



# **Murray Mallee Community Legal Service**

Annual  
Report

2013—2014

# Contents

Acknowledgment	3
About Us	4
Managers Report	5
Hours of Operation	9
Board Members & Pro Bono & MMCLS Volunteers	11
Staff Members & Acknowledgements	12
Principal Solicitors Report	13
Case Studies	15
Community Legal Education	18
Client Data	22
Professional Development	29
Source of Income Received from Other Bodies	31
Contact Details	34
Financial Details	35

# Acknowledgment

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	\$461,647.00
Victorian State Government (Victoria Legal Aid)	<u>\$155,845.00</u>
	\$617,492.00

# About Us

## Vision

That the Communities of the Murray Mallee Region have a clear understanding of the Legal System and are able to access it to resolve their legal problems.

## Mission

To render legal assistance to the most vulnerable members of Murray Mallee communities. The assistance will be offered with due regard to the worth, independence and dignity of each individual. Service provision should reflect a continuing awareness of community needs and the value of community support.

## Objectives

- To provide a high quality, free and accessible legal service in the Murray Mallee which will empower and support communities in the resolution of legal problems and stimulate understanding of the legal system.
- To use community legal education to provide the people of the Murray Mallee region with a better understanding of the role of the Murray Mallee Community Legal Service.
- To promote the Murray Mallee Community Legal Service to the isolated and remote areas of the region.
- To provide a high quality and accountable legal service to the Murray Mallee region based on the human, administrative and financial resources available within and externally to the Service.

# Managers Report

Whilst only having taken over the direct management of the Murray Mallee Community Legal Service (MMCLS) since February 2014 from the previous manager, Teresa Jayet, these last few months have certainly flown by. The MMCLS commenced operating in 1996 and covers more than 100,000 square km with ten Local Government Areas within our catchment. The legal team have worked very hard this year to provide timely legal information, advice, casework and community legal education to communities who are vulnerable and disadvantaged. All staff have pitched in when needed and have been flexible in meeting our community demands. From staff movements due to 'love' and 'future babies' the service has been able to plan for staffing changes with foresight and well thought out planning.

Having the Legal Centre as a co-located auspiced service within Mallee Family Care allows us to work together on common issues, build and support each other in community development initiatives and also meet the ever increasing needs of residents living in the MMCLS boundaries. While the last 12 months have certainly been met with challenges, there are also a number of achievements that we are able to report on.

**Did you know; Over the year staff have travelled approximately 12,550 kilometers to outreach locations, which would almost get us all the way around Australia!**

## Law Reform and Work with our Indigenous Community;

Working within Indigenous populations surrounding Mildura; Dareton/Wentworth/Buronga in NSW and Robinvale in Victoria brings with it the need for staff to be aware of cultural issues around consumer knowledge and factors to be aware of for certain cultural groups. This is in line with our local experience of Zaam Rentals as reported in our previous year annual report. Unfortunately there has been yet another company (Make It Mine) that have also, due to our involvement, been issued with two infringement notices and has had to pay fines in respect to their misleading conduct with ASIC 's investigation into the company ongoing. Please refer to the case study section for further information on this issue and other examples of our service's work in law reform, social justice and advocacy for our clients.



### Mildura Family Relationship Centre and Murray Mallee Community Legal Service Partnership Program (FRC/CLC Partnership);

The partnership between the Murray Mallee Community Legal Service (MMCLS) and the Mildura Family Relationship Centre (FRC) continues to be met positively by both clients and staff. Your Family Law Options (YFLO) Information Sessions have continued to be delivered for clients who are engaged in the Family Dispute Resolution (FDR) process as well as advice appointments for individual clients who are referred directly by the FRC. We have also continued to participate in Legally Assisted Family Dispute Resolution (LAFDR) with Hume Riverina Community Legal Service and Albury-Wodonga Family Relationship Centre. Bernadette Edmanson, Manager of the Mildura Family Relationship Centre notes the following in relation to this collaborative LAFDR partnership;

