



**hume riverina**  
community legal service

---

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2011 - 12**

---

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Acknowledgement.....  | 1  |
| Principal Lawyers Report.....   | 2  |
| Hours of Operation.....   | 4  |
| Staff.....  | 5  |
| Volunteers.....   | 6  |
| Pro Bono Partnerships.....  | 7  |
| Advice & Casework – general overview.....                                   | 9  |
| Family Law Legal Aid Assistance.....  | 10 |
| Family Law Assistance Clinic.....   | 11 |
| Legal Assistance to the Family Relationship Centre.....                     | 12 |
| Family Law Focused Clinical Legal Education Program.....                    | 13 |
| Outreach Services.....  | 15 |
| Duty Lawyer Services.....   | 18 |
| Subsidised Will Scheme.....   | 19 |
| Collaborative & Cooperative Activities.....                                 | 20 |
| Community Legal Education Activities.....                                   | 23 |
| Law Reform & Legal Policy.....  | 24 |
| Additional Income.....  | 25 |
| UMFC Board Members Profile & Contact Details.....                           | 26 |
| Audited Financial Statements.....   | 27 |
| Annexure 1: Local Law Week events, articles in the Law Society Journal..... | 33 |
| Annexure 2: ‘Expert leads forum on drug law debate’ Article.....            | 34 |

## **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:*

| <b><u>FUNDING BODY</u></b>                             | <b><u>FUNDS PROVIDED</u></b> |
|--|------------------------------|
| <i>Commonwealth Attorney Generals Department</i>       | <i>\$417,814.00</i>          |
| <i>Victorian State Government (Victoria Legal Aid)</i> | <i>\$203,763.00</i>          |
| <i>NSW State Government (NSW Legal Aid)</i>            | <i>\$ 19,376.00</i>          |
| <i>NSW Public Purpose Fund</i>                         | <i>\$ 76,696.00</i>          |
|  | <i><u>\$717,649.00</u></i>   |

# PRINCIPAL LAWYERS REPORT

---

The HRCLS has had another productive and busy year, with the continuation of outreach services, telephone advice and face-to-face clinics providing a quick response to our community and their legal needs.

While our client service delivery programs have generally remained the same, we did have to make some hard decisions at the end of the financial year, in relation to reducing our expenditure, to ensure we keep within our funding grants. Unfortunately, we had to make a part-time solicitor position redundant, this led to the loss of Beth Simpson, a highly valued solicitor in our Service. We were very sorry to see Beth depart, but in these uncertain financial times, these difficult decisions have to be made, to ensure the overall future of the Service within our region. Beth's energy and contribution to Family Violence legal interventions and Family Law were significant, we hope to continue to build on the great work she had done across the sector. We have also had to make the decision to close our doors for one day per week; this decision was also forced on the Service due to funding issues. The impact of these decisions on the lives of the staff here at HRCLS is not lost on me as Principal Lawyer/Service Manager, but ultimately I have to be focussed on the health and wellbeing of the Service, well into the future.

As reported last year, we continue to be benefited by the contribution and energy of our Practical Legal Training (PLT) students and volunteer staff. Our work output is enhanced by their participation, once again thank you to one and all.

We have many achievements as a Service, but several highlights need to be noted. Sarah Rodgers prepared and delivered a paper on our clinical legal education partnership with Charles Darwin University at the Rural and Regional Law and Justice Conference in Coffs Harbour in May 2012. During Law Week 2012, HRCLS hosted a community forum titled 'The abject failure of the war on drugs', at which we delighted to host Dr Alex Wodak, AM, President Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation.

Our auspicing agency, Upper Murray Family Care (UMFC) set a pedometer challenge in which HRCLS entered two teams, Team Brilliant and Team Amazing. There is one thing that HRCLS staff love to do (apart from eating chocolate), and that is compete against each other. Team Brilliant won the challenge, congratulations to these team members from HRCLS. Health and wellbeing are integral to any workplace, HRCLS has held several wellbeing activities during the reporting period, with a fun orienteering (walking) event, laughter yoga, 80's trivia and painting. These events provide a great opportunity for all staff to get away from their desks, to relax and have some fun and laughter.



What a work of art!



Team Brilliant members receiving a certificate and prize for winning the pedometer challenge.



The HRCLS team celebrating 80's style!

Continued...

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our auspice agency, UMFC, particularly the CEO and Directors, for their continued support and guidance. HRCLS enjoys being part of the greater UMFC family, we receive excellent administrative, governance and financial support from all staff within UMFC, and it makes our job so much easier.

HRCLS faces day to day challenges with clients who find themselves in desperate personal, physical and financial situations; our team works side by side with these clients, maintaining a sense of balance, a sense of humour and most importantly a sense of justice. A job well done once again.

***Karen Keegan***  
***Principal Lawyer***

# HOURS OF OPERATION

---

**9am to 5pm Monday to Friday**

## ***Telephone Advice & Information \****

Monday 10am to 1pm

Thursday 9.40am to 12.40pm (family law only)

Thursday 1pm to 4pm

---

## ***Face to Face Clinics \****

Wodonga Office on Tuesday evenings

Wangaratta Office on Tuesday evenings (fortnightly)

---

## ***Family Law Assistance Clinics \****

Wodonga office on Wednesday afternoons (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

---

## ***Intervention Order Court Support Program***

Wodonga Magistrates Court on alternating Wednesdays & Thursdays

---

## ***Supervised Student Advice Clinic***

Wodonga office on Monday afternoons

*\* Appointments essential*

# STAFF

## Permanent Staff as at 30 June 2012

### HRCLS LAWYERS



**Karen Bowley**  
NSW Outreach Lawyer



**Sarah Caplice**  
VLA Seconded Lawyer



**Andrea Georgiou**  
Victorian Outreach Lawyer



**Karen Keegan**  
Principal Lawyer



**Sarah Rodgers**  
FLCCLP &  
FRC/CLC Partnership lawyer



**Beth Simpson**  
Generalist Lawyer

### ADMINISTRATION TEAM



**Ashlie Barclay**  
Office Manager



**Melanie Barton**  
Albury CLSD  
Regional Coordinator



**Julie Garner**  
Administrator



**Alison Maher**  
Community  
Development Worker



**Tracey Walker**  
Legal Assistant

Other staff employed during 2011-12:

**Andrew Johanson** – Community Project Worker

**Michelle Matthews** —Albury CLSD Regional Coordinator

**Kate Singline** – Casework Audit Lawyer (temporary)

# 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. As at 30 June 2012 we have a team of 22 very talented volunteer lawyers who volunteer their time at our weekly Wodonga and fortnightly Wangaratta evening clinics on a roster basis. We also have 2 law students who volunteer their time during the day at our office. Without them, we would not be able to run such successful and well attended advice clinics.



Dusan Jovetic



Dione Garwell



Derek Norquay



Dirk de Zwart



Eugene Butkowski



Allison Bruce

Volunteers as at 30 June 2012:

## WODONGA

Allison Bruce (Robb & Associates)  
 Eugene Butkowski  
 Jye Cunneen (Trivett Keating)  
 Dirk de Zwart  
 Greg Duncan  
 Dione Garwell (Pogson Cronin)  
 Emma Hill (Skinner & Associates)  
 Andrew Johanson  
 Dusan Jovetic (Trivett Keating)  
 Ross Kearney  
 Tanya Klein (Kell Moore)  
 Derek Norquay  
 Sarah Rodgers (HRCLS)  
 Peter Uniake (Slater & Gordon)  
 Maralee Vogel  
 Melanie Barton  
 Janet Osborne (Law Student)  
 Diana Bruce (Graduate Law Student)

## WANGARATTA

Vic Campagna (Campagna Gray & Mallinder)  
 Laura Evans-McKendry (Hargraves)  
 Danny Frigerio (Maurice Blackburn)  
 Jonathan Green (Slater & Gordon)  
 David Joseph  
 Jodie Wells (Peter S Dunn & Associates)

### 2010-11

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Advice provided</b> (Wodonga clinic)     | <b>339</b> |
| <b>Advices provided</b> (Wangaratta clinic) | <b>45</b>  |

### 2011-12

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Advice provided</b> (Wodonga clinic)     | <b>329</b> |
| <b>Advices provided</b> (Wangaratta clinic) | <b>7</b>   |



# PRO BONO PARTNERSHIPS

---

## CLAYTON UTZ

HRCLS is partnered with Clayton Utz, a large national law firm which gives us pro bono assistance in a variety of matters, whether it be discussing legal issues in a particular case, representing a client in litigation or providing facilities for meetings. In the latter category, Clayton Utz provided 2 conference rooms with catering and IT support for an all day meeting for Victorian RRR community legal centres in March 2012. There were over 50 CLC workers in attendance and without these facilities provided in central Melbourne, the day would not have been the success it was.

