

**Prime Minister, Hon Anthony Albanese MP**

**Minister for Social Services, Hon Amanda Rishworth MP**

**Minister for Women, Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher**

**Minister for Government Services, Hon Bill Shorten MP**

**Minister for Indigenous Australians, Hon Linda Burney MP**

**Assistant Minister for Social Services and the Prevention of Family Violence, Hon Justine Elliot MP**

## ***We call on the Government to implement the changes as set out in Economic Justice Australia's legislative brief to***

- include Social Security Income Support in the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Their Children; and
- amend the following provisions of the Social Security Act:
  - i. Discretion to treat someone as not being a member of a couple in section 24
  - ii. Special circumstances debt waiver s1237AAD (Social Security Act 1991) and s101(A New Tax System Family Assistance (Administration) Act 1999)
  - iii. Crisis Payment s1061JH (Social Security Act)

## **Leaders of the following organisations have signed on to the Open Letter**

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| 1. ACOSS   | 35. Mountains Community Resource Network                  |
| 2. ACT Council of Social Service                                 | 36. National Council of Single Mothers and their Children |
| 3. Anglicare Australia   | 37. North Qld Women's Legal Service                       |
| 4. Anti-Poverty Week   | 38. Northern Community Legal Centre                       |
| 5. Arc Connect   | 39. Older Women's Network NSW                             |
| 6. Arise Foundation  | 40. Peel Community Legal Centres                          |
| 7. Basic Rights Qld  | 41. Peninsula Community Legal Centre Inc                  |
| 8. Brotherhood of St. Laurence                                   | 42. Redfern Legal Centre                                  |
| 9. Canberra Community Law  | 43. Sacred Heart Mission                                  |
| 10. Central Tablelands and Blue Mountains Community Legal Centre | 44. Safe and Equal  |
| 11. Centre for Women's Economic Safety Ltd                       | 45. Second Chance Programme, Queensland                   |
| 12. Community Legal Centres Australia                            | 46. Sisters Inside  |
| 13. Consumer Action Law Centre                                   | 47. Social Security Rights Victoria                       |
| 14. Council of Single Mothers and Their Children                 | 48. South East Community Links                            |
| 15. Darwin Community Legal Service                               | 49. Suicide Prevention Australia                          |
| 16. Dawn House   | 50. The Impact Lab  |
| 17. Economic Abuse Reference Group                               | 51. Top End Women's Legal Service                         |
| 18. Fair Agenda  | 52. Uniting Communities Law Centre                        |
| 19. Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA)    | 53. UTS Business School                                   |
| 20. Financial Counselling Association of WA                      | 54. VIBE Support  |
| 21. Financial Counselling Australia                              | 55. Welfare Rights & Advocacy Service                     |
| 22. First Nations Women's Legal Services Qld                     | 56. Welfare Rights Centre (NSW)                           |
| 23. Full Stop Australia  | 57. Westjustice   |
| 24. Gippsland Community Legal Service                            | 58. Whittlesea Community Connections                      |
| 25. Global Sisters   | 59. WIRE  |
| 26. Good Shepherd Aus & NZ                                       | 60. Women With Disabilities Australia                     |
| 27. Host International   | 61. Women's Legal Service Tasmania                        |
| 28. Illawarra Legal Centre                                       | 62. Women's Electoral Lobby Australia                     |
| 29. inTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence         | 63. Women's Legal Centre ACT                              |
| 30. Justice Connect  | 64. Women's Legal Service NSW                             |
| 31. JusticeNet SA  | 65. Women's Legal Service Queensland                      |
| 32. Katherine Women's Information and Legal Service              | 66. Women's Legal Service WA                              |
| 33. McAuley Community Services for Women                         | 67. Women's Legal Services Australia                      |
| 34. Mission Australia  |   |