*“During the reporting period the MMCLS has participated in 6 Legally Assisted Family Dispute Resolution matters with the Mildura Family Relationship Centre. Family Dispute Resolution Practitioners (FDRPs) report that LAFDR provides an excellent opportunity for parents to have access to legal advice prior to, during and following their mediation. The procedure enables parents to have their queries, proposals and questions of a legal nature dealt with in a timely manner. Some may have their parenting plans made into consent orders. LAFDR has proved accessible regardless of where parents live and where Solicitors and FDRPs are located. In terms of making the most of scarce financial resources it is also a very valuable service. While the model is consolidating, it is anticipated that this area of collaborative practice will increase. LAFDR provides an opportunity for Community Legal Centre Solicitors and FDRPs to work together, establish stronger professional relationships and respect for each others area of expertise”.*

### Intervention Order Support Service (IOSS) and Family Violence Solicitor

Our Intervention Order Support Service (IOSS) is delivered across our Catchment Courts – Wentworth, Mildura, Robinvale and Swan Hill. There has been an increase in Family Violence applications being made by police across our Catchment and we know there is a high incidence of family violence amongst our catchment areas. In Victoria last year there were 65,000 cases of family violence reported to police, the number two ranked Municipality in Victoria with high incidences of family violence was Swan Hill with Mildura third as opposed to Melbourne at 40 (taken from Loddon Mallee Takes a Stand ‘Women’s Health Loddon Mallee, Victoria Health - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OySZ9OtwBoA&feature=youtu.be>).

Working more closely with family violence police, local Courts and our local Domestic Violence service has ensured we are a key service provider to tackle the community issue of Family Violence. We often provide service to clients in these matters, who often present with not only issues relating to family violence but also other legal issues. A major addition to our service has been the urgent and set monthly outreach clinics to the Mallee Sexual Assault



Unit/Mallee Domestic Violence Service Mildura office to provide client appointments, professional development for staff and participation in client education sessions such as SEA (Self Esteem and Assertiveness) Change groups. As noted by Joanne Sheehan-Paterson, Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the Mallee Family Violence Executive;

*“Mallee Sexual Assault Unit Inc. Mallee Domestic Violence Services provides 24 crisis care and counselling support to victims and significant others of sexual assault and family violence. The specialist family violence solicitor from Murray Mallee Community Legal Service conducts monthly clinics for clients of our service here on site, providing information and advice on family violence issues. This is a most valuable service for our clients who are most appreciative of being able to access vital information regarding their situation, in a familiar environment”.*

Due to our community experiencing a very high rate of Family Violence there are local networks that are supporting a broader community responsible approach. Mallee Family Care, who as the largest welfare organisation locally, are involved in this community response planning – there is the Mallee Family Violence Executive, of which, we have membership on and our Family Violence Solicitor is scheduled to present to this group as well as in future assisting with community forums and discussions. These forums and Executive include all local services, Indigenous and mainstream.

Access to justice is a big issue in rural areas such as ours. This is particularly the case given that there is no Legal Aid office in Mildura (the nearest one is Bendigo, some 5 hours away) and the nearest CLC is also 5 hours away in Bendigo. We have a high Indigenous population with many disadvantaged groups who access support when violence occurs in their families. The MMCLS is committed to supporting victims of violence and to help our community stamp this out as a broader responsibility for us all. It is for these reasons the service is most concerned regarding the announced Commonwealth funding cuts from mid 2015.

### Collaboration

The service has worked in partnership with NSW Legal Aid who shares part of our Catchment: Dareton and Wentworth. The MMCLS has continued to provide client advice sessions in both locations on an as needs and set monthly basis and have participated with NSW Legal Aid on their event days such as; Money Counts, Fines Days, Bring Your Bills day and NAIDOC events. This partnership is working well and we are looking forward to future successful events and collaboration.

