



hume riverina
community legal service

ANNUAL REPORT
2012 - 13

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge the financial contributions made by the following funding bodies for without their contributions we would not be able to provide the services we do:

FUNDING BODY

FUNDS PROVIDED

Commonwealth Attorney Generals Department

\$425,335.00

Victorian State Government (Victoria Legal Aid)

\$208,674.00

NSW State Government (NSW Legal Aid)

\$ 19,376.00

NSW Public Purpose Fund

\$ 78,613.00

\$731,998.00

PRINCIPAL LAWYERS REPORT

It was business as usual for HRCLS, with additional hard work on several key projects by all staff. Firstly, a key action from our CLSP Plan was the completion of a Legal Needs Analysis this year, and I am delighted to report that a small dedicated team, led by Ali Maher (our Community Development Worker) and Andrea Georgiou (a generalist lawyer), commenced and completed the analysis in this reporting year. The outcomes of the analysis did not require HRCLS to radically alter our client service delivery programs, what it did do is provide us with opportunities to 'tweak' our programs to increase our capacity in areas of highest need, along with focussed early intervention initiatives vide community legal education and promotion of our services across our catchment area. Additionally, we were able to review and confirm our catchment area, we discovered that we were providing legal assistance to a huge catchment of approximately 43 LGA's, in both NSW and Victoria. Our catchment area is now re-defined, we have a much better understanding of our demographics and the specific legal needs of our RRR communities. The legal needs analysis now enables us to plan and respond to legal need in a more coordinated and comprehensive manner. The completion of this analysis was done 'in house', with staff completing this work, along with their usual advice and casework clinics. I commend all staff who worked on this project and for providing HRCLS a platform to move forward with planning and client services into the future.

Secondly, HRCLS has hosted the NSW Cooperative Legal Service Delivery (CLSD) Coordinator position since it was introduced by NSW Legal Aid, this year we combined the NSW Outreach Lawyer position and the CLSD Coordinator position, with spectacular results. Karen Bowley, our NSW Outreach Lawyer & CLSD Coordinator, at the initiative of NSW Legal Aid, and working with Intereach and other local community partners, has developed the Deniliquin Coordinated Outreach Clinic model. It is an innovative or 'alternate' service delivery model which focuses on delivering regular mutual services into a high needs rural area, such as Deniliquin. A model we are now planning to use in other locations, hopefully with the same degree of success.

Thirdly, HRCLS has continued to work as a 'teaching Service', we have hosted law students simply seeking experience over university breaks, we have provided Practical Legal Training (PLT) to graduates seeking to complete pre-admission legal training requirements and in partnership with Charles Darwin University (CDU) we continued to provide Family Law clinical legal placements for CDU students. HRCLS also hosted Lee Carnie, for four months under the FCLC Graduate Placement program in early 2013. Overall, HRCLS gets great benefits from having students and/or graduates working as part of the team, their presence is a 'win win' for the staff of HRCLS, but most importantly, for the clients of HRCLS.

Each and every day, we have continued to deliver high quality, responsive and timely legal assistance, advice and casework to our communities, while working to improve and expand our services at every opportunity. Once again, the team effort has been fantastic, with everyone willing to jump in and assist whenever and wherever needed.

I would like to acknowledge the ongoing support from our auspice body, UMFC, who provide us with the necessary administrative and management support, that allows us to get on with the job.

A BIG thank you to the team here at HRCLS, a job well done once again.

Karen Keegan
Principal Lawyer

HOURS OF OPERATION

9am to 5pm Monday to Thursday

Telephone Advice & Information *

Monday 10am to 1pm

Thursday 9.40am to 12.40pm (family law only)

Thursday 2pm – 3.20pm (monthly) (NSW Clients only)

Face to Face Clinics *

Wodonga Office on Tuesday evenings

Wangaratta Office on Tuesday evenings (fortnightly)

Family Law Legal Aid *

Wodonga office as required

Rural outreach *

Lavington & Albury

Howlong & Corowa

Deniliquin & Finley

Corryong & Tallangatta

Mt Beauty & Myrtleford

Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health Service

Thurgoona

Wangaratta

Family Relationship Centre (FRC) Advice Clinic *

Family Relationship Centre on Tuesday mornings

Subsidised Wills Clinic

Wodonga office on Wednesday afternoons (fortnightly)

Intervention Order Court Support Program

Wodonga Magistrates Court on Wednesdays

Supervised Student Advice Clinic

Wodonga office on Monday afternoons

** Appointments essential*

STAFF

Permanent Staff as at 30 June 2013

HRCLS LAWYERS



Sarah Caplice
VLA Seconded Lawyer



Andrea Georgiou
Victorian Outreach Lawyer



Karen Keegan
Principal Lawyer



Sarah Rodgers
FLFCLEP &
FRC/CLC Partnership lawyer



Karen Bowley
NSW Outreach Lawyer/
Albury CLSD Regional Coordinator

ADMINISTRATION TEAM



Sue Woodward
Acting Office Manager



Julie Garner
Administrator



Alison Maher
Community
Development Worker



Tracey Walker
Legal Assistant

Other staff employed during 2012-13:

Ashlie Barclay – Office Manager (maternity leave)

Melanie Barton – Albury CLSD Regional Coordinator

VOLUNTEERS

We here at the HRCLS find ourselves in a wonderful and very privileged position. We are so lucky to have such a successful and valued relationship with our volunteers. Throughout the year there have been quite a few changes to our volunteers. We have unfortunately lost 5 of our long standing volunteers for various reasons but have been lucky enough to have some new and eager volunteers take their places.

As at 30 June 2013 we have a team of 19 very talented volunteer lawyers who volunteer their time at our weekly Wodonga and fortnightly Wangaratta evening clinics on a roster basis. Without them, we would not be able to run such successful and well attended advice clinics.

Volunteers as at 30 June 2013:

WODONGA

Allison Bruce (Robb & Associates)
Eugene Butkowski
Jye Cunneen (Kell Moore)
Dirk de Zwart (De Zwart Lawyers)
Dione Garwell (Pogson Cronin)
Dusan Jovetic (Trivett Keating)
Ross Kearney
Derek Norquay
Sarah Rodgers (HRCLS)
Peter Uniake (Slater & Gordon)
Maralee Vogel
Janet Osborne
Beth Simpson
Lauren Howlett (Keating Avery)

WANGARATTA

Vic Campagna (Campagna Gray & Mallinder)
Laura Evans-McKendry (Hargraves)
Danny Frigerio (Maurice Blackburn)
Jonathan Green (Slater & Gordon)
David Joseph (David Joseph & Co)

2011-12

Advice provided (Wodonga clinic)	329
Advices provided (Wangaratta clinic)	7

2012-13

Advice provided (Wodonga clinic)	301
Advices provided (Wangaratta clinic)	21

PRO BONO PARTNERSHIPS

Pro bono partnerships for HRCLS remain strong and productive. HRCLS continues to have a dedicated and reliable group of local private practitioners, in both Wodonga and Wangaratta, who attend and work at our evening legal advice clinics, weekly in Wodonga and fortnightly in Wangaratta. Quite simply, without their support and flexibility, we would not be able to attend on the number of clients that desperately need our services.

CLAYTON UTZ

HRCLS makes a difference because Clayton Utz continues to provide responsive pro bono assistance to HRCLS in a variety of ways. Once again, Clayton Utz provided a venue, IT support and catering for the Victorian RRR Day in March 2013, it is the one time of the year that all Victorian RRR Community Legal Services/Centres meet and share the RRR experience, thank you to Clayton Utz. Additionally, we have had the benefit of seeking pro bono assistance for clients, both individuals and community groups. Due to our unique cross border location, we can seek assistance from either Clayton Utz in Melbourne or Sydney. The benefit of pro bono assistance by Clayton Utz to a disadvantaged client is significant, it allows people with what appears to be insurmountable legal issues to obtain assistance, quickly and respectfully.

CASE STUDY 1...

FACTS:

Client A wanted advice about the conduct of the board members of a non-for-profit organisation who provide services for people with disability. Client A, along with several other community members, applied to be members of this organisation. Client A believed his application was accepted and after an internal dispute within the organisation, was told that his membership was not accepted and he would not be able to attend upcoming meetings held by the organisation. Client A, and other people in the same situation, attempted to attend the organisation's annual general meeting but were locked out. Client A was assistance in determining his status as a member of the organisation. Client A wanted to be recognised or reinstated as a member as he wanted to continue to volunteer with, and be a member of, this organisation.

OUTCOME:

The HRCLS decided to seek assistance from Clayton Utz, our pro bono partner in relation to this matter due to the complexity of the issue raised by Client A. Clayton Utz reviewed the information provided to them and they decided that they could take on this matter and provide pro bono assistance to our client. We are unsure of the outcome of this matter, but we hope our client was successful in obtaining a positive outcome.

Continued...



