WILLS & ESTATES SEMINAR

USEFUL RESOURCES

At WIRE, we want to empower women and gender diverse people to actively participate in their own financial and legal decisions. We believe that economic security also means protecting what's yours when you are gone. Clear estate planning reduces the risk of costly legal disputes and can preserve financial stability for future generations.

This document includes some resources that are relevant to the seminar content. We've also summarised some key tips and advice from the session.

As each individual case can be different, this means different resources may be relevant. To get personalised information, you may need to seek legal advice.

MAKING A WILL

Victorian Legal Aid

Provide information about Wills, how they are made and how they are executed after a person's death:
https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/wills-and-estates

Download their brochure as a PDF:
https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-04/vla-resource-your-will.pdf

The Office of the Public Advocate (OPA)

Provides information, advice and assistance about enduring powers of attorney. Visit these links on their website:
https://www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au/your-rights/enduring-power-of-attorney

https://www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au/medical-treatment/medical-treatment-decision-makers

OPA Advice Service Line
1300 309 337 (9am - 3pm, Monday - Friday)

Law Institute of Victoria (Find a Lawyer Referral Service)

Find a Lawyer Referral Service helps you find law firms that offer services that match your legal issue. You can also search by location, preferred language and costs. Referral via this service provides a free 30min consultation, after which fees are charged at agreed rates.
Website:
https://www.liv.asn.au/Web/For_the_Public/Find_a_Lawyer_Referral_Service/Web/Content/For_the_Public/Referral/Referral_Search.aspx

USEFUL RESOURCES

HELP WITH FORMS

PRACE Forms and Advocacy Assist Service (FAAS)

PRACE in partnership with La Trobe University is offering this FREE service to the community. The service can help with:

- Powers of Attorney and Medical Treatment Decision Maker forms
- Applications for Guardianship & NDIS

Address: Merrilands Community Centre, 25 Ryan St, Reservoir.
Phone: 9462 6077 (PRACE)
Website: https://prace.vic.edu.au/forms-advocacy-assist-service/
Email: (FASS directly): faasprace@gmail.com

*To access the service, clients must either live, work or study in:
the City of Darebin, Whittlesea or Banyule, or be connected to a Prace service.

DECEASED ESTATES

Australian Government Taxation Office (ATO)

What to do when someone dies, getting authority to deal with the ATO, lodging a final tax return, and trust tax returns.
https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals-and-families/deceased-estates

Supreme Court of Victoria

Information about grants of probate and the administration of deceased estates. Website includes links to relevant forms and fees:
https://www.supremecourt.vic.gov.au/wills-and-probate

Hierachy of Relationships (if there is no will):
https://www.supremecourt.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-06/Hierarchy%20of%20relationships.pdf

INHERITANCE

Services Australia (formerly Centrelink)

The Financial Information Service (FIS) can provide information on how to navigate inheritance and any payments you may receive from Services Australia:
https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/fis-inheritance-video?context=21836

You can also use their asset calculator to see how your pension might be affected:
https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/assets-test-for-age-pension

DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

WIRE Support Line

WIRE provides free support, referrals and information on any issue for all women and gender diverse people in Victoria. You can speak to a support worker via phone, zoom, webchat or in-person:

1300 134 130 (9:30am - 5:00pm, Monday - Friday)
or visit https://www.wire.org.au/find-support/

WIRE referrals also receive a free 30-minute consultation with Shea from RNG Lawyers. Call the support line to speak to a support worker for more details.