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MEDIA RELEASE

Appointment to Children's Court welcomed

Youth Legal Services welcomes next month's appointment of two new magistrates to The Children's Court of Western Australia by the Attorney General, John Quigley.

David Kernohan, Director at Youth Legal Services, says he and the lawyers at Youth Legal Service are pleased to learn of the appointment of Ms Sarah Dewsbury and Ms Wendy Hughes as WA magistrates, whom will commence on February 3.

"We thank the Attorney General for their appointment and wish both Ms Dewsbury and Ms Hughes all the best as they take up their appointment in February," says Mr Kernohan.

Youth Legal Services provides free legal support for young people under the age of 25 who need legal assistance either in terms of advice or representation at The Children's Court of Western Australia.

In the last six months of 2019, the organisation has supported 185 young people between the ages of 18 – 24, of whom 153 accessed services for the first time. Of the 185 individuals assisted, 172 experienced financial hardship, meaning without the support and work of Youth Legal Services, they would not have been able to access the legal assistance required.

After a period of uncertainty, Youth Legal Services is looking forward to consolidating and re-building the organisation throughout 2020, in order to continue advising, representing and advocating for young people in the WA legal system.

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