Once again Ashurst partnered with HRCLS to provide 'Planning Ahead' workshops in our area. In September 2012, Ashurst and HRCLS lawyers took instructions and Ashurst lawyers prepared wills and powers of attorney for people from the local Aboriginal community. In November 2012, Ashurst again returned and completed a workshop for parents and carers of children with impaired capacity.

The pro bono partnerships, whether they be ongoing or for specific targeted workshops, increase the reach of HRCLS to facilitate access to justice for our communities.

ADVICE & CASEWORK – general overview

As a generalist Community Legal Service, we are funded to provide legal advice, information and referrals. We provide these services in a number of ways in both face-to-face settings and over the telephone as outlined under Hours of Operation.

Our service is also rare as we are a cross border service (NSW & Victoria), and our lawyers must keep up-to-date with three jurisdictions, this includes the Federal jurisdiction. The types of legal issues that we advise client's on are quite broad and wide ranging, but the areas of law that we primarily give advice or information on are:

- ❖ Child contact/ contact orders (**480** advices given);
- ❖ Intervention Orders/Apprehended Violence Orders/Family Violence (**288** advices given);
- ❖ Divorce (**87** advices given);
- ❖ Property in marriage/de facto (**255** advices given);
- ❖ Consumer complaints (**63** advices given);
- ❖ Wills/probate - making/contest/obtaining benefit (**98** advices given);
- ❖ Neighbourhood disputes (**31** advices given);
- ❖ Motor vehicle accidents (**35** advices given); and
- ❖ Road Traffic Offences/ Fines (**86** advices given)

Our "Top 5" areas of legal inquiries were:

1. Spending time / living with (child) issues (480)
2. Intervention Orders / Family Violence (288)
3. Property in marriage/de facto (255)
4. Child residency (118)
5. Wills, Probate & Estate issues (98)

Our "Top 5" areas of casework were:

1. Intervention Orders / Family Violence (183)
2. Spending time / live with (child) issues (82)
3. Property in marriage (27)
4. Child residency (22)
5. Credit & debt owed by client (21)

Continued...

Once again our solicitors have been working extremely hard. They have provided **1,428** advices to people within our catchment area.

Worker Name	Face to face	Telephone	Mail	Email	TOTAL
Karen Bowley	182	39			221
Sarah Caplice	126	110	3	1	240
Lee Carnie	67	53			120
Andrea Georgiou	99	206			305
Karen Keegan	100	20			120
Alison Maher	12	1			13
Sarah Rodgers	204	204	1		409
TOTAL	790	633	4	1	1428

FAMILY LAW LEGAL AID ASSISTANCE

The Family Lawyer Service at the Hume Riverina Community Legal Service was formed by a partnership between Victoria Legal Aid and the Community Legal Service sector in July 2006. The funding, offered to 6 Community Legal Centres in Victoria, provided for staffing of a Victoria Legal Aid lawyer and administrative support in regional areas which were not covered by Victoria Legal Aid offices or one of their outreach programs.

Over the past 7 years, the Family Lawyer Service has provided assistance for an increasing number of clients in children and property matters, and in the last 2 years has expanded to assisting clients in child protection matters.

The Family Lawyer Service provides legal advice to clients experiencing difficulties with family law issues through a telephone advice clinic, and can provide ongoing casework, court representation and family dispute resolution for clients who are eligible for a grant of legal assistance. As the Hume Riverina Community Legal Service is situated on the border of Victoria and NSW, we are able to provide assistance to clients who have legal aid funding in either of those states.

Victoria Legal Aid has changed their eligibility guidelines with regards to grants of legal aid for family law, child protection and intervention order matters. Their focus is now firmly on assisting vulnerable and disadvantaged clients. The Family Lawyer Service has not seen a significant change in the amount of clients being eligible for grants of legal assistance, because the majority of our clients are clients who are vulnerable or disadvantaged in any event.

The Family Lawyer Service continues to maintain strong relationships with a range of local service providers such as the Family Relationship Centre, the Magistrates, Local and Federal Circuit Courts, and works closely with the Gateway Community Health Service to facilitate the legal information component of their 'Back on Track' program to separated parents.

As our statistics show below, the Family Lawyer Service provides a valuable service to our region and we hope that our funding continues well in to the future.

2011-12 (State Project 3)	
Total Advice Activities	189
Total cases open during period	160
- Open at period start	52
- New (opened in period)	108
- Still open at period end (ongoing)	54
Total cases closed during period	106
- Closed involving court representation	41
- Closed involving primary dispute resolution	12

2012-13 (State Project 3)	
Total Advice Activities	234
Total cases open during period	214
- Open at period start	56
- New (opened in period)	158
- Still open at period end (ongoing)	51
Total cases closed during period	163
- Closed involving court representation	123
- Closed involving primary dispute resolution	12

CASE STUDY 2...

FACTS:

Our client, the mother of the child, sought that the child be restored to her care after the Department of Families and Community Services ("the Department") assumed the child into their care following concerns about the child's safety when in the mother's care. The concerns related to drug usage of the mother and housing instability.

OUTCOME:

The HRCLS assisted the mother by obtaining a grant of legal assistance to represent the mother in Court and to negotiate with the Department. Whilst this was happening, the mother self-referred to a residential alcohol and drug rehabilitation program to address the issue of her drug use and once this program was completed, worked with the Department to obtain permanent housing in the Albury area. We were able to negotiate with the Department a Care Plan, which allowed the child to be returned to the mother's care, provided that she met some further minimum outcomes. 6 months on, and the child has been fully restored to the mother's care. The mother remains drug and alcohol free, and remains in the same housing.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO THE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP CENTRE

The HRCLS has a strong partnership with the Wodonga Family Relationship Centre. The FRC provides an important service to the community, by providing an alternative to Court, to resolve parenting disputes.

Separated parents who attend the FRC are able to access the HRCLS legal advice clinic every Tuesday, which is delivered on-site at the FRC by our lawyer (monthly at the Post Separation Services in Albury). This year 97 legal advice sessions have been provided.

The HRCLS also provides legal information sessions to all FRC clients. General information about the law is provided, and the lawyer promotes the value of mediation as a better way to resolve issues in dispute than taking their matter to Court – it is quicker, cheaper, and confidential and gives clients the opportunity to control their own outcomes. We are told by the FRC staff that it is powerful for FRC clients to hear this message from a lawyer, which reinforces what clients are advised by the FRC staff.

The limitation of the program is that the HRCLS can only assist one party in a dispute with legal advice, and there is no lawyer funded to assist the other party. For this reason, the FRC and HRCLS jointly hosted an event in December 2012 (sponsored by the Family Pathways Network) for private lawyers, which aimed to highlight the partnership between the HRCLS and the FRC, and encourage the future involvement of private lawyers in the work done at the FRC. We were supported by Judge Harman and also Vince Papaleo who gave their views about the value of Family Dispute Resolution as a tool to help separated parents to stay out of Court.

In the future, the Family Relationship Centre would like to deliver more "legally assisted" family dispute resolution sessions ("LAFDRs"). LAFDRs are a special type of mediation where lawyers attend with the clients, to provide support and also give legal advice along the way. We thank Murray Mallee Community Legal Service, Mildura who have volunteered their assistance to the otherwise

Continued...

unrepresented party at mediation, since HRCLS can only help one party. We call upon the Attorney General to consider providing funding to another lawyer so that all parties who access the Family Relationship Centre get the opportunity to have free legal advice and assistance. Clients are more likely to resolve their disputes if they are given early access to legal services.

Here is a quote from Karina Kerr, the manager of the FRC, about the benefits of the partnership from her perspective:

“The Hume Riverina Community Legal Service and Wodonga Family Relationship Centre (FRC) legal partnership has been of great benefit to the provision of client focused service delivery at the FRC. The partnership has allowed for the most vulnerable clients in our community to be supported through Family Dispute Resolution (FDR) whilst receiving legal advice to achieve the best outcomes for their children. The legal advice aspect to the partnership recognises the importance of clients being holistic supported to reach agreement outside the court process with as much legal advice and information as possible for informed decision making about their children. During the FDR Joint session having the accessibility of HRCLS Lawyer Sarah Rodgers and Murray Mallee Lawyer Amanda Morrison to assist the client with realistic expectations, legal advice regarding their proposals and writing up any agreements reached helps the parents to resolve their disputes in a child focused, client driven process. At the Wodonga Family Relationship Centre the legal partnership compliments Family Dispute Resolution services delivery and we look forward to further developing the partnership in the future.”

