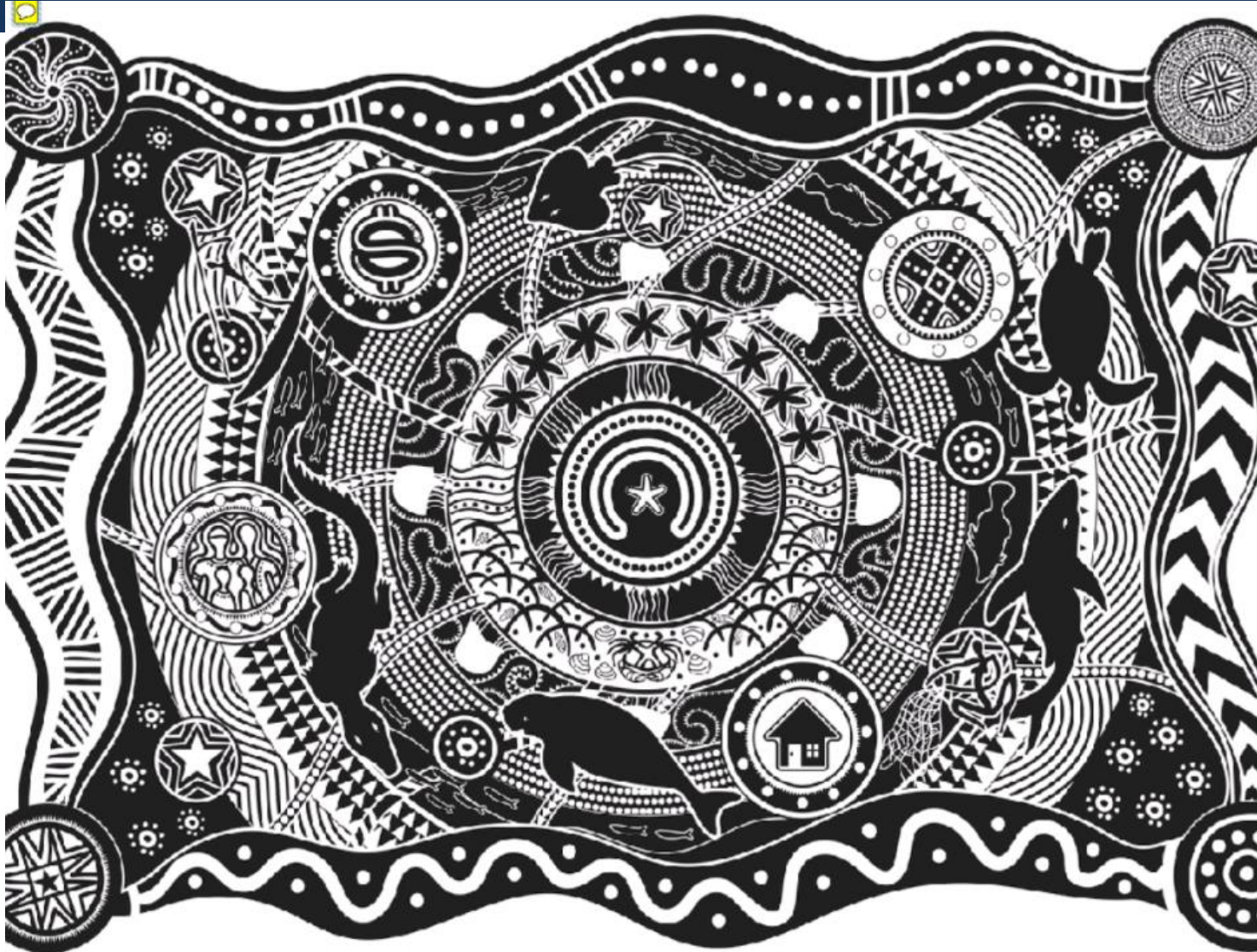


“Utilising a legal lens in which to view health, social justice, human rights, and access to justice, my commitment is to deliver expanded and enhanced innovative health services that are community driven and community led, addressing core systemic social determinant issues that have a direct impact on our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.” *Donnella Mills*



Law Yarn

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Starting the Yarn



4

Engaging Language : Building Trust & Relationship

How can we begin our Yarn

(here are some key questions you can begin with?)



*How are things with Family?
Any problems?*



*When we look at this artwork,
would you agree there is a lot
going?*



*How are the kids?
Any problems?
Any worries with school?*

*How are things at home?
Where are you living?*



How are you going?