### *One example of how Clayton Utz has assisted a client:*

**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 assisted 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.

## ashurst

On 7 December 2011 HRCLS organised a talk and workshop on Wills, Powers of Attorney and Enduring Guardianship for parents and carers of persons with impaired capacity (such as intellectual disability, mental illness, brain injury or dementia). Project funding was sought from Cooperative Legal Service Delivery (CLSD) and we worked in partnership with Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Department of Human Services NSW, InterLink Service, a division of Kurrajong Waratah, Albury City Council and Intereach for a project aimed at educating parents and carers of people with impaired capacity about the importance of having a Will, Power of Attorney and Enduring Guardianship and assisting them in the drafting of those documents. The aim was for the attendees to have executed these documents free of charge.

*Continued....*

The CLSD funding was for the cost of bringing lawyers from Blakes Dawson (now Ashurst Australia) in Sydney to Albury to run the workshops and organise the taking of instructions for the legal documents. Room hire was donated by Albury City Council and lunch was funded by Intereach. The lawyers gave their services pro bono. Three lawyers came from Sydney, gave a talk on the importance of these life planning documents, then took instructions from 11 of the attendees, with the assistance of HRCLS lawyers. Drafts were sent to all clients and after finalisation of the draft documents, they were then executed by the clients.

There has been positive feedback orally from participants who thoroughly enjoyed the day. They found it informative and practically useful. The CLSD partners have requested another workshop to be held in November 2012. We have made this request to Ashurst and have commenced work on the advertising material and promotion to relevant networks.

Ashurst has extensive experience in running these workshops throughout NSW for both parents and carers of persons with impaired capacity and for Aboriginal people, so their services will continue to be utilised by us in the future.



*Anne Cregan taking instructions at the Wills Day*



*Ashurst Lawyers & our very own Karen Bowley with a very happy client*

## 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 (**670** advices given);
- ❖ Intervention Orders/Apprehended Violence Orders (**315** advices given);
- ❖ Divorce (**82** advices given);
- ❖ Property in marriage/de facto (**265** advices given);
- ❖ Consumer complaints (**60** advices given);
- ❖ Wills/probate - making/contest/obtaining benefit (**84** advices given);
- ❖ Neighbourhood disputes (**38** advices given);
- ❖ Motor vehicle accidents (**39** advices given); and
- ❖ Road Traffic Offences/ Fines (**74** advices given)

### Our “Top 5” areas of legal inquiries were:

1. Spending time / living with (child) issues (670)
2. Intervention Orders (315)
3. Property in marriage/de facto (265)
4. Separation (94)
5. Wills, Probate & Estate issues (84)

### Our “Top 5” areas of casework were:

1. Intervention Orders (186)
2. Spending time / live with (child) issues (130)
3. Motor vehicle accidents (18)
4. Property in marriage (16)
5. Child protection applications/orders (15) & Divorce (15)

Our lawyers have been extremely busy this year. They have provided **1,631** advices to people within our catchment area. This is 97 more advices than were provided in 2010-11:

| Worker Name       | Face to face | Telephone  | Mail     | Email    | TTY      | TOTAL        |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Karen Bowley      | 158          | 61         |          |          |          | <b>219</b>   |
| Sarah Caplice     | 50           | 141        |          | 1        |          | <b>192</b>   |
| Andrea Georgiou   | 92           | 258        |          |          |          | <b>350</b>   |
| Karen Keegan      | 44           | 30         | 1        |          |          | <b>75</b>    |
| Sarah Rodgers     | 213          | 179        | 1        |          | 1        | <b>394</b>   |
| Elizabeth Simpson | 180          | 218        |          | 2        |          | <b>400</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>737</b>   | <b>887</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>1,631</b> |

# 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.

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.

Over the past 6 years, the Family Lawyer Service has provided assistance for an increasing number of clients in children and property matters, and in the last 12 months has expanded to assisting clients in child protection matters.

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 Magistrates Courts, and works closely with the Gateway Community Health Service to co-run 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.

| 2010-11<br>(State Project 3)                  |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Total Advice Activities</b>                | <b>293</b> |
| <b>Total cases open during period</b>         | <b>124</b> |
| - Open at period start                        | 1          |
| - New (opened in period)                      | 123        |
| - Still open at period end (ongoing)          | 52         |
| <b>Total cases closed during period</b>       | <b>72</b>  |
| - Closed involving court representation       | 14         |
| - Closed involving primary dispute resolution | 4          |

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

## **CASE STUDY 1...**

### **FACTS:**

*The father sought our assistance for a recovery order. The mother had moved from the local area with their child without the permission of the father, even though he had been spending regular time with him. As the mother had moved a significant distance from the father, he was now unable to spend time with the child as per their current agreement.*

*Continued....*

### **OUTCOME:**

*HRCLS assisted the father by sending a letter to the mother by email seeking the return of the child while also in seeking an urgent grant of legal aid. We then prepared an application to the Federal Magistrates Court seeking a recovery order for the child to be returned to the area. At the first mention, the parents were ordered to attend a Child Dispute Conference to try to resolve their parenting issues. At the conference, the mother indicated that she would return to the local area to live with the child. The father is once again spending regular time with his child.*

## **FAMILY LAW ASSISTANCE CLINIC**

Going to Court can be daunting, especially if you have to represent yourself. The Family Law Assistance Clinic ("FLAC") is a program that continues to help people who cannot get legal aid, but are also unable to afford to pay for a private solicitor, to access free legal advice and assistance with their family law case.

In 2012, changes were introduced by Victoria Legal Aid that further restricted access to legal aid funding for family law matters. This means that FLAC clinic is an even more important service than ever before, with the increasing numbers of self-representing litigants in Court.

Our aim is to empower clients to seek positive outcomes for themselves through negotiation or in Court, by giving them some help along the way. The assistance could be something as simple as writing a letter on behalf of a parent after separation, or it could involve supporting someone through their Family Court proceedings by preparing their Court documents and giving legal advice throughout their Court case.

We have helped a large number of people with parenting applications (including matters involving child contact, DNA testing and change of names), property settlements, divorce applications and negotiation in parenting cases where mediation was not appropriate.

## **CASE STUDY 2...**

### **FACTS:**

*A father approached the HRCLS because he had not seen his daughter for about 3 years. The father had previously been a drug addict and suffered from depression, but had now taken steps to get control of his life and did not have any of these issues anymore. He believed it was in his daughter's best interests to have contact with him again.*

### **OUTCOME:**

*We wrote to the mother to see if she would agree to allow the father time with the daughter, but she indicated that she would not. We then helped the father apply to the Court for orders allowing him to spend time with his daughter. The Court appointed an Independent Children's Lawyer to be involved in the Court case. After a number of Court dates, the matter was settled out of Court, with the mother eventually agreeing to allow the father to spend time with the daughter on a supervised basis at the Children's Contact Service.*

## LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO THE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP CENTRE

The HRCLS is in the third year of its collaborative partnership with the Family Relationship Centre, which has provided a fantastic opportunity to work more closely together with the Family Relationship Centre to support clients to resolve their family law disputes through Family Dispute Resolution.

Through the partnership, the HRCLS delivers legal information sessions twice per week to parents and sometimes grandparents, who are seeking to mediate their family law issues. We aim to get across some important messages about what the law, for example:

- Children, not parents, have rights
- Going to Court is not always the best option
- The law does not say that parents have to agree to 50/50 time

The legal advice clinic is another key service that is delivered through the partnership once per week. This makes it easy for Family Relationship Centre clients to access free legal advice as soon as possible in their case, positioning them to resolve their disputes at the earliest possible stage instead of winding up in Court.

There is also scope through the partnership to provide assistance to clients at the mediation itself. This is a vital part of making sure that clients who are particularly vulnerable can proceed to mediation instead of being stuck with no options other than going to Court. Amanda Morrison, solicitor of Murray Mallee Community Legal Centre has kindly provided assistance to the other party in mediations conducted this year, so that both parents have the benefit of legal advice and representation.

A new development expected in 2012 is the availability of property mediations at the Family Relationship Centre, and the HRCLS has been involved in a working group with the Family Relationship Centre and Post Separation Services to develop the framework for this to occur.