The MMCLS program works in close proximity and in a strong partnership with the Financial Counselling program at Mallee Family Care where joint work for clients often is shared due to the legal and financial issues presenting. These two programs are in the same Directorate and share professional development sessions together as their work can often overlap. This



strong emphasis on legal rights is a strength of the programs work together and was shared in the Zaam Rentals casework outcome and more recently Make It Mine.

Liaison and collaboration with the Women's Legal Service Victoria by skype has enabled the service to seek specialist support for our clients and professional development support for staff through the Link Outreach Project. This project is ongoing and joint participation and partnerships with local services have been achieved with upcoming professional development activities planned.

Project ICE is a co-operative campaign by a consortium of community, health, welfare and enforcement organisations established in 2013 as a result of concerns that 'Ice', or Crystal Methamphetamine, had rapidly become a dominant drug problem in Mildura. Project Ice Mildura was established to promote issues around its prevalence and effects with a high-profile awareness campaign. The legal staff, along with the wider auspicing agency, Mallee Family Care, have supported this initiative locally and attended community sessions. This is an ongoing project of which the service is strongly committed to.

### Volunteers

A special thank you to our 'Do It Yourself Divorce (DIY) Workshop' volunteers who donate a large amount of their time every 2 months for the service. During this year we have undertaken a large recruitment drive for Volunteer Solicitors to assist with our Wednesday Night Advice Only Clinics and have secured six new volunteers for the next financial year.

I would like to thank all staff for their professional commitment to the legal needs of our community and for their work over the last twelve months, well done! It is with pleasure I present the 2013-2014 Murray Mallee Community Legal Service Annual Report.

Lisa-Maree Stevens  
**Manager**

### OUR TEAM





# Hours of Operation

## Hours of Operation

Face to Face and Telephone appointments:

(122 Ninth Street, Mildura)

Day	Times
Monday	Mornings & some afternoons
Tuesday	Mornings & afternoons
Wednesday	Some Mornings & After hours (after 5pm)
Thursday	Morning & some afternoons

## Outreach Services

Robinvale: Mallee Family Care  
33 Herbert Street, VIC  
**Monthly** (Tuesdays)

Dareton: Mallee Family Care  
3-5 Devenport Street, NSW  
**Monthly** (Tuesdays)

Wentworth: Mallee Family Care  
59 Darling Street, NSW  
**Monthly** (Tuesdays)

Swan Hill: Mallee Family Care  
229 Beveridge Street, VIC  
**Monthly** (Wednesday & Thursday)

Family Relationship Centre: Family Relationship Centre  
105 Lemon Avenue, VIC  
**Weekly** (Monday & Tuesday)



Face to Face

(3-5 Devenport Street, Dareton, NSW)

Day	Commence	End
Tuesday	2.00pm	4.00pm

Face to Face

(59 Darling Street, Wentworth, NSW)

Day	Commence	End
Tuesday	10.30am	12.30pm

Face to Face

(33 Herbert Street, Robinvale, VIC)

Day	Commence	End
Tuesday	10.30am	2.30pm

Face to Face

(229 Beveridge Street, Swan Hill, VIC)

Day	Commence	End
Wednesday	2.00pm	3.30pm
Thursday	9.30am	12pm

Mildura Family Relationship Centre Partnership Program:

(105 Lemon Avenue, Mildura and 122 Ninth Street, Mildura)

Day	Commence	End
Monday	10.00am	12.00pm
Tuesday	1.30pm	4.00pm

Intervention Order Support Service

Location	Day	Rotation	Time
Mildura Magistrates Court	Monday	Weekly	9.00am – 4.00pm
Wentworth Local Court	Tuesday	Monthly or as needed	9.00am – 1.00pm
Robinvale Magistrates Court	Tuesday	Monthly	9.00am – 1.00pm
Swan Hill Magistrates Court	Thursday	Bimonthly	9.00am – 1.00pm