*Do you have a lot going on
in your life at the moment?*



*Do you have any worries
with Bulli-Man (Police)?*



*What about money?
Anyone chasing you
for money?*

Evaluated Aims of the Project



- To provide effective early legal intervention to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who would not otherwise access Legal Advice
- To build capacity amongst health professionals to identify issues
- To build the capacity of the community with legal knowledge
- To improve health and wellbeing outcomes for clients of the legal service

Mangroves...stuck in the mud?



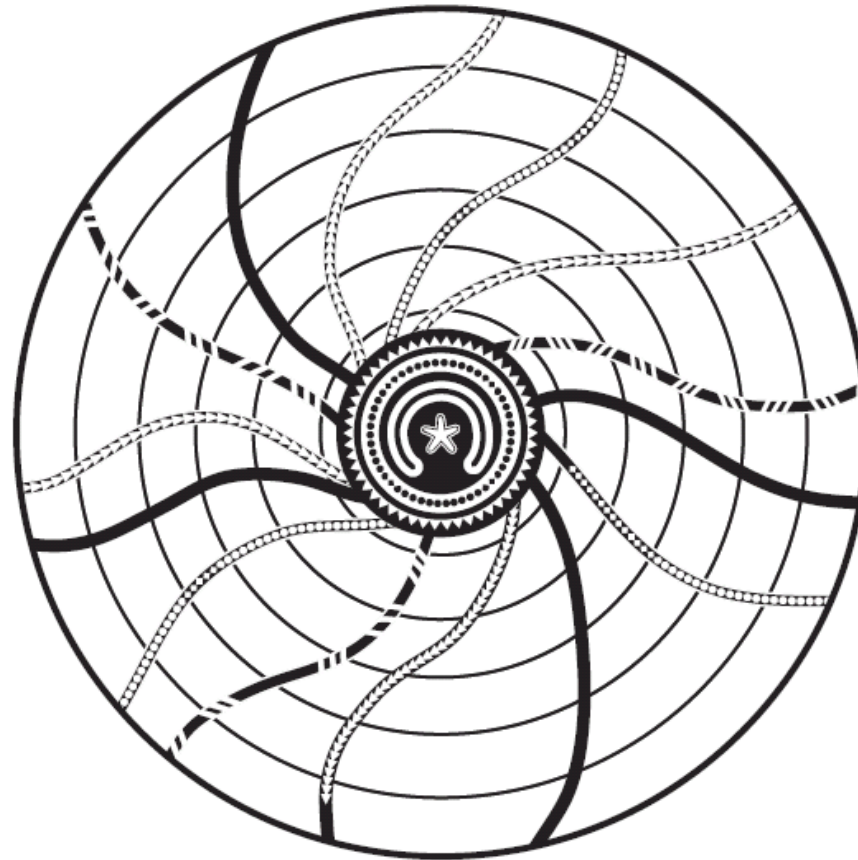
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Tropical cyclone – chaos and destruction but eye of the storm seems calm



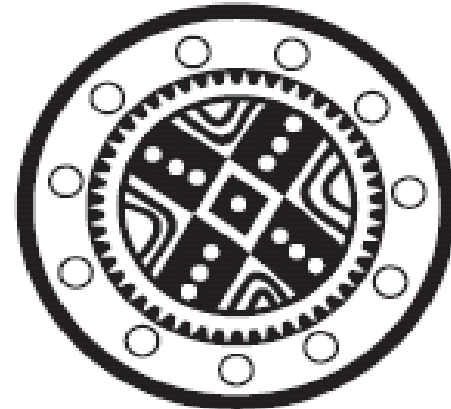
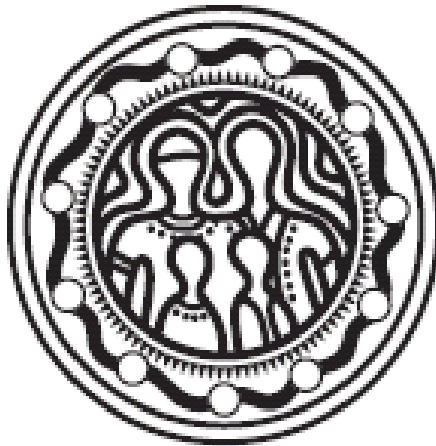
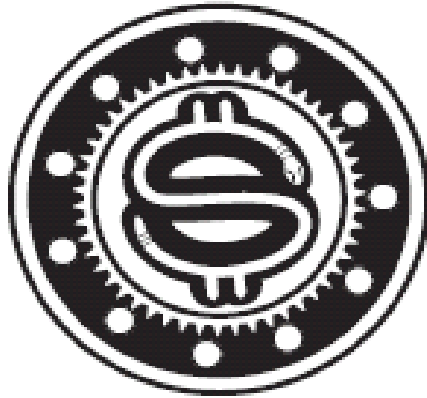
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Four types of legal problems



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Contact



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