This year the HRCLS has:

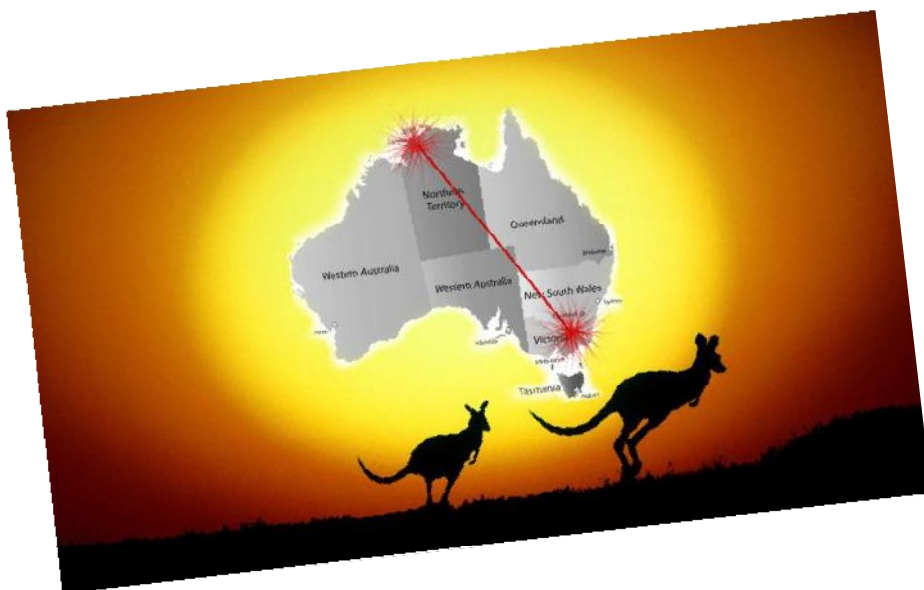
- Delivered 39 legal information sessions, attended by 201 participants
- Delivered 37 legal advice clinics, attended by 87 clients

| 2010-11<br>(FRC)                              |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Total Advice Activities</b>                | <b>81</b> |
| <b>Total cases open during period</b>         | <b>17</b> |
| - Open at period start                        | 0         |
| - New (opened in period)                      | 17        |
| - Still open at period end (ongoing)          | 6         |
| <b>Total cases closed during period</b>       | <b>11</b> |
| - Closed involving primary dispute resolution | 3         |

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

## Schools Education Project

An exciting opportunity arose for the HRCLS to work more closely with schools due to its involvement in the "Education Project". This project was largely developed by the Family Relationship Centre in conjunction with the Family Law Pathways Network. The project was established after a need was identified for school teachers to be provided with family law information, to provide better support to separated parents and avoid getting caught in the middle of family law disputes. The HRCLS has been involved with developing and delivering a presentation for school principals and staff about the law, and where parents can go to resolve their disputes. So far, the presentation has been delivered to 4 schools and early education providers, with approximately 99 staff attending the training.



## **FAMILY LAW FOCUSED CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

The HRCLS has continued its partnership with Charles Darwin University, now in its third year. This involves the HRCLS facilitating family law students on placement from the University for blocks of two weeks at a time.

The program is the only one of its kind in Australia, because of the distance of some 3800 kilometres between the HRCLS, and the University which is located in Darwin, Northern Territory. The partnership gives students a unique opportunity to experience the law in the bush, and to see the law in operation in a different location to where the students are living and studying. It also gives students further exposure to cross-border justice issues, due to the location of the HRCLS on the NSW and Victorian border.

Since 2011, the partnership has also expanded to enable the HRCLS to host Practical Legal Training (PLT) students. These are students who have finished their law studies but are required to obtain practical work experience before they can become qualified as lawyers. Our PLT students attend on longer placements of between 20 and 80 days.

In May 2012, the HRCLS delivered a paper at the National Rural and Regional Law and Justice Conference in Coffs Harbour, highlighting the benefits of the program for both students and Clinical Legal Education providers alike. Giving the students an opportunity to experience the law and life in the country opens their eyes to the benefits of a legal career in a regional setting, as well as the significant legal needs and sometimes disadvantage experienced by those who live in rural communities due to lack of legal services available in the regions. It is our hope that these students will develop a strong commitment to social justice which they will carry with them throughout their legal careers.

*Continued....*



There are also great benefits for the HRCLS through hosting student placements. The HRCLS has been able to extend its services to offer a special legal advice clinic every Monday where the students get to meet with clients themselves and deliver legal advice, under the supervision of a solicitor. Students have assisted clients in a wide variety of ways, including:

- Interviewing clients and delivering legal advice (under supervision)
- Preparing letters
- Drafting Court documents
- Legal research
- Creating fact sheets and brochures in plain English about the law

The valuable work, enthusiasm and energy contributed by the students to the HRCLS office cannot be overestimated. The HRCLS has also received overwhelmingly positive feedback from students about the quality of their experience. Some of the feedback received from our Charles Darwin University students has included:

***“An enjoyable experience, thank you to the whole office – very lovely atmosphere to work in”.***

***“This was an invaluable experience! This Centre is amazingly well run”***

***“The placement was great. Have learnt and seen so much. Was a great insight into the area of family law”.***

Here is what one of our PLT Students, Diana Bruce, had to say about her placement which continued for a period of 80 days:



*“To attain my Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, I needed to complete 75 days of legal work experience. So in December 2011, I started volunteering at the Hume Riverina Community Legal Service. It has been such a rewarding and interesting experience and I’ve enjoyed every minute of it.*

*During my Placement, I have been exposed to many different areas of law and to many different aspects of working in the community legal sector – telephone advice sessions, assisting lawyers in court, drafting court documents and correspondence, research, attending community legal education seminars, outreach clinics and drafting brochure material. The lawyers have always been eager to provide me with interesting and varied work, from family law matters to all kinds of general law issues.*

*Undertaking my Placement at the Service has allowed me to develop my skills, knowledge and confidence. I have developed from being nervous and apprehensive of communicating with clients at the beginning of my Placement to being confident and happy to engage with people from all walks of life. This experience has proven to me that I want to practice as a lawyer and that I have the ability to do so.*

*All members of the Service have made me feel so welcome and now I feel like a part of the team. It’s such a great environment to learn and develop and I can’t thank the team enough for their support and commitment. I continue to volunteer a few days a week and look forward to the new challenges and exciting matters which will no doubt continue to pass across my desk.”*

*Diana is due to become admitted as a lawyer in a few months, and has continued to volunteer at the HRCLS since finishing her placement.*

**Diana Bruce**  
**Graduate Law Student**

*Continued...*



## **CASE STUDY 3...**

### **FACTS:**

A client attended one of our supervised student clinics. One of our students took instructions from the client who was a wife who had separated from her husband after a 7 year relationship, and was left with nothing, even though the husband had tens of thousands of dollars in his superannuation fund. The wife was forced to rely upon a Centrelink disability pension payment to support herself, but the husband was regularly withdrawing money from his superannuation fund. The husband refused to pay anything to the wife, even though she had given him a large amount of cash at the start of the relationship and was now caring for the husband's child.

### **OUTCOME:**

Our students assisted the client with the necessary Court documentation to help the wife apply for an urgent Court order to stop the husband from taking any more money out of his super fund, and seeking a "super split" so that the remaining superannuation would be paid into a fund for the wife's benefit. The wife represented herself in Court and was successful in obtaining the orders.

## **OUTREACH SERVICES**

### **VICTORIAN OUTREACH:**

The HRCLS is committed to providing a high quality and on-going service through the delivery of an outreach program to the community in North East Victoria. The current HRCLS Outreach locations in the Victorian rural catchment area are:

- **Mt Beauty:** Neighbourhood Centre, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10 am – 11.30 am
- **Myrtleford:** Community Health Centre, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm
- **Wangaratta:** Upper Murray Family Care, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 3 pm – 5.00 pm & 5.30 pm – 7 pm
- **Corryong:** Community Neighbourhood House, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10 am – 12 noon
- **Tallangatta:** Health Service, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 1.30 pm – 3 pm

The benefit of this service is that the client is given a free 30 minute face-to-face appointment with the visiting solicitor so as to discuss their specific legal issue or concern and explore the options available to them. The solicitor may provide some on-going assistance to the client (depending on the type of matter is it) but it is done in a way as to encourage the client to be continually involved throughout the whole process so the client is empowered to be a part of the resolution of their issue.