## Board Members

Ross Lake (President and Chair)  
Marie Schlemme (Deputy President)  
Larry O'Connor (Acting Treasurer)  
Dr John Cooke  
Jennifer Hilton  
Margaret Thompson  
Jim Kirkpatrick

Archdeacon Michael Hopkins  
Christopher Riordan  
(Sidney) Maxwell Noyce  
Peter Greed  
Selfet Kuzu  
Keith Richards

## Pro Bono

The Murray Mallee Community Legal Service wish to thank the following who have assisted us with Pro Bono work for clients and the delivery of Community Legal Education:

David Yarrow – Barrister  
Women's Legal Service Victoria – Link Project

## MMCLS Volunteers

Without the support of our volunteers, we would not be able to deliver an effective DIY Divorce Workshop:

Ivana Blekic  
Bernadette Edmanson  
Millicent Farnsworth  
Robyn Garsed



## Staff Members

Name	Role	Time Fraction	Commenced/Ceased
Teresa Jayet	Manager	0.5EFT	Commenced 07/01/13 to 01/02/14
Lisa-Maree Stevens	Manager	0.5EFT	Commenced 01/02/14
Nicole Stone	Administration Officer	1EFT	Commenced 08/07/14
Chenae Sparkes	Solicitor (Generalist & FRC/CLC)	1EFT	
Kim Hubbard	Solicitor (Generalist & IOSS)	1EFT	
Amanda Morrison	Principal Solicitor	0.6EFT	
Allie Collyer	Community Legal Education	0.5EFT	Commenced 19/08/14
Katie Davies	Solicitor (Generalist)	0.6EFT	Commenced 19/08/14
Lisa Archbold	Solicitor (Generalist)	0.8EFT	Commenced 07/10/14 Ceased 04/04/14
Demelza-Rose Gale	Solicitor (Generalist)	0.6EFT	Commenced 09/04/14

## Acknowledgements

The Murray Mallee Community Legal Service would like to thank the following for their continued support:

Commonwealth Attorney-General Department  
 Consumer Action Law Centre  
 Holcroft Lawyers  
 Hume Riverina Community Legal Centre  
 Mallee Family Care  
 Maloney Anderson Legal  
 Martin Irwin Richards Lawyers  
 Mildura Family Relationship Centre  
 Mildura Magistrates Court  
 Victoria Legal Aid  
 Women's Legal Service Victoria



# Principal Solicitor's Report

The past year has been a busy, challenging and rewarding one for the community legal service. In terms of staffing changes, in February we farewelled our Manager Teresa Jayet and at the same time welcomed our new Manager, Lisa-Maree Stevens. We also welcomed other new staff during the year; administration worker Nicole Stone, community legal education worker Allie Collyer and lawyers Lisa Archbold and Demelza-Rose Gale. We have been fortunate to retain the services of our family violence lawyer Kim Hubbard and our family lawyer Chenae Sparkes, who have provided invaluable guidance and support to our newer staff members.

As a remote regional community legal centre with a catchment area of some 100,000 square kilometers across Victoria and NSW, we recognise the importance of building and maintaining relationships. This year has seen us further strengthen our networks with other service providers in our local area, and beyond, in order to ensure we are providing the best possible service to our community.

Having recently assisted some 30 clients in our catchment who had entered into contracts with a predatory consumer rental company, which culminated in ASIC prosecution of the directors of the company and a review of the Centrepay system as a whole, we have worked with the community to increase financial literacy and awareness of scams. As a result of this work, we were approached for help at a much earlier stage when another consumer rental company began targeting vulnerable members of the community. We were able to advise a number of clients about the costs and risks of entering into the contracts, and assisted others who had already entered into contracts they were unhappy with, including making complaints to ASIC. The latest advice we have had from ASIC is that at least one successful criminal prosecution has resulted and fines have been imposed.