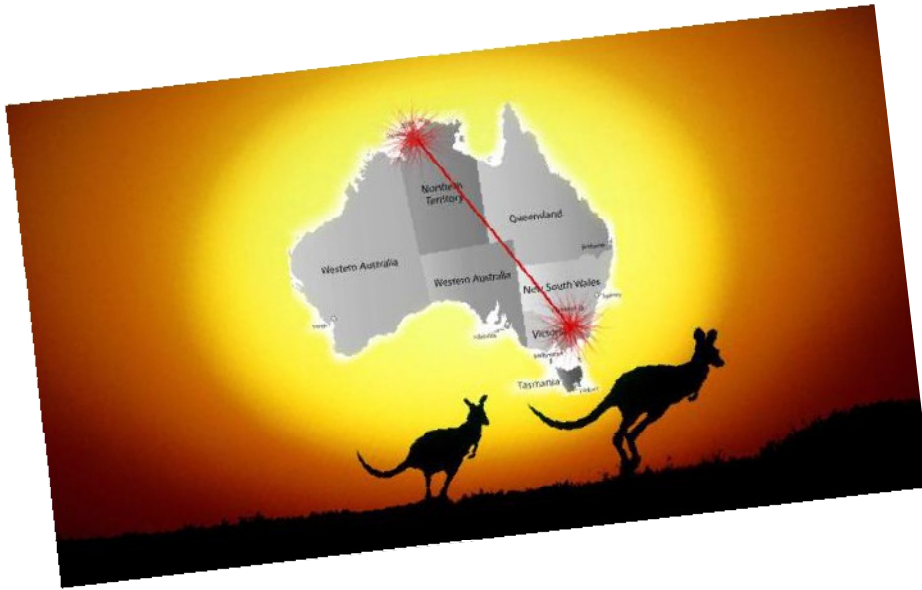
This year the HRCLS has:

- Delivered 75 legal information sessions, attended by 295 participants
- Delivered 40 legal advice clinics, attended by 97 clients

2011-12 (FRC)	
Total Advice Activities	100
Total cases open during period	17
- Open at period start	6
- New (opened in period)	11
- Still open at period end (ongoing)	3
Total cases closed during period	14
- Closed involving primary dispute resolution	4

2012-13 (FRC)	
Total Advice Activities	108
Total cases open during period	19
- Open at period start	3
- New (opened in period)	16
- Still open at period end (ongoing)	5
Total cases closed during period	14
- Closed involving primary dispute resolution	4

FAMILY LAW FOCUSED CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM



The Hume Riverina Community Legal Service (HRCLS) has a successful partnership with Charles Darwin University (CDU) in Darwin to deliver a family law Clinical Legal Education program.

The partnership is unique because of the distance between the two services of approximately 3,600 kilometres and the university, CDU, being located in a different legal jurisdiction (the Northern Territory) to the clinical legal services provider, HRCLS.

HRCLS hosts up to 4 students at a time for placements of 2 weeks in length, in the second half of each year. Most of the students who have participated in the program have been studying law remotely, so they have attended from a range of locations around Australia, including Darwin, Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney, and rural towns in SA, NT, QLD and VIC.

In addition, HRCLS hosts 2-4 Graduate Law Students on placements during the first half of the year. These are students enrolled in Practical Legal Training courses after completion of their law degree, who are required to attend a placement in a law firm so that they can learn their practical legal skills, before being admitted as lawyers.

All students participate in a range of activities, including the following:

- Client interviewing (under supervision), taking instructions and preparing Court documents and letters of negotiation on behalf of family law clients.
- Observing client interviews, outreach clinics, telephone advice and legal education.
- Attending the Federal Circuit Court in Albury to observe family law hearings, the Family Relationship Centre to observe Legal Information sessions, client advices, and mediations, the Intervention Order List day at the Wodonga Magistrates Court and Post Separation Services in Albury, including the Children's Contact Service, the Parenting Orders Program and the Family Mediation Service.
- Participating in the HRCLS casework/team meetings and learning about the operation of CLCs in RRR areas.
- Conducting legal research and preparing law reform submissions
- Creating fact sheets and brochures in plain English about the law

Since the program has now been running for more than three years, we thought it timely to survey all of our past students about their experience at HRCLS.

Continued...

The feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive. 97.3% of students have rated their satisfaction with the program as “excellent”, and 66.7% responded that the program had exceeded their expectations.

As a result of their placement at HRCLS, 54.6% said they were very likely to consider a career in a rural or regional area, 57.6% that they were very likely to work in family law, and 84.9% that they were very likely to volunteer or offer pro bono assistance to a Community Legal Centre in the future.

We also received emails of support from students, in response to the survey. One student said:

‘The placement was the best experience of my law degree so far I would recommend it to anyone. I wish I could do it again as I had learnt so much [and] I came out with two great friends who I still speak to today’.

Another said:

‘The centre was able to give me real life hands-on approach and to experience real cases with real people. It was a fantastic opportunity to be able to adapt legal principles to real case scenarios. Every aspect of this program offered a unique experience and I was able to learn something every day of the program... Every staff member of the Hume Riverina Community Legal Centre went the extra mile. Going the extra mile didn’t stop with the student, the clients, their colleagues but reached out into the community and places further away... It was a fantastic environment to work, to be a part of and to learn from such a wonderful team.... I think that every law student should be given the opportunity of undertaking a clinical placement as an integral part of their learning experience.’

As well as providing a fantastic opportunity for students to learn practical legal skills, the program also allows us to deliver services to a large number of family law clients who might otherwise miss out on receiving legal advice and assistance. This year 129 legal advice sessions were delivered to clients face-to-face as a result of the program, and 189 telephone advices.

A total of 55 Charles Darwin University Students and 17 PLT students have participated in the program since it commenced in 2010, being an overall total of 72 students.

The future of the program is uncertain, with no indication from the Commonwealth Attorney-General as to whether funding will be continued after June 2014.

If the program is discontinued, then it will be a great loss to our clients who might miss out on getting the legal assistance they need in the future, and also to law students who may not otherwise experience real life legal practice during their law studies.



5th September 2012 - L to R - Jess, FM Harman, Apol, Rhyian & Tammy

CASE STUDY 3...

FACTS:

Client A sought advice from the HRCLS in relation to her relationship breakdown. Client A attended a local Court for an Intervention Order and was extremely dissatisfied with the conduct of the presiding Magistrate and the remarks that was made during the court matter. Client A wanted to make a complaint about the Magistrates' conduct.

OUTCOME:

HRCLS provided advice to Client A on how they could make a complaint about the conduct of the Magistrate. Client A wrote the letter of complaint and wanted the HRCLS to review it. HRCLS looked over the letter and provided some advice on the content and structure of the letter. Client A was extremely grateful for the help in looking over the letter and informed the solicitor that they found the process of writing the letter themselves very empowering.

OUTREACH SERVICES

VICTORIAN OUTREACH:

One of the great aspects of the Victorian Outreach Solicitor's role is the outreach program. Why, may you ask? Well it's because of the locations that we get to visit and the interesting people that we get to meet, and hopefully help, at these locations.

The current Victorian Outreach program enables us to visit:

- **Mt Beauty:** 1st Tuesday of the month at 10.00am – 11:30am
- **Myrtleford:** 1st Tuesday of the month at 1.30pm – 3:30pm
- **Wangaratta:** 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 3:00pm - 5:00pm & 5:30pm - 7:00pm
- **Corryong:** 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:00am – 12:00pm
- **Tallangatta:** 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm – 3.00pm

The HRCLS offers an invaluable service to residents at these various locations. The majority of these locations are regional, remote, and/or rural and simply do not have access to legal assistance. That is where the HRCLS is able to step in, so to speak, and provide free 30 minute face-to-face appointments with residents so they can discuss their particular legal issue or concern and obtain some legal advice as to the options available. In the majority of circumstances, upon receiving this advice the client's are able to resolve the problems themselves, but in other circumstances, some on-going assistance is needed by the client, but this is done in a way as to keep in the client involved so that the client is empowered to be a part of the resolution process, that is, the client maintains ownership over their problem.

In addition to the legal advice clinics, the outreach program also involves creating and maintaining a 'working relationship' with service providers and members of the community so that if someone is experience a legal problem, they can be referred to the HRCLS for some 'early intervention' assistance. Community Legal Education seminars or sessions is another integral component of the outreach program. By speaking to members of the community about a given area of law, such as

Continued...

neighbourhood disputes, allows people to expand their knowledge, but also helps in identifying the issue at hand and hopefully results in the resident resolving the issue themselves, as a result of what they have learnt.

VICTORIAN OUTREACH ADVICE STATS
01/07/2011 – 30/06/2012

Mt Beauty 12

Myrtleford 4

Wangaratta 58

Corryong 11

Tallangatta 8

VICTORIAN OUTREACH ADVICE STATS
01/07/2012 – 30/06/2013

Mt Beauty 9

Myrtleford 10

Wangaratta 63

Corryong 15

Tallangatta 1

CASE STUDY 4...

FACTS:

Client A (an uninsured motorist) had their vehicle damaged by a local business. Our client had attempted to negotiate an outcome for himself, but the business operator was being quite difficult. Client A came to our service as he wanted the business to pay for the damage they caused.