The outreach program is beneficial as it links the law to the rural and regional community and increases people's access to justice, especially to those people who live in remote areas. The program also encourages and fosters ongoing relationships between community workers and organisations which allows a holistic approach in providing assistance and advice to clients who are in need. This enhances our profile within the community which in turns increases the assistance we can give to people by way of information, advice or community legal education.

*Continued...*

**VICTORIAN OUTREACH ADVICE STATS**  
**01/07/2010 – 30/06/2011**

*Mt Beauty 16*  
*Myrtleford 12*  
*Wangaratta 106*  
*Corryong 17*  
*Tallangatta 2*

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

*Mt Beauty 12*  
*Myrtleford 4*  
*Wangaratta 58*  
*Corryong 11*  
*Tallangatta 8*

## **CASE STUDY 4...**

**FACTS:**

*Client A (an uninsured motorist) was involved in a motor vehicle accident when the driver of another vehicle reversed into him. Client A asked the driver to pay for the damage but did not receive a response.*

**OUTCOME:**

*We wrote to the driver and asked them to pay for the damage themselves, or if they were insured, through their insurer. The driver passed on our letter to their insurer who then contacted the HRCLS and organised Client A's car to be assessed and repaired at their cost.*

### **NSW OUTREACH:**

NSW Outreach has continued to remain steady. Our weekly outreach to the Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health Service (AWAHS) has been a success due to our consistent attendance, building a strong relationship with staff and AWAHS making the appointments and organising the transport for clients. We will be consolidating this service with the holding of our wills workshops assisted by the pro bono services of Ashurst Australia.

Deniliquin continues to provide work for our service and Finley numbers have improved with our move to Intereach for our face to face advice clinics. Intereach in both Deniliquin and Finley and Albury are an enthusiastic and conscientious partner and do a lot of work promoting our clinics and CLE's and referring clients. Corowa's numbers are still down despite our relocation at the new Council offices although we only visit bi-monthly. We are giving an increased number of our Life Planning seminars in Corowa however, which is great promotion for our service. We will need to consider the future of our Howlong service due to low numbers. Our legal needs survey working group are addressing these issues.

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

*Continued...*

**NSW OUTREACH ADVICE STATS**  
**01/07/2010 – 30/06/2011**

Albury 38  
AWAHS 28  
Corowa 11  
Culcairn 3  
Deniliquin 38  
Finley 13  
Howlong 10  
Lavington 29  
Thurgoona 7

**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

## **CASE STUDY 5...**

**FACTS:**

An aboriginal client in one of our NSW outreach locations had a 10 year old son who had been expelled from the local primary school for the last 3 years. The client had been proactive in trying to resolve this issue, having issued a FOI application to the Department of Education. When she received this information she contacted our service to assist with reading the documents and to see if we could use the evidence contained within to lobby mental health services and the school on her son's behalf.

**OUTCOME:**

The mental health services were doing their best in difficult funding circumstances so we then wrote a detailed letter to the school principal outlining the need for this child to be given additional assistance in light of the fact that he lived in a remote area, was Aboriginal, was from a disadvantaged socio economic background and had significant learning difficulties. The school agreed to re-enrol our client's child in the school after a 3 year absence. We also empowered our client to contact her local Parliamentary member and the Minister for Education which she did with great success.

## DUTY LAWYER SERVICES

---

The HRCLS continued to provide duty lawyer services to the Wodonga Magistrates Court on Intervention Order (IVO) list days, on a weekly basis. The service was generally provided by Beth Simpson, supported by Sarah Caplice or Karen Keegan. The duty lawyer service involves attending on and representing applicants in family violence situations, generally respondents are attended on by other local lawyers under Legal Aid funding arrangements. Our Service does not extend to conducting contested hearings, so if the matter is not resolved at the first mention and has to be listed for a hearing, clients are referred to local lawyers to conduct these hearings.

In addition to providing legal assistance services, HRCLS has undertaken a range of other complimentary, integrated and preventative activities including:

- Participation in (or convening of) multiple family violence networks
- Liaison with indigenous and CALD services concerning family violence matters
- White Ribbon Day initiatives
- Delivering community legal education

It is noted that at Court, where both the applicant/Affected Family Member (AFM) and respondent have access to legal assistance, there is a high rate of resolution at the first Court date. This response is made possible locally when Legal Aid (through local lawyers) and our Community Legal Service operate a parallel duty lawyer service.

While the focus of our duty lawyer service is to the applicants in family violence situations, we have on occasions assisted respondents in family violence situations and also applicants and respondents under the *Personal Safety Interventions Order Act 2011*. Our service is greatly enhanced by the presence of mediators from the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria (DSCV), Hume Region, who are present at Court on IVO list days. Referral to DSCV staff can be achieved at various stages, either initially by Court staff, or by lawyers, or by the Magistrate, if deemed necessary or appropriate.

| 2010-11   | 2011-12   |
|---|---|
| Closed involving<br>court representation (generalist) 159 | Closed involving<br>court representation (generalist) 169 |

## SUBSIDISED WILL SCHEME

---

The Subsidised Will Scheme is continuing to strengthen in its third year of operation. Once again, we have seen a significant increase in the participation of local law firms from 10 firms in 30 June 2010, to 16 by 30 June 2011 and 25 by 30 June 2012. The increase in firm participation has brought with it a greater participation of firms in other areas of North East Victoria and the Riverina of New South Wales. This has meant that more people in our catchment area are now able to take advantage of this fantastic scheme.

The focus of the Scheme is to help people with limited financial capacity and who suffer from vulnerabilities such as health, age, family breakdown and language 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 solicitor from the HRCLS interviews and assesses the client's eligibility which is based on their financial circumstances and their particular vulnerability.
2. If 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 01/07/2011- 30/06/2012, 15 people were interviewed and assessed for their eligibility, with a total of 13 people satisfying the criteria. During this period, a total of **19 vouchers** were issued to these clients:

- Wills - **11** documents
- Enduring Power of Attorneys - **6** documents
- Enduring Guardianship - **2** documents

# COLLABORATIVE & COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

## NATIONAL LAW WEEK – 2012:

National Law Week was held on 14 – 21 May 2012. This year the themes for Law Week varied between the States. In New South Wales the theme was “Law and Justice in your Community”. In Victoria the theme was “Challenging the Myths around the Law and Legal Systems”.

Being a community legal service we were keen to challenge the myths. We started our campaign in early May with our HRCLS e-newsletter, in which the team put forward some compelling factual arguments as to why myths should be disregarded, and individual legal advice should be sought!

Various events were held during Law Week including:

- The Women in Law Breakfast - HRCLS
- Wodonga Courts & Police Complex Tour
- “A Walk on the Mild Side” – Dispute Settlement Centre Victoria
- Mock Court Trials – Albury Courts and NSW Police
- “Our Murky Past”, a historical perspective of the “Pyjama girl murder” - Albury Library Museum
- HRCLS Free Legal Clinics
- Wills and Powers of Attorney seminars – Private lawyers
- “Crime in the Library” - Wodonga Library; and
- “The War on Drugs – is legalisation the Answer?” community forum with Dr Wodak AM.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Women in Law Breakfast was coordinated by Sarah Caplice of the HRCLS. Professor Kate Auty, Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability Victoria was invited to attend as the guest speaker. This event featured in the NSW Law Society Journal in July 2012. A copy of the article can be found on page 33, **Annexure 1**.



*Karen Keegan (NELA president), Peter Chadwick SC & Kym Connell (ADLS president) at the forum.*

Another highlight of law week was the Community Forum titled “The War against Drugs – Is Legalisation the Answer?” This event was a collaborative effort by the North East Law Association (NELA) and the Albury and District Law Society (ADLS). The forum was coordinated by the HRCLS.

A keynote presentation was delivered by Dr Alex Wodak AM, an international speaker and president of the Australian Law Reform Foundation. A Q&A panel included representatives from New South Wales Police, Victoria Police, Victorian Bar and the local health profession. Karen Keegan, HRCLS Principal Lawyer and NELA President facilitated the forum and panel discussion.

*Continued...*



Whilst in Albury Dr Wodak provided an interview with ABC radio which generated much talk back discussion. This forum was also featured in an article by the Border Mail on 1 May 2012. A copy of the article can be found on page 34, **Annexure 2**.

### **ALBURY WODONGA FAMILY LAW PATHWAYS NETWORK (AWFLPN):**

The Albury Wodonga Family Law Pathways Network (FLPN) is an active network of family law services who work with separated and separating families. The HRCLS have supported this Network since its conception.

The HRCLS currently have 3 representatives on the reference group. Judy Davis, the current project officer, works out of the HRCLS and is supported in this role.