The legal service has a strong relationship with the Mildura Family Relationship Centre, and our formal partnership enables us to better support separated families and their children. We provide family law services to clients of the Family Relationship Centre through this partnership, including regular information sessions about the family law system, legal advice and assistance, and representation at mediations (legally assisted mediations). Legally assisted mediations are conducted with the assistance of the Hume Riverina Community Legal Service. They provide a lawyer to represent the other party, who would otherwise be unrepresented, and we are grateful for their continued support. A number of successful mediations have been conducted through this partnership in the last year.

We continue to provide regular advice and advocacy services to victims of family violence at a range of local courts in our catchment area. As part of our commitment to the fight against family violence in our community, we have worked with local domestic violence services to assist women and children experiencing family violence. Our family violence lawyer regularly outreaches to local family violence services to assist clients and we provide community legal education. We were pleased to be asked to participate in the Women's' Legal Service Victoria Skype project this year, which aims to strengthen the abilities of the legal services involved to provide family violence services to those who need them.

An important part of our work is community legal education. As always, we have delivered information sessions to people in our catchment across a range of legal issues and for a broad cross section of the community. From healthy relationships forums in schools, to sessions about family violence run for multicultural groups spanning numerous different cultures and languages, staff of the legal service together with our fabulous volunteers from the private legal sector, have worked hard to increase the level of knowledge and understanding of the law in the community.

We participated in consultations for Victoria Legal Aid's Strategy Project at the end of the year, and were able to feed in factors relevant to remote regional communities to the broader discussions about the focus that Legal Aid should have for their future service directions. We welcome these opportunities.

I would like to thank the staff of the community legal service for their passion and commitment in working to assist the most vulnerable members of our community.

Amanda Morrison  
**Principal Solicitor**

# Case Studies

## **Indictable criminal charges**

Client lived in a small, remote town in our catchment. The client had been charged with theft of goods (an indictable offence) and minor drugs offences. The client explained that the goods were in fact their property, under a fairly complicated arrangement they had made with their landlord. The client was very stressed and concerned about what to do; they were facing quite serious charges for a crime they were adamant they had not committed, and extremely stressed by requirement to face court. We explained the client's options; including how the court process would run on the day. We obtained an adjournment of the client's matter from the first hearing date, obtained a brief of evidence regarding the matter for the client, assisted the client to collect evidence of their innocence, including a statement by the supposed victim that the goods were in fact the property of our client, provided this information to the police prosecution team, and negotiated with the prosecution for the charges to be withdrawn. The charges relating to theft were eventually withdrawn, much to the client's relief, and the client then pleaded guilty to the minor drugs charge. They were given a fine and no conviction was recorded against their name.

## **Dispute with housing association**

MMCLS received instructions from an elderly client who had been offered accommodation by a registered housing association. Several months after moving into the accommodation, the housing association advised the client that she was ineligible for the accommodation, and served her with a Notice to Vacate. The situation was very distressing to the client, as she had provided all necessary information to the housing association to allow them to assess her eligibility for the accommodation. The client moved into the accommodation on the understanding that she would be able to reside there permanently. The client then undertook a number of improvements to the garden of the accommodation.

MMCLS provided advice to the client regarding errors in the Notice to Vacate, and the client's right to apply to VCAT to challenge it. The housing association subsequently withdrew the original Notice to Vacate, and issued a new notice. This provided the client with more time to prepare to move out of the accommodation. MMCLS contacted the housing association on behalf of the client to clarify the basis of the client's ineligibility for the accommodation. As the housing association had mistakenly offered the accommodation to the client, MMCLS negotiated with the housing association to obtain compensation for the client's moving expenses and the improvements she had undertaken. The client's anxiety about the situation was lessened by MMCLS providing advice to the client and advocating on her behalf. Obtaining compensation reduced the financial burden placed upon the client due to the housing association's error in offering accommodation in circumstances in which the client was not eligible.