OUTCOME:

We wrote to the local business and informed them that they were responsible for the damage and we asked that they pay for the damage to vehicle or to pass on our details to their insurer to commence negotiations. The business decided to deal with the HRCLS directly and after some lengthy negotiations the HRCLS eventually organised Client A's car to be assessed and repaired at the business' cost.

NSW OUTREACH:

The most exciting development in our outreach program for the past 12 months has been the setting up of the Deniliquin Coordinated Outreach Clinic with the assistance of the Cooperative Legal Service Delivery Program of NSW Legal Aid. Every Thursday, at Intereach in Deniliquin, there is a visiting service for the benefit of Deniliquin and surrounding residents. The services involved are Financial Counselling, Disability Advocacy & Information Service, Hume Riverina Community Legal Service, South West Tenants Advice Service, Post Separation Services and a local legal practitioner who also gives free legal advice.

Since its inception in March this year, we have noticed an increase in the number of people using our service. This is also a result of the active participation of Intereach, in particular, the new Hub Coordinator there, who have are constantly referring clients to all the visiting services. As a result we are to commence travelling to Deniliquin the night before, to allow us to have more appointments available; from 9am instead of starting at 10.30am.



Deniliquin Outreach – famous Mosaic ute

Continued...

Due to the success of this model, we would like to try a similar clinic at Corowa which has seen a decline in numbers over the past 12 months. We are also intending to change our outreach location again to an Intereach office, in the hope of providing greater access by being more prominent in the community.



July 2013 - Karen Bowley presenting
Appreciation Certificate to Thurgoona
Community Centre Manager Sherylyne

Howlong continued to have low numbers so we are discontinuing outreach to this location along with Thurgoona. We thank the community centres at these venues for their support over the years for our service. Clients at either of these locations can access our service at either Corowa, Albury or Lavington.

Our weekly outreach clinic to the Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health Clinic has consolidated and we are working closely with the staff there to ensure the legal needs of Aboriginal people in Albury Wodonga are met. The staff making the appointments and ensuring

clients arrive at the clinic is a wonderful assistance.

The current NSW Outreach program enables us to visit:

- **Albury:** Intereach, 1st & 4th Thursday of the month at 1 pm – 3 pm
- **AWAHS:** AWAHS, every Wednesday at 1.30 pm – 3 pm
- **Corowa:** Civic Centre, 2nd Thursday of every 2nd month at 1 pm – 3 pm
- **Deniliquin:** Neighbourhood Centre, 3rd Thursday of the month at 10.30 am – 12.30 pm
- **Finley:** Community Health Centre, 3rd Thursday of the month at 2.30pm – 4 pm
- **Howlong:** Community Resource Centre, 2nd Thursday of every 2nd month at 10 am – 12 noon
- **Lavington:** Lavington Library, 4th Thursday of the month at 10 am – 12 noon
- **Thurgoona:** Thurgoona Community Centre, 1st Thursday of the month at 10 am – 12 noon

NSW OUTREACH ADVICE STATS
01/07/2011 – 30/06/2012

Albury 42
AWAHS 26
Corowa 13
Deniliquin 26
Finley 5
Howlong 3
Lavington 24
Thurgoona 22

NSW OUTREACH ADVICE STATS
01/07/2012 – 30/06/2013

Albury 55
AWAHS 36
Corowa 5
Deniliquin 35
Finley 14
Howlong 1
Lavington 24
Thurgoona 24

Below is a very whity poem written by one of our Wangaratta volunteer lawyers for our NSW
Outreach Lawyer Karen Bowley.

They really are jacks of all trades!

Karen of the Outreach

Twas Karen of the Outreach who strode right into town
The local folk on Dean Street did stop and form a frown
A lawyer here? In Albury? She must be lost? But no!
Its New South Wales Outreach day, let's go and say hello!

As quickly as she did arrive, the lawyer, she has gone,
To help the clients in, dare we say it, class-ee, Lavington.
The library is her base of choice, its quiet and civilised,
Karen of the Outreach, is here to legalise! (your problems, not your habits)

Next stop Howlong, no jokes required, but Corowa there's a challenge,
No clients? Oh well. To the op shops, it's time for a little scavenge.
For Outreach is a gruelling trek that leads some men to snap,
For those without the stamina may have to take a nap.

Let's go she shouts! To Finley! The people need advice!
Past Finley, driving onwards, towards the fields of rice
Deniliquin! Deniliquin! The end in sight at last,
With lots of clients to see today, she needs a light repast.

New South Wales is safe from harm again (at least the legal kind),
Karen of the Outreach, a paragon of womankind!

**By Tom de Zwart
Volunteer Lawyer**

CASE STUDY 5...

FACTS:

Client A received a letter from the local council informing them that they had to undertake certain work on their property to comply with Council requirements within a specific limited timeframe. Client A was experiencing financial difficulty and could not to comply with the request in the timeframe given.

OUTCOME:

HRCLS contacted the local Council and made some enquires on the required work. HRCLS advocated on the client's behalf and was successful in negotiating an extension of time on the required work, and also obtained clarification on what work specifically needed to be done.

DUTY LAWYER SERVICES

HRCLS continued to deliver Family Violence Duty Lawyer services at Wodonga Court on a weekly basis, with HRCLS now on the permanent VLA roster. The duty lawyer service involves attending on and representing applicants in family violence situations, generally our Service does not extend to conducting contested hearings, so if a matter is not resolved at first mention and has to be listed for a hearing, clients are referred to local lawyers to conduct these hearings. In line with the changes to VLA guidelines, our duty service is limited to advice only for Personal Safety IVO applicants, with the primary focus being on Family Violence applicant matters.

2011-12	
Closed involving court representation (generalist)	169

2012-13	
Closed involving court representation (generalist)	83
(State Project 3)	90

SUBSIDISED WILL SCHEME

39, which is the total number of documents that the participating lawyers have drafted for the most vulnerable people in our community. It may not seem like a big number, but we can assure you that the people, who have been the recipients of this scheme, are very thankful for its existing. Building on the success of the previous few years, there is a total of 18 firms participating in the scheme. Again, the firms are located throughout the HRCLS Victorian and New South Wales catchment which has resulted in the Scheme being available to more and more vulnerable people.

The purpose of the Scheme is to make it easier for people who have limited financial capacity and experience a particular vulnerability, such as health, age, family breakdown and language barriers, to obtain a professionally drafted will, power of attorney and enduring guardianship by a local private solicitor at a significantly discounted rate.

The Scheme works by:

1. A client making an appointment in the scheme. The solicitor assesses the client's eligibility for the scheme which is based on their financial circumstances and their vulnerability.
2. If the client is eligible, the solicitor completes the Client Information Checklist and selects a participating local law firm. If the client is ineligible, the solicitor provides the client with some information about the documents they wish to obtain and provides them with a list of local practitioners.
3. The solicitor provides the client with a letter which includes the Client Information Checklist, applicable vouchers and referral to the firm that they will be attending on.
4. The client then contacts the firm directly and makes an appointment to have the applicable documents drafted at a discounted rate of \$50.00 each document, which is payable directly to the firm.

During the period of 01/07/2012- 30/06/2013, 18 people were interviewed and assessed for their eligibility, with a total of 15 people satisfying the criteria. During this period, a total of 39 vouchers were issued to these clients:

- Wills - 13 documents
- Enduring Power of Attorneys - 17 documents
- Enduring Guardianship - 9 documents

COLLABORATIVE & COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL LAW WEEK – 2013:

National Law Week was held on 13 – 19 May 2013. Law Week is an annual event aimed at increasing public awareness about the law and legal systems, as well as educating the public about the many legal services available. The HRCLS community development worker coordinated the law week activities across the border region.

Two of the many events included:

- **The Women in Law breakfast**, coordinated by Sarah Caplice, VLA family lawyer (HRCLS). Guest speaker, Superintendent Elizabeth Stirton, Albury Local Area Commander of Albury Police delivered an inspirational talk on women in NSW Police from 1914 to the current day. Commander Stirton stressed the importance of fostering positive mentors and networks, and taking opportunities as they present.



L to R: Tracey Walker, Sarah Caplice, Superintendent Stirton, Anita Saleeba and Beth Simpson

- **Law on the Border, an Interstate Journey** - where lawyers, legal staff, students, police officers, court registrars and mediators walked 5 kilometres from the Magistrates Court, Wodonga to QEII Square in Albury to highlight the many cross border services who work together on a daily basis. The walk concluded at the Retro Cafe, Albury where a delicious BBQ lunch was shared with the community.



Law on the Border walkers pause for a photo opportunity

A copy of the article can be found on page 34, **Annexure 1** and for a full report on the activities held during Law week see **Annexure 2** on page 35.

Continued...