Sarah Rodgers, a HRCLS family lawyer was an active committee member in planning the annual FLPN conference titled “*Mental Health and Family Law: Coming Together*” which was held on 21 March 2012. Our students also assisted the committee with the conference and promotion of service at the trade hall.



*Sarah Mayes (Graduate Law Student) & Sarah Rodgers assisting with registrations at the Conference.*

### **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



*Cath Norris from Women's DV Court Advocacy Service & HRCLS lawyer Beth Simpson manning the stall*

*Continued...*

- Regional Law Societies
- Family Relationship Centres
- Family support services
- Mediation Services
- Domestic Violence Court Support Services
- 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



*HRCLS lawyer Sarah Rodgers, handing out information packs to passers by*

The CLSD Coordinator role for Albury has seen some changes this year with Brooke Morris finishing up as the Coordinator and Melanie Barton concluding the year in the position. There were four meetings held throughout the financial year, on 2 September 2011, 2 December 2011, 30 March 2012 and 22 June 2012. The meetings were well attended and were held at the Albury Library Museum.

The Albury CLSD network has completed several projects throughout the year, including several workshops on creating wills and community workers legal workshops. One of the major projects for the financial year was the Henty Machinery Field Days, which is held in conjunction with the Wagga Wagga CLSD region. This took place on September 20, 21 and 22. The CLSD enjoyed a prominent site at the field days, and a range of partners attended the stall. The partners who attended had a great day handing out balloons and information bags and were pleased with the amount of people who came to the stall to collect resources. Plans are well underway for the field days for the 2012-2013 financial year with a lot of partners again interested.

The CLSD program is still going strong in the Albury region, with many more exciting projects and service delivery planned in the next twelve months. We look forward to 2012 – 2013!



# COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

An important and major component of our work at the HRCLS is Community Legal Education (CLE).

In 2011-12 the HRCLS team delivered numerous CLE sessions across the region including:

- Life planning – Wills and Powers of Attorney;
- Family Law – Back on Track program at Gateway Community Health, and Information Sessions at the Family Relationships Centre;
- Changes to the Family Law Act;
- Family Violence and Intervention Orders;
- Who and what is the law? – an introduction to the HRCLS and the legal system;
- Youth Law - criminal convictions and police records.

## LIFE PLANNING:

Our most popular CLE is life planning where the HRCLS is regularly invited to present to a variety of community groups and organisations. In this period we presented approximately 18 life planning sessions to areas such as Deniliquin, Finley, Corowa, Howlong, Thurgoona, Myrtleford, Mt Beauty, Bright, Wangaratta and Wodonga.

The HRCLS are regular presenters in the Healthy and Wise program coordinated by the Older Persons Mental Health Service, North East Health Wangaratta.



Karen Bowley delivering the Life Planning CLE

### *What some participants had to say:*

*"The whole range of information was very timely and very thought provoking".*

*"I thought it was very clearly explained and made me realise that I need to review my affairs".*

*"I found every part of this information exactly what I need as I am about to re do my Will and realise there are extra things to think about".*

## WHO & WHAT IS THE LAW:

The HRCLS have established relationships with both the Riverina and Wodonga Institute of TAFEs where we have delivered CLE sessions to the social work / welfare students on topics such as the legal system and ethics.

## FAMILY LAW:

HRCLS supports the parenting programs conducted by Gateway Community Health, with a lawyer regularly presenting "Family Law and You" to parents on a range of programs.

Continued...

## **SPECIALIST LEGAL SERVICES:**

The HRCLS arranged for the following Specialist Legal Services to visit our region:

### **Australian Securities and Investments Commission**

On 24 August 2011 the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) attended the HRCLS to provide information on the new credit laws. From 1 July 2010 ASIC became the national regulator of consumer credit. The session discussed increased consumer protection, increased responsibilities of all credit providers and the new legislation.

### **Women's Legal Service of NSW**

On 10 October 2011 the HRCLS assisted the Women's Legal Service of NSW to organise a seminar for settlement / community workers to hear from specialist lawyers about family violence and the law.

### **Consumer Action Law Centre**

In November 2011 the Consumer Action Law Centre (CALC) presented on the "Do Not Knock Campaign". CALC provided information on legal rights and how to make a complaint regarding unwanted salespeople attending residences. Stickers were available for clients to display prominently at their homes to send a clear message to salespeople "you are not welcome here".

Being a rural, regional and remote service the HRCLS recognises the importance of specialist legal services and the flow on benefits which include professional development opportunities, secondary consultations and warm referrals.

## **LAW REFORM & LEGAL POLICY**

---

Law Reform is also an important part of the work undertaken by the HRCLS.

- On 1 September 2011 the HRCLS forwarded a submission to the Victorian Government in respect of proposed new laws that would create offences aimed at protecting children from harm. This project involved researching discussion papers and submissions, discussing the issues and formulating a written response drawing on the experiences of the family violence lawyer and HRCLS staff.
- During Law Week 2012 the HRCLS coordinated a community forum which focused on drug law reform. This included identifying appropriate speakers and panel members for the forum, inviting relevant professionals including politicians, engaging with media and increasing public awareness of the issues. This forum generated much media attention through both print and talk back radio.
- The HRCLS has also been working on driving and licensing issues transcending the border of New South Wales and Victoria. This project is in the investigative stages where anomalies are being identified, with a view to the development of an educative tool or law reform submission.

## **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

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>President</b><br>Greg Pearl<br>Dip Ed,<br>B Health Admin                   | Director of Infrastructure<br>Albury Wodonga Health<br>Cnr Wilson & Vermont St<br>Wodonga, Vic 3690 | 02 60 51 7469 (work)<br>0448 554 586 (mobile)<br><a href="mailto:greg.pearl@awh.org.au">greg.pearl@awh.org.au</a>   | Appointed to the Board on 8 June 2007. Greg was appointed President on 25 October 2011. Greg is currently Deputy CEO of Wodonga Regional Health Service based in Wodonga.   |
| <b>Vice President</b><br>Clare Grogan<br>B Ed.                                | 124 Delloro Rd<br>Wangaratta South 3678   | 03 5725 7228<br>0498 257 228<br><a href="mailto:claregrogan60@gmail.com">claregrogan60@gmail.com</a>  | Appointed to the Board on 12 December 2008. Clare was appointed Vice President on 25 October 2011. Clare has a background in teaching and currently works as an Education Officer at the Catholic Education Office in Wangaratta.   |
| <b>Treasurer</b><br>Phil Oates<br>Dip Bus. (Acc)                              | 7 Hall Court<br>Wodonga, Vic 3690   | 02) 6024 2698 (home)<br><a href="mailto:philmer27@hotmail.com">philmer27@hotmail.com</a>  | 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 WAW Credit Union.   |
| <b>Member</b><br>Lester Sawyer<br>B.Arch. ARAIA                               | PO Box 830<br>Albury, NSW 2640<br>559 Paine St<br>Albury NSW 2640                                   | 02) 6021 8484 (work)<br>0414 273 584 (mobile)<br>02) 6021 8829 (fax)<br>02) 6021 3394 (home)<br><a href="mailto:lestersawyer@bigpond.com.au">lestersawyer@bigpond.com.au</a>      | 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.  |
| <b>Member</b><br>Phil Stuckey<br>B Bus  | PO Box 1139<br>Wodonga, Vic 3689<br>610 Affleck Street<br>Albury, NSW 2640                          | 02 6056 2828 wk<br>02 6056 1181 fax<br>0417 242 381 mob<br>02 6041 1048 home<br><a href="mailto:Phil@kookabrothas.com">Phil@kookabrothas.com</a>                                  | Appointed to the Board on 19 February 2010. Phil runs a food manufacturing business in Wodonga established in 1987, was previously Manager of Upper North East Youth Services & has served on the boards of several community organisations and schools in the region.              |
| <b>Member</b><br>Judith Cue<br>BSW  | Social Worker<br>Mungabareena Aboriginal Corporation<br>21 Hovell St<br>Wodonga 3690                | <b>Ph:</b> 02 6024 7599<br><b>Fx:</b> 02 6056 0376<br><a href="mailto:cth@mungabareena.com">cth@mungabareena.com</a>  | Appointed to the Board on 25 October 2011, Judith is a Gunditjmara woman working for Mungabareena Aboriginal Corporation whilst on 12 months leave from Albury Wodonga Health, where she works as the Aboriginal Services Development worker.                                       |
| <b>Member</b><br>Robyn Gillis<br>BSc, AssDip<br>OHS,Mas HSM ,<br>GAICD        | CEO Tallangatta Health<br>12 Quoll Rd<br>Baranduda Vic 3691   | <b>Ph:</b> 0417 348 116<br><a href="mailto:robyn.gillis@ths.vic.gov.au">robyn.gillis@ths.vic.gov.au</a><br><a href="mailto:robyn.gillis@bigpond.com">robyn.gillis@bigpond.com</a> | 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.                              |
| <b>Member</b><br>Sunita Rama<br>LL.B, BEc                                     | Solicitor<br>Rama Myers Family Lawyers<br>3/103 Hume Street<br>Wodonga 3690                         | <b>Ph:</b> 02 6056 3667<br><a href="mailto:stevetodorovic@hotmail.com">stevetodorovic@hotmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:sunita@ramamyers.com.au">sunita@ramamyers.com.au</a>     | 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. |
| <b>Member</b><br>Felicity Fox<br>BBus   | 21 Bells Lane<br>Huon Vic 3689  | <b>Ph:</b> 02 6071 8556<br><b>Mob:</b> 0409 591 846   | Appointed to the Board on 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2012, Felicity works as the Board/Company Secretary with North East Catchment Management Authority and is also employed part time with Albury Wodonga Health.   |
| <b>CEO &amp; Public Officer</b><br>Luke Rumbold<br>BA, BSW, MSW,<br>PhD, FAIM | C/- UMFC<br>29 Stanley Street<br>Wodonga, Vic 3690  | 02) 6055 8030 (work)<br>02) 6022 8099 (fax)<br>0418 970 182 (mobile)<br><a href="mailto:lrumbold@umfc.com.au">lrumbold@umfc.com.au</a>  | Luke is currently the CEO of UMFC and has been with UMFC since 17 September 1984.   |