### **Consumer leasing**

MMCLS first became aware of issues with a predatory consumer leasing company operating in the Dareton NSW area in April 2013 when a CHAC (Coomella Health Aboriginal Corporation) health worker telephoned our legal service to say that she had a client with a consumer lease contract from a rental company operating online, and flagging it as a possible issue for indigenous consumers in the area. The client was referred to MMCLS and several other clients also contacted about their “rent to buy” contracts with the company. Further investigation revealed that consumers were paying a very high price for consumer goods and did not even have a right to purchase them at the end of the contracts. It appeared that the company had contracted with a number of indigenous consumers with low levels of literacy in the south western NSW area. Computers, TV’s and other household goods were offered on rental contracts. The company only dealt with Centrepay clients – i.e. people on government benefits.

MMCLS advised individual clients about their rights with regard to the contracts, but felt that in light of the recent Zaam Rentals matter, a proactive approach was required to inform the local community about the negative elements of these sorts of contracts. MMCLS encouraged individual customers who were unhappy with their contracts to complain to ASIC and DHS Centrepay, and liaised with ASIC and made reports to them on behalf of clients, with the clients’ authority. The company was prosecuted and fines were imposed. Our community legal education worker also conducted a number of community legal education activities in our NSW outreach program focused on financial literacy and awareness of scams. These sessions were delivered to both consumers and sector workers in NSW with the aim of increasing levels of financial literacy within the community.

### **Traffic infringement notice to deceased**

MMCLS received instructions from an elderly client whose adult child had recently passed away. The client had received a traffic infringement notice addressed to the client’s deceased child with respect to an offence committed subsequent to the child’s date of death, which was very distressing for the client. The client had unsuccessfully attempted to resolve the matter with Vic Roads and Civic Compliance Victoria. The client did not feel able to progress the matter further.

MMCLS obtained information from Civic Compliance Victoria that indicated that the infringement notice had been issued to the client’s deceased child due to a nomination made by the company that owned the vehicle. MMCLS wrote to Civic Compliance Victoria on behalf of the client, providing proof of death and requesting a withdrawal of the infringement notice. MMCLS also requested that Civic Compliance Victoria take all necessary action to ensure that no further infringement notices are issued to the client’s deceased child. Some weeks later, the client received confirmation that the infringement notice had been withdrawn.



### **Intervention Order Support Service (IOSS)**

Ms B is a young woman who was living in regional South Australia with her de facto partner, Mr D, and their 5 young children. Ms B had been in a volatile relationship with Mr D for over 12 years. Throughout the course of this relationship Ms B had suffered severe family violence from Mr D. The abuse suffered by Ms B included physical beatings, having her teeth knocked out, sexual abuse, choking, and threats to kill among other things. Unfortunately, Ms B's children had witnessed many of these incidents, and one child had in fact been choked by Mr D.

Ms B was supported at Court by her mother, who advised MMCLS that she had travelled to Ms B's home on several occasions throughout the last few years to try and get Ms B to return home with her. However on each occasions Ms B ended up going back to Mr D. When MMCLS met Ms B there had just been another serious incidence of violence during which she had called her mother. Her mother immediately travelled to Ms B's home and collected her and the 5 children. Ms B instructed that she wanted to stay with her mother, and was taking steps to enrol the children in school and daycare in their new town. On the first occasion MMCLS met Ms B, Mr D had not yet been served with Ms B's application. However, a full interim intervention order was already in place which had been obtained as an urgent interim order when the initial application was made. On the next occasion Mr D had been served and was not present at court. However, Ms B was so severely traumatised and frightened of Mr D that she was initially unable to give evidence. She was crying and distressed in court and unable to speak.

MMCLS arranged for the court to be emptied of everyone except MMCLS, Ms B's mother and the magistrate. MMCLS then talked Ms B through the process of swearing that her evidence was correct, and explained that Mr D was nowhere near the court house and would not be able to hear anything she said. Eventually Ms B was able to give sworn evidence in relation to her application. Given the circumstances MMCLS made submission to the court that an order lasting for longer than 12 months might be appropriate and this occurred.