ALBURY WODONGA FAMILY LAW PATHWAYS NETWORK (AWFLPN):

The HRCLS has continued to have a strong and active involvement in the Family Law Pathways Network and to assist with projects delivered by the Network, for the benefit of family law clients and service providers in the community. We have participated in the 'Schools Education Project' by being on a team which has developed a package of materials to give to schools who are often 'caught in the middle' of separated parents' disputes. The project has in the past been delivered to schools in the North East, and will start to expand to the NSW area in the next financial year. The Bendigo/Shepparton Pathways networks have drawn upon the resources developed so that they can also deliver a similar project in their regions, which is a credit to the work done by our Network.

We also participated in a "Family Law Roadshow" to Wangaratta, to deliver information about family law and services that can be accessed by family law clients. There were 21 attendees including children and family workers, youth workers, education providers, domestic violence workers and early years providers.

ALBURY COOPERATIVE LEGAL SERVICE DELIVERY (CLSD) PROGRAM:

The Albury Cooperative Legal Service Delivery (CLSD) Program is a regionally-based approach to legal service delivery in NSW. It aims to unite legal service providers and community organisations to improve service delivery to disadvantaged people in a cooperative and strategic network. The partners of the CLSD Program work together to extend services to meet emerging legal needs, and include key legal services and community organisations.

Partners work together to:

- develop targeted community legal education sessions;
- improve client referrals between agencies;
- develop new resources; and
- provide training and capacity building initiatives.

Partners consist of:

- Community Legal Services
- Legal Aid NSW
- Pro bono partners
- Aboriginal Legal Services
- Financial counseling agencies
- Disability advocacy agencies
- Tenancy advice and advocacy services
- Local Courts
- Regional Law Societies
- Family Relationship Centres
- Family support services
- Mediation Services
- Domestic Violence Court Support Services

Continued...

- Youth Services
- Migrant community groups/resource centres
- LawAccess NSW
- NSW Legal Assistance Forum (NLAF)
- School/university counseling services
- Community centres
- Regional GP network
- Local law firms
- Local council
- Local library



Ashurst Lawyers, Laura & Simon with HRCLS lawyers Andrea Georgiou and Karen Bowley attending AWAHS for the Wills Workshop.

This year we have seen Melanie Barton who was CLSD Coordinator for about a year, move on to bigger and better things, practising law in Myrtleford. Karen Bowley, NSW Outreach Lawyer has taken over this position as the two jobs are closely intertwined.

We have had a number of great projects this year which included two workshop on Wills, one for Aboriginal people and one for parents and carers of persons with impaired capacity. These were made possible with the assistance of Ashurst Lawyers from Sydney. The Deniliquin Coordinated Outreach clinic is also a CLSD project which provides weekly advice and minor assistance at the Hub.



Albury Local Court Registrar addressing the crowd at the Law Week breakfast

During Law Week we held a breakfast for Albury CLSD partners with the guest speaker being the newly appointed Registrar of the Albury Court to meet and talk over local issues. Police and private practitioners were represented at that event and have been recruited to become active CLSD partners.

In September 2012 Albury and Wagga CLSD regions organised a site at the Henty Field Day for a range of partners to display legal information and talk to clients. The Albury region has decided not to attend in future as there have been few referrals from the day as most attendees are not within the demographic of our client base.

In 2013 we are holding our quarterly meetings at different venues so that we can see other services and how they operate.

COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Community Legal Education continues to play a fundamental role at the HRCLS with all lawyers and staff committed to sharing information to communities to increase knowledge of the law.

In 2012 – 13 the HRCLS delivered multiple sessions on topics which included:

- **Life Planning** – Wills and Powers of Attorney including Life Planning for Aboriginal people and for parents and carers of people with a disability. Approximately 20 sessions were held on Life Planning during the financial year.
- **Family Law** – including participation in the Back on Track program through Gateway Community Health and Information Sessions as part of the Family Dispute Resolution Process at the Family Relationship Centre.
- **Youth and Police Powers**
- **Defamation** – through the Law Talks program
- **Neighbourhood Disputes**
- **ABC radio** – Legal Speaking talk back radio.

Relationships continue to be forged and strengthened with organisations such as the Wodonga TAFE, Riverina TAFE, the Older Persons Mental Health Service (Albury Wodonga Health) and Upper Murray Family Care programs such as the Family Relationship Centre.

“On behalf of Wodonga TAFE Diploma of Community Service students I would like to thank the service for coordinating and providing excellent community education presentations for the students.

The level of expertise and professionalism was evident and provided students with an introduction into specific fields of the law. Presenters shared their individual expertise using case studies and examples to bring the law to life.

As a teacher, I particularly value the positive relationship which has developed between the Legal service and Wodonga TAFE. Knowledge of the service allows students to appropriately refer clients in the future”.

Rosemary Buckle
Wodonga TAFE.



Karen Keegan presenting at a Healthy and Wise seminar on Life Planning.

LAUNCH OF STRONGWILL

On 20 July 2013 the HRCLS celebrated the launch of Strongwill, an “online game” and educative resource designed to assist “players” to consider, discuss and draft a Will. Strongwill was launched by Mr Michael McGarvie, Legal Services Commissioner via skype. Strongwill was developed by Helen McGowan, as project worker, with funding from the Legal Services Board Victoria. This educative tool can be accessed at www.strongwill.com.au.

SPECIALIST LEGAL SERVICES

Consistent with our CLSP plan, specialist legal services were invited to the HRCLS to share information with staff and volunteers. We were fortunate to receive training from:

- **Seniors Rights Victoria** – ‘Seniors Rights Victoria and the Services We Provide’;
- **PILCH** – ‘Navigating the Maze’ / Getting Started (an overview of the law affecting not-for-profit organisations) & ‘Associations Incorporation Law Reform’;
- **Jobwatch** – various employment issues;
- **Consumer Action Law Centre** - ‘Keeping Food on the Table – Protecting the income and assets of low income CLC clients’; and
- **Fitzroy Legal Service** – ‘Infringement Law’

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The HRCLS has a strong commitment to community development and engages with organisations in a variety of ways, including participating in local community interagency meetings or sitting on committees or various working groups. Community development opportunities undertaken in the 2012/13 year included:

- Attending meetings such as: Albury Wodonga Family Law Pathways Network, Koori Interagency Network, Multicultural Interagency Meeting, Albury and District Law Society, North East Law Association, Disability Advocacy Information Service Justice Support Mentoring Program, Youth and Family Services, Women’s Centre and Integrated Response to Domestic Violence.
 - Regularly engaging with outreach providers and other stakeholders through meetings, community legal education and promotion of service events.
 - The distribution of a bi-monthly e-news bulletin to organisations and individuals in the NE of Victoria and Riverina of NSW, as well as through Community Legal Centres in NSW and Victoria.



Principal Lawyer Karen Keegan stopped at the famous submarine at Holbrook after giving a Promotion of Service talk.

Continued...

NEW WEBSITE

In the 2012/13 year, the HRCLS were fortunate to receive funding from the Victorian Law Foundation to redevelop the website. This website is currently in the development phase however will include social media functions such as facebook and twitter and enable the Service to better interact with the community.

LAW REFORM & LEGAL POLICY

Similar to Community Legal Education, Law Reform is an essential part of the work undertaken by the HRCLS. Applying the law to an individual's situation does not always provide the best or appropriate outcome and a different approach is sometimes required.

By way of example, whilst the HRCLS can assist clients to draft Divorce Applications, the Service cannot pay the filing fees, and individuals who are unable to pay may be left disempowered and overlooked in their access to justice.

In 2012/13 substantial increases were made to fees in both the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) and the Family Court of Australia. The Service encountered numerous clients who were unable to pay the filing fees and as such were effectively barred from the system. Submissions were made to seek a waiver or at the least a reduction in fees to allow access to justice.

As a cross border service the HRCLS regularly deals with cross border anomalies including of course driving laws and regulations. Research has been undertaken with a view to preparing an educative brochure on the various driving laws and restrictions, and potentially a submission to Government to overcome such anomalies.

Through casework and community legal education, service providers and individuals are encouraged to share examples of where the law does not sufficiently offer a solution to legal problems.

ADDITIONAL INCOME

We received additional income in the amount of \$19,376.00 from Legal Aid NSW for the Cooperative Legal Service Delivery program.