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Generalist Services:

### NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

|                                      |           |  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Surplus/Deficit from previous yr     | -1,162.00 | A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year   |
| Approved Capital Expenditure         | 0.00      |  |
| Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr | -1,162.00 | B.Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr |

### CURRENT YEAR

|                               | 12 month   | YTD Budget                           | Variance to Date | % over Year |
|-------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| CLSP Income                   |            |                                      |                  |             |
| Commonwealth                  | 254,704.00 | 254,702.00                           | 2.00             | 100.00      |
| State                         | 144,372.00 | 141,316.00                           | 3,056.00         | 102.16      |
| Service Generated Income      | 26,146.00  | 11,415.00                            | 14,731.00        | 229.05      |
| J.Total CLSP Income           | 425,222.00 | 407,433.00                           | 17,789.00        | 104.37      |
| K.CLSP General Purpose Income | 424,060.00 | K = (((Quarterly Period)/4) x B) + J |                  |             |

### CLSP Expenses

|                                    |            |            |            |                |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Salaries                           | 261,752.00 | 237,610.00 | -24,142.00 | 110.16         |
| Superannuation                     | 24,715.00  | 21,385.00  | -3,330.00  | 115.57         |
| On Costs                           | 16,155.00  | 14,071.00  | -2,084.00  | 114.81         |
| Rent                               | 26,362.00  | 25,060.00  | -1,302.00  | 105.20         |
| Repairs and Maintenance            | 748.00     | 122.00     | -626.00    | 613.11         |
| Other Premises Costs               | 8,014.00   | 6,399.00   | -1,615.00  | 125.24         |
| Staff Training                     | 6,067.00   | 7,109.00   | 1,042.00   | 85.34          |
| Staff Recruitment                  | 897.00     | 0.00       | -897.00    | 0.00           |
| Communications                     | 7,778.00   | 7,602.00   | 24.00      | 99.69          |
| Office Overheads                   | 6,586.00   | 9,590.00   | 3,004.00   | 68.68          |
| Insurance                          | 185.00     | 305.00     | 120.00     | 60.66          |
| Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees   | 280.00     | 278.00     | -2.00      | 100.72         |
| Library, Resources & Subscriptions | 12,783.00  | 11,500.00  | -1,283.00  | 111.16         |
| Travel                             | 3,900.00   | 3,698.00   | -202.00    | 105.46         |
| Programming and Planning           | 3,100.00   | 2,320.00   | -780.00    | 133.62         |
| Client Disbursements               | 15.00      | 0.00       | -15.00     | 0.00           |
| Leases                             | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00           |
| Minor Equipment                    | 696.00     | 1,800.00   | 1,104.00   | 38.67          |
| Depreciation                       | 10,307.00  | 9,700.00   | -607.00    | 106.26         |
| Other                              | 47,889.00  | 47,522.00  | -367.00    | 100.77         |
| Salary and Related Expenses        | 302,622.00 | 273,066.00 | -29,556.00 | 110.82         |
| Total Operating Expenses           | 135,607.00 | 133,205.00 | -2,402.00  | 101.80         |
| L. Total CLSP Expenses             | 438,229.00 | 406,271.00 | -31,958.00 | 107.87         |
| M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year | -13,007.00 | M = J - L  | -14,169.00 | Total Variance |

### Other Income

|  |           |           |        |        |
|--|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Total funds Received from Other Bodies                               | 19,376.00 | 18,903.00 | 473.00 | 102.50 |
| 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  | -14,169.00 | N = A + M - P |

## Family Law Focussed Clinical Legal Education Project:

### NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

|                                      |           |  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Surplus/Deficit from previous yr     | 43,730.00 | A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year   |
| Approved Capital Expenditure         | 0.00      |  |
| Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr | 43,730.00 | B.Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr |

| CURRENT YEAR  |                                    | 12 month   | YTD Budget                          | Variance to Date | % over Year    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| CLSP Income   |                                    |            |                                     |                  |                |
|               | Commonwealth                       | 106,784.00 | 106,785.00                          | -1.00            | 100.00         |
|               | State                              | 2,336.00   | 2,336.00                            | -2.00            | 99.91          |
|               | Service Generated Income           | 0.00       | 0.00                                | 0.00             | 0.00           |
|               | J.Total CLSP Income                | 109,120.00 | 109,121.00                          | -3.00            | 100.00         |
|               | K.CLSP General Purpose Income      | 152,850.00 | K = ((Quarterly Period)/4) x B) + J |                  |                |
| CLSP Expenses |                                    |            |                                     |                  |                |
|               | Salaries                           | 108,973.00 | 108,123.00                          | -850.00          | 100.78         |
|               | Superannuation                     | 2,698.00   | 3,753.00                            | 1,055.00         | 71.89          |
|               | On Costs                           | 1,453.00   | 2,469.00                            | 1,016.00         | 58.85          |
|               | Rent                               | 2,991.00   | 2,463.00                            | -528.00          | 121.44         |
|               | Repairs and Maintenance            | 35.00      | 12.00                               | -23.00           | 291.67         |
|               | Other Premises Costs               | 1,081.00   | 666.00                              | -415.00          | 162.31         |
|               | Staff Training                     | 6,057.00   | 3,075.00                            | -2,982.00        | 196.98         |
|               | Staff Recruitment                  | 0.00       | 0.00                                | 0.00             | 0.00           |
|               | Communications                     | 952.00     | 643.00                              | -309.00          | 148.06         |
|               | Office Overheads                   | 2,855.00   | 1,863.00                            | -992.00          | 153.16         |
|               | Insurance                          | 20.00      | 30.00                               | 10.00            | 66.67          |
|               | Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees   | 200.00     | 28.00                               | -172.00          | 714.29         |
|               | Library, Resources & Subscriptions | 686.00     | 353.00                              | -333.00          | 194.33         |
|               | Travel                             | 99.00      | 350.00                              | 251.00           | 28.29          |
|               | Programming and Planning           | 20.00      | 0.00                                | -20.00           | 0.00           |
|               | Client Disbursements               | 0.00       | 0.00                                | 0.00             | 0.00           |
|               | Leases                             | 0.00       | 0.00                                | 0.00             | 0.00           |
|               | Minor Equipment                    | 120.00     | 500.00                              | 380.00           | 24.00          |
|               | Depreciation                       | 557.00     | 500.00                              | -57.00           | 111.40         |
|               | Other                              | 5,125.00   | 5,125.00                            | 0.00             | 100.00         |
|               | Salary and Related Expenses        | 113,124.00 | 114,345.00                          | 1,221.00         | 98.93          |
|               | Total Operating Expenses           | 20,507.00  | 15,708.00                           | -4,799.00        | 130.55         |
|               | L. Total CLSP Expenses             | 123,631.00 | 120,853.00                          | -2,778.00        | 102.75         |
|               | M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year | -24,511.00 | M = J - L                           | -3,581.00        | 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  | 19,219.00 | N = A + M - P |

## HRCLS/FRC Partnership Project:

### NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

|                                      |           |  |                  |                |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Surplus/Deficit from previous yr     | 12,366.00 | A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year   |                  |                |
| Approved Capital Expenditure         | 0.00      |  |                  |                |
| Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr | 12,366.00 | B.Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr |                  |                |
| <b>CURRENT YEAR</b>                  |           |  |                  |                |
|                                      | 12 month  | YTD Budget                             | Variance to Date | % over Year    |
| CLSP Income                          |           |  |                  |                |
| Commonwealth                         | 56,328.00 | 56,327.00                              | 1.00             | 100.00         |
| State                                | 1,232.00  | 1,233.00                               | -1.00            | 99.92          |
| Service Generated Income             | 0.00      | 0.00                                   | 0.00             | 0.00           |
| J.Total CLSP Income                  | 57,560.00 | 57,560.00                              | 0.00             | 100.00         |
| K.CLSP General Purpose Income        | 69,926.00 | K = ([ (Quarterly Period)/4] x B) + J  |                  |                |
| CLSP Expenses                        |           |  |                  |                |
| Salaries                             | 42,066.00 | 41,705.00                              | -361.00          | 100.87         |
| Superannuation                       | 2,698.00  | 3,753.00                               | 1,055.00         | 71.89          |
| On Costs                             | 1,484.00  | 2,469.00                               | 985.00           | 60.11          |
| Rent                                 | 4,010.00  | 3,535.00                               | -475.00          | 113.44         |
| Repairs and Maintenance              | 92.00     | 17.00                                  | -75.00           | 541.18         |
| Other Premises Costs                 | 1,032.00  | 925.00                                 | -107.00          | 111.57         |
| Staff Training                       | 4,252.00  | 4,562.00                               | 310.00           | 93.20          |
| Staff Recruitment                    | 0.00      | 0.00                                   | 0.00             | 0.00           |
| Communications                       | 1,270.00  | 921.00                                 | -349.00          | 137.89         |
| Office Overheads                     | 1,850.00  | 2,224.00                               | 374.00           | 83.18          |
| Insurance                            | 27.00     | 45.00                                  | 18.00            | 60.00          |
| Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees     | 200.00    | 40.00                                  | -160.00          | 500.00         |
| Library, Resources & Subscriptions   | 749.00    | 589.00                                 | -160.00          | 127.16         |
| Travel                               | 335.00    | 1,214.00                               | 879.00           | 27.59          |
| Programming and Planning             | 38.00     | 20.00                                  | -18.00           | 190.00         |
| Client Disbursements                 | 0.00      | 0.00                                   | 0.00             | 0.00           |
| Leases                               | 0.00      | 0.00                                   | 0.00             | 0.00           |
| Minor Equipment                      | 0.00      | 1,000.00                               | 1,000.00         | 0.00           |
| Depreciation                         | 0.00      | 0.00                                   | 0.00             | 0.00           |
| Other                                | 6,907.00  | 6,907.00                               | 0.00             | 100.00         |
| Salary and Related Expenses          | 46,248.00 | 47,927.00                              | 1,679.00         | 96.50          |
| Total Operating Expenses             | 20,762.00 | 21,999.00                              | 1,237.00         | 94.38          |
| L. Total CLSP Expenses               | 67,010.00 | 69,926.00                              | 2,916.00         | 95.83          |
| M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year   | -9,450.00 | M = J - L                              | 2,916.00         | 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  | 2,916.00 | N = A + M - P |

## NSW Outreach:

### NEXT SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

|                                      |           |  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Surplus/Deficit from previous yr     | -5,937.00 | A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year   |
| Approved Capital Expenditure         | 0.00      |  |
| Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr | -5,937.00 | 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                         | 76,496.00 | 76,496.00                            | 0.00             | 100.00      |
| Service Generated Income      | 256.00    | 0.00                                 | 256.00           | 0.00        |
| J.Total CLSP Income           | 76,752.00 | 76,496.00                            | 256.00           | 100.33      |
| K.CLSP General Purpose Income | 71,015.00 | K = {[(Quarterly Period)/4] x B} + J |                  |             |

|                                    |           |           |           |                |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| CLSP Expenses                      |           |           |           |                |
| Salaries                           | 38,983.00 | 45,608.00 | 6,625.00  | 85.47          |
| Superannuation                     | 4,183.00  | 4,105.00  | -78.00    | 101.90         |
| On Costs                           | 3,552.00  | 2,701.00  | -2,851.00 | 203.55         |
| Rent                               | 5,438.00  | 5,206.00  | -232.00   | 104.45         |
| Repairs and Maintenance            | 100.00    | 24.00     | -84.00    | 450.00         |
| Other Premises Costs               | 1,400.00  | 1,233.00  | -176.00   | 114.27         |
| Staff Training                     | 4,538.00  | 4,200.00  | -338.00   | 108.05         |
| Staff Recruitment                  | 15.00     | 0.00      | -15.00    | 0.00           |
| Communications                     | 2,030.00  | 624.00    | -1,406.00 | 325.32         |
| Office Overheads                   | 1,759.00  | 639.00    | -1,119.00 | 275.12         |
| Insurance                          | 36.00     | 60.00     | 24.00     | 60.00          |
| Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees   | 300.00    | 55.00     | -145.00   | 363.64         |
| Library, Resources & Subscriptions | 1,954.00  | 1,513.00  | -441.00   | 129.15         |
| Travel                             | 880.00    | 297.00    | -583.00   | 296.30         |
| Programming and Planning           | 689.00    | 0.00      | -689.00   | 0.00           |
| Client Disbursements               | 0.00      | 0.00      | 0.00      | 0.00           |
| Leases                             | 0.00      | 0.00      | 0.00      | 0.00           |
| Minor Equipment                    | 52.00     | 0.00      | -52.00    | 0.00           |
| Depreciation                       | 219.00    | 1,341.00  | 1,122.00  | 16.33          |
| Other                              | 9,203.00  | 9,203.00  | 0.00      | 100.00         |
| Salary and Related Expenses        | 48,718.00 | 52,414.00 | 3,696.00  | 92.95          |
| Total Operating Expenses           | 28,520.00 | 24,395.00 | -4,134.00 | 116.95         |
| L. Total CLSP Expenses             | 77,247.00 | 76,809.00 | -438.00   | 100.57         |
| M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year | -295.00   | M = J - L | -182.00   | 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  | -6,232.00 | N = A + M - P |



## Family Lawyers Support:

### NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

|                                      |           |  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Surplus/Deficit from previous yr     | 44,046.00 | A.Surplus/Deficit from previous year   |
| Approved Capital Expenditure         | 0.00      |  |
| Net Surplus/Deficit from previous yr | 44,046.00 | 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                         | 58,876.00  | 58,876.00                           | 0.00             | 100.00      |
| Service Generated Income      | 700.00     | 0.00                                | 700.00           | 0.00        |
| J.Total CLSP Income           | 59,576.00  | 58,876.00                           | 700.00           | 101.19      |
| K.CLSP General Purpose Income | 103,622.00 | K = ((Quarterly Period)/4) x B) + J |                  |             |

|                                    |            |           |           |                |
|------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| CLSP Expenses                      |            |           |           |                |
| Salaries                           | 42,142.00  | 42,558.00 | 1,416.00  | 96.75          |
| Superannuation                     | 2,809.00   | 3,920.00  | 1,111.00  | 71.66          |
| On Costs                           | 4,062.00   | 2,579.00  | -1,483.00 | 157.50         |
| Rent                               | 4,097.00   | 3,678.00  | -419.00   | 111.39         |
| Repairs and Maintenance            | 48.00      | 18.00     | -30.00    | 266.67         |
| Other Premises Costs               | 1,283.00   | 963.00    | -320.00   | 134.27         |
| Staff Training                     | 3,292.00   | 5,462.00  | 2,170.00  | 60.27          |
| Staff Recruitment                  | 0.00       | 288.00    | 288.00    | 0.00           |
| Communications                     | 1,298.00   | 957.00    | -341.00   | 135.63         |
| Office Overheads                   | 2,895.00   | 3,176.00  | 281.00    | 91.15          |
| Insurance                          | 27.00      | 45.00     | 18.00     | 60.00          |
| Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees   | 200.00     | 41.00     | -159.00   | 487.80         |
| Library, Resources & Subscriptions | 854.00     | 557.00    | -297.00   | 153.32         |
| Travel                             | 188.00     | 723.00    | 535.00    | 26.00          |
| Programming and Planning           | 39.00      | 50.00     | 11.00     | 78.00          |
| Client Disbursements               | 933.00     | 500.00    | -433.00   | 186.60         |
| Leases                             | 0.00       | 0.00      | 0.00      | 0.00           |
| Minor Equipment                    | 650.00     | 500.00    | -150.00   | 130.00         |
| Depreciation                       | 641.00     | 712.00    | 71.00     | 90.03          |
| Other                              | 7,065.00   | 7,065.00  | 0.00      | 100.00         |
| Salary and Related Expenses        | 49,013.00  | 50,057.00 | 1,044.00  | 97.91          |
| Total Operating Expenses           | 23,520.00  | 24,715.00 | 1,215.00  | 95.09          |
| L. Total CLSP Expenses             | 72,533.00  | 74,792.00 | 2,259.00  | 96.98          |
| M.Surplus/Deficit for Current Year | -12,957.00 | M = J - L | 2,959.00  | 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  | 31,089.00 | N = A + M - P |