Upper Murray Family Care Incorporated

BOARD MEMBERS PROFILE & CONTACT DETAILS

President Greg Pearl Dip Ed, B Health Admin	Director of Infrastructure Albury Wodonga Health PO BOX 156 Wodonga, Vic 3689	02) 6058 4670 (work) 0448 554 586 (mobile) greg.pearl@awh.org.au	Appointed to the Board on 8 June 2007. Greg was appointed President on 25 October 2011. Greg is currently Director of Infrastructure at Albury Wodonga Health.
Vice President Clare Grogan B Ed. MSW	124 Delloro Rd Wangaratta South 3678	03 5725 7228 0498 257 228 claregrogan60@gmail.com	Appointed to the Board on 12 December 2008. Clare was appointed Vice President on 25 October 2011. Clare has a background in teaching and is nearing completion of a Master of Social Work through La Trobe University.
Treasurer Phil Oates Dip Bus. (Acc)	7 Hall Court Wodonga, Vic 3690	02) 6024 2698 (home) philmer27@hotmail.com	Appointed to the Board on 11 October 2002. Phil was appointed Treasurer in 2003/4. Phil is a retired accountant who was previously with the ATO. Phil is also on the board of other organisations such as Rural Housing Network.
Member Lester Sawyer B.Arch. ARAIA	PO Box 830 Albury, NSW 2640 559 Paine St Albury NSW 2640	02) 6021 8484 (work) 0414 273 584 (mobile) 02) 6021 8829 (fax) 02) 6021 3394 (home) lestersawyer@bigpond.com.au	Appointed to the Board on incorporation on 14 June 1985 but was also on the Committee of Management prior to incorporation. Lester is a past president of 5 years. Lester is an architect working in his own business.
Member Liz Heta BSW	Department of Human Services PO Box 400 Wangaratta Vic 3676	Liz.Heta@dhs.vic.gov.au Ph: 02 6055 5573 Mob: 0457 847 297	Appointed to the Board on 26 th August 2013, Liz is a Wiradjuri woman who has been an active member of the Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Community for many years. Liz is employed as an Aboriginal planner and Partnership Officer for DHS and has a background in health, HACC and community development.
Member Robyn Gillis BSc, AssDip OHS,Mas HSM , GAICD	CEO Tallangatta Health 12 Quoll Rd Baranduda Vic 3691	Ph: 0417 348 116 robyn.gillis@ths.vic.gov.au robyn.gillis@bigpond.com	Appointed to the Board on 25 October 2011, Robyn is the CEO for Tallangatta Health Service. Formerly the CEO for the Queen Elizabeth Centre Early Parenting Public Hospital Robyn also has a history of employment in Health and Safety & Environment.
Member Sunita Rama LL.B, BEc	Solicitor Rama Myers Family Lawyers 3/103 Hume Street Wodonga 3690	Ph: 02 6024 5001 Mob: 0423 660 659 stevetodorovic@hotmail.com sunita@ramamyers.com.au	Appointed to the Board on 25 October 2011, Sunita is a Family Law Solicitor in her own business Rama Myers Family Lawyers and was previously employed as a Judges Associate to Justice Kay of the Family Court Melbourne. Sunita is also a Board Member of St David's Uniting Care
Member Felicity Fox BBus	21 Bells Lane Huron Vic 3689	Ph: 02 6071 8556 (home) Mob: 0409 591 846 felicity.fox@awh.org.au huronheiners@bigpond.com	Appointed to the Board on 27 th February 2012, Felicity overseas consumer participation and research ethics at Albury Wodonga Health.
Member Dean Bocquet CPA,	Principal WHK Business Services 491 Smollett Street Albury NSW 2640	dean.bocquet@whk.com.au Mobile 0419 221594 Work 02 60211111	Appointed to the Board on 25 th October 2012, Dean has previously assisted UMFC in a strategic planning role before appointment to the Board. Dean has a strong background and connection to the region/community and acts as a business and taxation advisor to SME's across the country.
CEO & Public Officer Luke Rumbold BA, BSW, MSW, PhD, FAIM	C/- UMFC 29 Stanley Street Wodonga, Vic 3690	02) 6055 8030 (work) 02) 6022 8099 (fax) 0418 970 182 (mobile) lrumbold@umfc.com.au	Luke is currently the CEO of UMFC and has been with UMFC since 17 September 1984.

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Generalist Services:

Funds Report 12 month 2012 - 2013

Centre : 3689

Status : Submitted

Generalist Services

28/Oct/2013

NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	-14,169.00	A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year
Approved Capital Expenditure	0.00	
Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	-14,169.00	B.Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr

CURRENT YEAR		12 month	YTD Budget	Variance to Date	% over Year
CLSP Income					
	Commonwealth	264,137.00	259,287.00	4,850.00	101.87
	State	153,220.00	144,651.00	8,569.00	105.92
	Service Generated Income	27,231.00	11,010.00	16,221.00	247.33
	J.Total CLSP Income	444,588.00	414,948.00	29,640.00	107.14
	K.CLSP General Purpose Income	430,419.00	K = ([Quarterly Period]/4) x B) + J		
CLSP Expenses					
	Salaries	271,394.00	249,420.00	-21,974.00	108.81
	Superannuation	23,367.00	23,748.00	381.00	98.40
	On Costs	7,810.00	16,497.00	8,687.00	47.34
	Rent	25,299.00	28,375.00	3,076.00	89.16
	Repairs and Maintenance	1,180.00	123.00	-1,057.00	959.35
	Other Premises Costs	10,283.00	6,529.00	-3,754.00	157.50
	Staff Training	1,150.00	-15,436.00	-16,586.00	-7.45
	Staff Recruitment	438.00	500.00	62.00	87.60
	Communications	3,277.00	8,022.00	4,745.00	40.85
	Office Overheads	2,818.00	8,310.00	5,492.00	33.91
	Insurance	313.00	246.00	-67.00	127.24
	Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	210.00	276.00	66.00	76.09
	Library, Resources & Subscriptions	5,769.00	4,825.00	-944.00	119.56
	Travel	9,004.00	7,828.00	-1,176.00	115.02
	Programming and Planning	2,827.00	1,732.00	-1,095.00	163.22
	Client Disbursements	230.00	0.00	-230.00	0.00
	Leases	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Minor Equipment	1,165.00	800.00	-365.00	145.62
	Depreciation	6,388.00	10,511.00	4,123.00	60.77
	Other	48,673.00	48,473.00	-200.00	100.41
	Salary and Related Expenses	302,571.00	289,665.00	-12,906.00	104.46
	Total Operating Expenses	119,024.00	111,114.00	-7,910.00	107.12
	L. Total CLSP Expenses	421,595.00	400,779.00	-20,816.00	105.19
	M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year	22,993.00	M = J - L		8,824.00
				Total Variance	

Other Income

Total funds Received from Other Bodies	19,884.00	19,376.00	508.00	102.62
Total funds Received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Calculate Surplus/Deficit For Next Year

Actual Capital Exp in Current yr	0.00	P
N.Surplus/Deficit for Next Year	8,824.00	N = A + M - P

Family Law Focussed Clinical Legal Education Project:

Clinical Legal Education Project

28/Oct/2013

NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	19,219.00	A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year
Approved Capital Expenditure	0.00	
Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	19,219.00	B.Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr

CURRENT YEAR	12 month	YTD Budget	Variance to Date	% over Year
CLSP Income				
Commonwealth	108,708.00	108,707.00	1.00	100.00
State	2,600.00	2,598.00	2.00	100.08
Service Generated Income	9,091.00	-458.00	9,549.00	-1,984.93
J.Total CLSP Income	120,399.00	110,847.00	9,552.00	108.62
K.CLSP General Purpose Income	139,618.00	K = [(Quarterly Period)/4] x B) + J		

CLSP Expenses				
Salaries	29,893.00	30,875.00	982.00	96.82
Superannuation	2,754.00	2,779.00	25.00	99.10
On Costs	1,562.00	1,930.00	368.00	80.93
Rent	3,139.00	3,023.00	-116.00	103.84
Repairs and Maintenance	153.00	13.00	-140.00	1,176.92
Other Premises Costs	1,356.00	701.00	-655.00	193.44
Staff Training	458.00	500.00	42.00	91.60
Staff Recruitment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Communications	2,586.00	827.00	-1,759.00	312.70
Office Overheads	3,132.00	1,239.00	-1,893.00	252.78
Insurance	0.00	26.00	26.00	0.00
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	210.00	30.00	-180.00	700.00
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	524.00	560.00	36.00	93.57
Travel	191.00	1,204.00	1,013.00	15.86
Programming and Planning	14.00	35.00	21.00	40.00
Client Disbursements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leases	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Minor Equipment	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Depreciation	368.00	560.00	192.00	65.71
Other	72,676.00	65,410.00	-7,266.00	111.11
Salary and Related Expenses	34,209.00	35,584.00	1,375.00	96.14
Total Operating Expenses	84,807.00	74,228.00	-10,579.00	114.25
L. Total CLSP Expenses	119,016.00	109,812.00	-9,204.00	108.38
M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year	1,383.00	M = J - L	348.00	Total Variance

Other Income

Total funds Received from Other Bodies				
Total funds Received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities				

Calculate Surplus/Deficit For Next Year

Actual Capital Exp in Current yr	0.00	P
N.Surplus/Deficit for Next Year	20,602.00	N = A + M - P

HRCLS/FRC Partnership Project:

FRC

28/Oct/2013

NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	2,916.00	A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year
Approved Capital Expenditure	0.00	
Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	2,916.00	B.Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr

CURRENT YEAR	12 month	YTD Budget	Variance to Date	% over Year
CLSP Income				
Commonwealth	57,340.00	57,341.00	-1.00	100.00
State	1,372.00	1,371.00	1.00	100.07
Service Generated Income	0.00	-618.00	618.00	0.00
J.Total CLSP Income	58,712.00	58,094.00	618.00	101.06
K.CLSP General Purpose Income	61,628.00	K = ([(Quarterly Period) / 4] x B) + J		

CLSP Expenses				
Salaries	29,892.00	30,875.00	983.00	96.82
Superannuation	2,766.00	2,779.00	13.00	99.53
On Costs	1,397.00	1,930.00	533.00	72.38
Rent	3,478.00	4,075.00	597.00	85.35
Repairs and Maintenance	171.00	18.00	-153.00	950.00
Other Premises Costs	1,419.00	912.00	-507.00	155.59
Staff Training	1,048.00	500.00	-548.00	209.60
Staff Recruitment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Communications	1,434.00	1,114.00	-320.00	128.73
Office Overheads	1,800.00	1,220.00	-580.00	147.54
Insurance	0.00	36.00	36.00	0.00
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	210.00	40.00	-170.00	525.00
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	514.00	695.00	181.00	73.96
Travel	501.00	1,340.00	839.00	37.39
Programming and Planning	14.00	50.00	36.00	28.00
Client Disbursements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leases	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Minor Equipment	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Depreciation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	7,045.00	7,045.00	0.00	100.00
Salary and Related Expenses	34,055.00	35,584.00	1,529.00	95.70
Total Operating Expenses	17,634.00	17,145.00	-489.00	102.85
L. Total CLSP Expenses	51,689.00	52,729.00	1,040.00	98.03
M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year	7,023.00	M = J - L		1,658.00 Total Variance

Other Income

Total funds Received from Other Bodies				
Total funds Received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities				

Calculate Surplus/Deficit For Next Year

Actual Capital Exp in Current yr	0.00	P
N.Surplus/Deficit for Next Year	9,939.00	N = A + M - P

NSW Outreach:

State Project 2

28/Oct/2013

NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	-6,232.00	A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year
Approved Capital Expenditure	0.00	
Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	-6,232.00	B.Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr

CURRENT YEAR	12 month	YTD Budget	Variance to Date	% over Year
CLSP Income				
Commonwealth	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
State	78,613.00	78,613.00	0.00	100.00
Service Generated Income	0.00	-844.00	844.00	0.00
J.Total CLSP Income	78,613.00	77,769.00	844.00	101.09
K.CLSP General Purpose Income	72,381.00	K = ((Quarterly Period)/4) x B) + J		

CLSP Expenses				
Salaries	41,206.00	44,826.00	3,620.00	91.92
Superannuation	3,255.00	3,291.00	36.00	98.91
On Costs	1,835.00	2,286.00	451.00	80.27
Rent	4,753.00	5,635.00	882.00	84.35
Repairs and Maintenance	230.00	24.00	-206.00	958.33
Other Premises Costs	1,794.00	1,268.00	-526.00	141.48
Staff Training	867.00	500.00	-367.00	173.40
Staff Recruitment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Communications	1,853.00	1,882.00	29.00	98.46
Office Overheads	1,913.00	1,602.00	-311.00	119.41
Insurance	0.00	49.00	49.00	0.00
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	210.00	55.00	-155.00	381.82
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	893.00	1,084.00	91.00	91.61
Travel	1,413.00	1,703.00	290.00	82.97
Programming and Planning	27.00	300.00	273.00	9.00
Client Disbursements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leases	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Minor Equipment	31.00	100.00	69.00	31.00
Depreciation	149.00	250.00	101.00	59.60
Other	9,434.00	9,434.00	0.00	100.00
Salary and Related Expenses	46,296.00	50,403.00	4,107.00	91.85
Total Operating Expenses	23,667.00	23,886.00	219.00	99.08
L. Total CLSP Expenses	69,963.00	74,289.00	4,326.00	94.18
M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year	8,650.00	M = J - L		5,170.00
			Total Variance	

Other Income

Total funds Received from Other Bodies				
Total funds Received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities				

Calculate Surplus/Deficit For Next Year

Actual Capital Exp in Current yr	0.00	P
N.Surplus/Deficit for Next Year	2,418.00	N = A + M - P

Family Lawyers Support:

State Project 3

28/Oct/2013

NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	31,089.00	A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year
Approved Capital Expenditure	0.00	
Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr	31,089.00	B.Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr

CURRENT YEAR		12 month	YTD Budget	Variance to Date	% over Year
CLSP Income					
	Commonwealth	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	State	60,052.00	60,054.00	-2.00	100.00
	Service Generated Income	1,639.00	-632.00	2,271.00	-259.34
	J.Total CLSP Income	61,691.00	59,422.00	2,269.00	103.82
	K.CLSP General Purpose Income	92,780.00	K = ((Quarterly Period)/4) x B) + J		

CLSP Expenses					
	Salaries	41,076.00	38,231.00	-2,845.00	107.44
	Superannuation	2,967.00	2,884.00	-83.00	102.88
	On Costs	1,960.00	2,003.00	43.00	97.85
	Rent	3,558.00	4,734.00	1,176.00	75.16
	Repairs and Maintenance	175.00	18.00	-157.00	972.22
	Other Premises Costs	1,406.00	515.00	-891.00	273.01
	Staff Training	18,474.00	18,036.00	-438.00	102.43
	Staff Recruitment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Communications	2,601.00	1,139.00	-1,462.00	228.36
	Office Overheads	3,270.00	1,708.00	-1,562.00	191.45
	Insurance	0.00	37.00	37.00	0.00
	Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	210.00	41.00	-169.00	512.20
	Library, Resources & Subscriptions	439.00	859.00	420.00	51.11
	Travel	1,042.00	1,112.00	70.00	93.71
	Programming and Planning	55.00	50.00	-5.00	110.00
	Client Disbursements	3,146.00	1,000.00	-2,146.00	314.60
	Leases	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Minor Equipment	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
	Depreciation	464.00	650.00	186.00	71.38
	Other	7,206.00	7,206.00	0.00	100.00
	Salary and Related Expenses	46,003.00	43,118.00	-2,885.00	106.69
	Total Operating Expenses	42,046.00	38,105.00	-3,941.00	110.34
	L. Total CLSP Expenses	88,049.00	81,223.00	-6,826.00	108.40
	M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year	-26,358.00	M = J - L		-4,557.00
				Total Variance	

Other Income

Total funds Received from Other Bodies				
Total funds Received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities				

Calculate Surplus/Deficit For Next Year

Actual Capital Exp in Current yr	0.00	P
N.Surplus/Deficit for Next Year	4,731.00	N = A + M - P

Albury Cooperative Legal Service Delivery (CLSD):

Attachment 3B

Regional Coordination Service Income and Expenditure Statement

Reporting Period:	1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013				
Organisation Name:	UMFC/HRCLS				
CLSD Region:	Albury				
SURPLUS or DEFICIT from previous year (if approved in writing by Legal Aid NSW)	\$665				
	DETAILS:	Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Variance \$	Variance %
INCOME:					
Surplus/deficit b/fwd from previous year (+ or -)		\$665	\$ 665.00	\$ -	
Annual grant (excluding GST)		\$ 19,376.00	\$ 19,884.00	\$ 508.00	2.6%
Other - income, or reimbursement		-\$ 208.00	-\$ 108.00	\$ 100.00	-48.1%
Total Income		\$19,833	\$ 20,441.00	\$ 608.00	3.1%
EXPENDITURE:					
Employee Related Expenses					
CLSD Regional Coordinator salary		\$8,061	\$8,284	\$223	2.8%
Other staff-related expenses		\$100	\$0	(\$100)	-100.0%
On-costs		\$1,229	\$1,119	(\$110)	-9.0%
Sub-total Employee Related Expenses		\$9,390	\$9,403	\$13	0.1%
Operating Expenses					
Administrative costs		\$1,059	\$562	(\$497)	-46.9%
Management fee		\$2,325	\$2,325	\$0	0.0%
Admin costs (utilities, insurance, audit, cleaning)		\$303	\$745	\$442	145.9%
Rent		\$1,372	\$1,160	(\$212)	-15.5%
Printing, advertising, postage		\$626	\$1,506	\$880	140.6%
Communications/Phone		\$375	\$1,258	\$883	235.5%
Travel/Venue hire		\$528	\$382	(\$146)	-27.7%
Training/Supervision		\$100	\$0	(\$100)	-100.0%
Contingency funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	
Depreciation		\$350	\$240	(\$110)	-31.4%
Office overheads		\$143	\$194	\$51	35.7%
				\$0	
Sub-total Operating Expenses		\$7,181	\$8,372	\$1,191	16.6%
Other Administrative Costs (must be less than 10% of annual funds)					
Maintenance & repairs		\$0	\$0	\$0	
Program maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	
Financial accountability		\$0	\$0	\$0	
Minor office equipment		\$100	\$0	(\$100)	-100.0%
Sundries		0	0	\$0	
Sub-total Other Administrative Costs		\$100	\$0	(\$100)	-100.0%
Total Expenditure		\$16,671	\$17,775	\$1,104	6.6%
*Surplus or Deficit to be C/fwd		\$3,162	\$2,666	(\$496)	-15.7%

Walk this way for law week that's all action



BY MARK MULCAHY

IT'S an innovative approach which people associated with the law in both Victoria and NSW hope will strike a chord with the community.