**Albury Cooperative Legal Service Delivery (CLSD):**

|   |  |                 |                 |                  |               |
|---|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Reporting Period:   | 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012                        |                 |                 |                  |               |
| Organisation Name:  | Hume Riverina Community Legal Service              |                 |                 |                  |               |
| CLSD Region:  | Albury   |                 |                 |                  |               |
| SURPLUS or DEFICIT from previous year (if approved in writing by Legal Aid NSW) | \$12,466   |                 |                 |                  |               |
|   | DETAILS:   | Annual Budget   | YTD Actual      | Variance \$      | Variance %    |
| <b>INCOME:</b>  |  |                 |                 |                  |               |
| Surplus/deficit b/lwd from previous year (+ or -)                               |  | \$12,466        | \$12,466        |                  |               |
| Annual grant  |  | \$18,903        | \$19,376        | \$473            | 2.5%          |
| Other - income, or reimbursement  |  | \$0             | \$50            | \$50             |               |
| <b>Total Income</b>   |  | <b>\$31,369</b> | <b>\$31,892</b> | <b>\$523</b>     | <b>1.7%</b>   |
| <b>EXPENDITURE:</b>   |  |                 |                 |                  |               |
| <b>Employee Related Expenses</b>  |  |                 |                 |                  |               |
| CLSD Regional Coordinator salary  |  | \$16,122        | \$8,469         | (\$7,653)        | -47.5%        |
| Other staff-related expenses  |  | \$200           | \$31            | (\$169)          | -84.5%        |
| On-costs  |  | \$2,405         | \$1,531         | (\$874)          | -36.3%        |
| <b>Sub-total Employee Related Expenses</b>                                      |  | <b>\$18,727</b> | <b>\$10,031</b> | <b>(\$8,696)</b> | <b>-46.4%</b> |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>   |  |                 |                 |                  |               |
| Conference/seminars   |  | \$1,045         | \$796           | (\$249)          | -23.8%        |
| Management fee  |  | \$2,268         | \$2,268         | \$0              | 0.0%          |
| Admin costs (utilities, insurance, audit, cleaning)                             |  | \$266           | \$537           | \$271            | 101.9%        |
| Rent  |  | \$1,207         | \$1,324         | \$117            | 15.5%         |
| Printing, advertising, postage, stationery                                      |  | \$281           | \$811           | \$530            | 188.6%        |
| Communications/Phone  |  | \$314           | \$409           | \$95             | 30.3%         |
| Travel/Venue hire   |  | \$674           | \$205           | (\$469)          | -69.6%        |
| Training/Supervision  |  | \$146           | \$0             | (\$146)          | -100.0%       |
| Contingency funds   |  |                 | \$0             | \$0              |               |
| Depreciation  |  | \$250           | \$344           | \$94             | 37.6%         |
| Office overheads  |  | \$234           | \$311           | \$77             | 32.9%         |
|   |  |                 | \$0             | \$0              |               |
| <b>Sub-total Operating Expenses</b>   |  | <b>\$6,685</b>  | <b>\$7,075</b>  | <b>\$390</b>     | <b>5.8%</b>   |
| <b>Other Administrative Costs (must be less than 10% of annual funds)</b>       |  |                 |                 |                  |               |
| Maintenance & repairs   | accounted for as 'utilities' against 'Admin costs' | \$0             | \$0             | \$0              |               |
| Program maintenance   |  | \$1,567         | \$1,547         | \$80             | 5.1%          |
| Financial accountability  | accounted for as 'utilities' against 'Admin costs' | \$0             | \$0             | \$0              |               |
| Minor office equipment  |  | \$400           | \$0             | (\$400)          | -100.0%       |
| Sundries (portion of 2010-11 Surplus funds)                                     |  | \$0             | \$12,466        | \$12,466         |               |
| <b>Sub-total Other Administrative Costs</b>                                     |  | <b>\$1,967</b>  | <b>\$14,121</b> | <b>\$12,154</b>  | <b>617.9%</b> |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>  |  | <b>\$27,379</b> | <b>\$31,227</b> | <b>\$3,848</b>   | <b>14.1%</b>  |
|   |  |                 |                 |                  |               |
| <b>*Surplus or Deficit to be C/lwd</b>  |  | <b>\$3,990</b>  | <b>\$665</b>    | <b>(\$3,325)</b> | <b>-83.3%</b> |

## **ANNEXURE 1:**

**Local Law Week events, articles published in the Law Society Journal, July 2012**



### **Pyjama girl still mystifies**

◀ It was a murder-mystery 80 years in the making, with the husband as the suspect, but identification of the body in doubt. The pyjama girl mystery continues to fascinate Albury residents with Kym Connell, President of the Albury & District Law Society, sharing his legal insight, and ACT playwright Emma Gibson speaking about her research into the case. Connell and Gibson are pictured here with the pyjama girl death mask. The event was hosted by the Albury & District Historical Society at the Albury Library Museum. PHOTO: PETER CHARLESWORTH



### **Inspiring women in the law**

◀ The fourth annual "Women in the Law breakfast" opened Law Week in Albury/Wodonga. Special guest speaker Professor Kate Auty spoke about her varied roles, from solicitor, barrister, magistrate and even mining warden, to her current position as Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability Victoria. Drawing on her experience, she asked the group not to underestimate their own contributions in the law, highlighting the fact that a law degree can take people in many directions: (l to r) Tracey Walker from Hume Riverina Community Legal Service, Anne Eagle from Harris Lieberman, Sarah Caplice from Upper Murray Family Care, Professor Kate Auty, Alison Maher from Hume Riverina Community Legal Service and Jan Grouma from Juvenile Justice. PHOTO: PETER CHARLESWORTH





● Kym Connell and the Hume Riverina Community Legal Service's Alison Maher discuss the forum. Picture: TARA ASHWORTH

# Expert leads forum on drug law debate

BY HOWARD JONES

ALEX Wodak, a leading advocate of reform of Australia's drug laws, will be the top speaker at a community forum hosted by Albury-Wodonga's lawyers on May 17.

The president of the Albury and District Law Society, Kym Connell, said yesterday the forum at the Albury city chambers would be chaired by the president of the North-East Law Society, Karen Keegan.

Dr Wodak has been director of the alcohol and drug service at St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne since 1982 and is president of the Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation.

His major interests include drug policy reform, treatment of drug users, prevention

of HIV among injecting drug users, brief interventions for problem drinkers and prevention of alcohol problems.

He helped establish Australia's first needle syringe program in 1986 and the first medically supervised injecting centre in 1999.

Dr Wodak supports Australia 21, a group that advocates redefining drugs as primarily a health and social issue and reforming drug laws because "the war on drugs has failed".

Mr Connell said the community forum had been called because the issue was a hot topic and the forum would pose the question "Is legalisation the answer?"

"We hope to get MPs and police from both sides of the border to attend," he said.

The Australia 21 report claimed about 400 Australians died from illegal drug use each year but thousands of others suffered short and long-term health consequences of drug dependence, unsafe injecting practices and infections.

Its report called for a national debate on prohibiting drugs and an examination of alternatives to the criminalisation approach.

Mr Connell said the free forum would be part of National Law Week but people were encouraged to register with Alison Maher, community development worker at Hume Riverina Community Legal Service on 1800 918 377.

Melbourne barrister Peter Chadwick SC will be part of a panel at the forum.