A five-kilometre walk is being held next Wednesday from Wodonga to Albury as one of the main features locally to mark National Law Week.

It will start at Wodonga Magistrates Court at 11am and finish at Albury Local Court with a barbecue afterwards in QEII Square. Those donning their runners will include solicitors, Law Society representatives, court staff, police, mediators, law students, volunteers, community groups and individuals.

"It is something a bit different. We want to be seen out in the community," North East Law Association president Karen Keegan said yesterday.

She said it would symbolise the cross-border association between sections of the legal fraternity.

Ms Keegan said lawyers were usually seen in suits at court, but the walk was intended to convey a different image to the community.

Albury Law Society president David Bartram said it was a good idea.

The theme for National Law Week is "law and justice in the community".

Alison Maher, the community development

worker with the Hume Riverina Community Legal Service, said the week provided the opportunity for people to get information about local services and learn more about how the law affects them.

"For the local community, Law Week offers the chance to learn more about the legal system, get free legal advice and information and to celebrate the services on both sides of the border which work so well together in providing advice and support."

Anyone wanting to register for the walk can contact Ms Maher on 1800 918 377.

A "Women in Law" breakfast is being held next Monday with guest speaker, Albury police

commander Supt Beth Storton.

Bookings can be made with Sarah Caplice at the Hume Riverina Community Legal Service on (02) 6057 5000.

There are tours and information sessions at Wangaratta court next Tuesday from 10.30am to 11.30am and Wodonga on Friday from 11am to noon, bookings required.

A free legal information session will be held at Albury's Retro Cafe next Wednesday for an hour from 1.30pm.

The Hume Riverina Community Legal Service will run free legal advice clinics at Wodonga, Wangaratta, Deniliquin, Finley and the Albury-Wodonga Aboriginal Health Service, phone 1800 918 377.

● ABOVE: Sen-Constable Emma-Jane Musgrave from NSW, North East Law Association president Karen Keegan, registrar Jacki Roche, Albury and District Law Society president David Bartram, leading senior constable Glen Allerdice and Sergeant Paul Gay will walk from Wodonga court to Albury court to promote Law Week. Picture: DAVID THORPE

ANNEXURE 2:

NATIONAL LAW WEEK 2013

National Law Week was held on 13 – 19 May 2013. National Law Week is an annual event aimed at increasing public awareness about the law, the legal system and the legal profession as well as educating the public about the legal services available.

Planning:

Planning for this event commenced in February 2013. Meetings were held at the Albury Library Museum on 19 February and 30 April 2013, with regular emails to participating members and organisations leading up to the actual week.

Participants:

Alison Maher – Hume Riverina Community Legal Service (HRCLS)
Michelle Head – Albury Library Museum
David Bartram - President, Albury & District Law Society (ADLS)
Travis Johnson – Young Lawyers Representative, ADLS
Karen Keegan – President (former), North East Law Association (NELA)
Amy Smallpage & Emma Musgrave – NSW Police
Peter Kellow / Jacki Roche – Wodonga Court
Sarah Caplice, VLA lawyer (HRCLS)
Nicole Saunders, Wangaratta Magistrates Court
Wendy Howard - Albury Local Court
Sarah Reid – Dispute Settlement Centre Victoria (DSCV)
Maralee Vogel - Albury City
Karen Bowley, Cooperative Legal Service Delivery (CLSD).

Funding:

A grant application was submitted to the Law Society of NSW by the Albury Library Museum prior to 8 March 2013. This application was successful in the sum of \$1000 inclusive of GST.

Summary of events:

Women in Law Breakfast - Monday 13 May 2013

This breakfast was coordinated by Sarah Caplice, VLA lawyer. The guest speaker was Superintendent Elizabeth Stirton, Albury Local Area Commander, Albury Police. Superintendent Stirton delivered an inspirational talk on women in NSW Police from 1914 to the current day, the importance of fostering positive mentors and networks, and taking opportunities as they present.

This event was the 5th annual breakfast and continues to be a well attended with 30 women attending from various legal professions. The cost was \$25 per head which included a hot breakfast. The North East Law Association contributed approximately \$300 towards room and catering costs.

Continued...

Wangaratta Magistrates Court Tour – Tuesday 14 May 2013

The Wangaratta Magistrates Court held a free tour and information session focussing on the different jurisdictions of the Court and an address by the head jury keeper about jury service. This event was attended by 3 members of the public.

Crime Fiction – Why is it so popular? With Thriller Crime Writer L.A. Larkin – Albury Library Museum – Tuesday 14 May 2013

This workshop was organised by Michelle Head of the Albury Library Museum. L.A. Larkin discussed why, in a violent world, crime fiction and especially thrillers are so popular? LA Larkin's first novel "The Genesis Flaw" has been nominated for 4 crime writing awards. This session was well attended by 16 participants. The Albury Library Museum funded this project.

Law on the Border – an Interstate Journey – Wednesday 15 May 2013

A new initiative designed to highlight the many cross border services working in the legal profession. A walk took place from the Wodonga Magistrates Court to the Albury Local Court, concluding with a BBQ at the Retro Cafe, Albury. The weather was brisk with threatening showers, however approximately 20 people participated in the 5 km walk. The BBQ was cooked by young lawyers of the ADLS and sponsored by Albury City.

NELA and the ADLS sponsored the event with specifically designed bright green t-shirts which enhanced the public profile.

The Law and how it affects you? – Albury City and HRCLS – Wednesday 15 May 2013

Albury City facilitated a seminar titled "The law and how it affects you" for Bhutanese community members. Karen Keegan, principal lawyer of the HRCLS spoke to 30 Albury TAFE students on topics including family law and family violence in the context of the Australian Legal System. Three interpreters from the Bhutanese community assisted with the presentation.

Neighbourhood disputes presentation – DSCV and HRCLS – Thursday 16 May 2013

This session was organised by the DSCV and held at the Cube, Wodonga. Andrea Georgiou, HRCLS Generalist Lawyer and Sara Reid, DSCV jointly presented to an audience of 4 persons on common types of neighbourhood disputes such as trees, fences and animals and how to resolve such problems.

Room hire and a light lunch was provided by the DSCV.

CLSD Breakfast with Registrar Wendy Howard, Albury Local Court – Friday 17 May 2013

This breakfast was held by the CLSD at La Maison Cafe, Wodonga. The breakfast was attended by 17 members including 3 private practitioners and 2 police officers, one of which was Superintendent Stirton. The Breakfast provided the opportunity to discuss the purpose of the CLSD and active CLSD partners provided examples of past projects. Wendy Howard, Registrar of the Albury Local Court then spoke about the changes in the Court and the different roles she undertakes eg Coroners work.

This event was funded through the CLSD project.

Continued...

Wodonga Magistrates Court Tour – Friday 17 May 2013

The Wodonga Magistrates Court offered a free tour and information session at the Court for members of the public. Unfortunately there were no participants this year.

HRCLS Law Clinics – 14, 15 & 16 May 2013

The HRCLS operated free legal advice clinics throughout the week including Finley, Deniliquin, Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health Service, Wangaratta and Wodonga. These clinics were operated by lawyers from the HRCLS as well as volunteer solicitors with the Service.

Media Coverage

- A media release was forwarded to all media contacts on 1 May 2013.
- A timetable of events was published in the Border Mail on Wednesday 8 May 2013. This timetable detailed all events running for the week together with contact details.
- An article “Stopping that Racket” was published in the News Weekly on 8 May 2013. This article focused on the neighbourhood disputes session, as well as highlighting the other law week events.
- An article “Walk this way for law week that’s all action” featured 6 local professionals from cross border organisations such as police, courts, and law societies. This article was published by the Border Mail on 10 May 2013.
- Win TV reported on the Law on the Border Walk on 15 May 2013.
- 2AY and ABC radio also advertised events.
- All events were included on websites including Community Connect, Infotree (DAIS), National Law Week and Law Foundation (Victoria).

Conclusion

Law Week 2013 offered a diverse range of activities and events which on the whole were very well attended. Law Week provided an opportunity for cross border agencies and professionals to work together to promote the law in a positive light to the community. Well done to all involved.

Alison Maher,

Community Development Worker, HRCLS.

23 May 2013.