### **Divorce**

We assisted a client who had lived in a refugee camp overseas for many years and had married there. The parties had subsequently moved to Australia and later separated. Our client wanted to get divorced but had no paperwork due to attacks on the refugee camp; they had been lucky to escape with their life. The situation was complicated by the fact that the client was frightened of dealing with the legal system due to their experience of torture in their own country, and a cultural prohibition on divorce. We worked with the client and when they were ready we assisted them to apply for a divorce and represented them in court.

# Community Legal Education

In August 2013 the service employed Allie Collyer to the Community Legal Education Worker role on a 0.5 FTE basis. Over the course of the past year, Allie has developed strong relationships with stakeholders and community organizations whilst promoting our services and delivering valuable community education sessions. The majority of sessions have been to groups of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the community – Culturally & Linguistically Diverse, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, disengaged youth and the elderly.

We have ensured that the service has had a visible presence at events where we can engage with community members in a safe, informal and non-threatening environment. These events included but not limited to; Sisters Day Out, White Ribbon Day, Wentworth Seniors Expo, Dareton Tenancy Forum, La Trobe University Open Day and the Dareton Spring Expo.



**Allie at the Wentworth Seniors Expo**



**Our display at the Sisters Day Out**

Allie collaborated with a number of local agencies including Haven Home Safe (Saver Plus), Consumer Affairs Victoria, Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria, Victims Assistance Counselling Program, Worksafe Victoria, NSW Office of Fair Trading and NSW Legal Aid to deliver joint presentations or events over the year. Working together enabled us to reach more community members and raise awareness of MMCLS services to a wider range of agencies and services.

Allie has developed and fostered a strong relationship with the Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Community Council over the past 10 months. Information sessions have been held on a regular basis and included topics such as Australia and the Law, Wills & Funerals, Consumer Leases, Workers Rights/Safety and Tenancy Rights & Responsibilities. Most of the participants are newly arrived refugees who are particularly vulnerable and are mainly from the Afghani, Burundian and Sri Lankan communities. Allie has spent many hours developing pictorial presentations that are engaging for non-English speakers, culturally appropriate and easy for interpreters to understand.

Strong links have also been developed with Indigenous groups and organizations with the delivery of information sessions to groups including the Coomealla High School Girls Group and Mildura District Aboriginal Coop in Swan Hill with attendance at a number of community events in Dareton. Allie was also asked to present on Smart Social Media to approximately 100 young people at the Indigenous Youth Leadership Forum in Mildura.

Regular attendance at service providers groups has enabled sharing of information and promotion of the MMCLS to workers who are important referral sources. The meetings include Robinvale Service Providers, Local Aboriginal Justice Action Committee (Mildura, Swan Hill and Robinvale), Two Rivers Interagency Group NSW, the Court User Group and Robinvale Early Years Network. The service also took part in Children's Week 2013 to raise awareness on Children's Rights under the United Nations Convention, photo below in local newspaper Sunraysia Daily article on October 23.



**Chenae with local children; Children's Week 2013 article.**

**Meetings:** Youth Connections Swan Hill, Haven Home Safe, Consumer Affairs Victoria, Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria, MADEC Indigenous Links, NSW Office of Fair Trading, Sunraysia Community Health Services Refugee Torture & Trauma, Victims Assistance Counselling Program, SMECC, Mallee Accommodation and Support Program.

# Law Week 2014

Law Week 2014 was once again a very busy time with the Victoria Law Foundation's theme this year being "Everyday Law". Our focus was to engage with as many people in the community as possible to enable information on common legal issues to be distributed.



**Free Legal Health Checks – Allie at Law Week Event in Langtree Mall**



**Display at Library for Law Week**

The service started the week with a 45 minute session on Hot FM Community Radio to promote our activities for the week then moved to the Langtree Mall where we conducted "Free Legal Health Checks" for passers-by. A sausage sizzle attracted shoppers and several appointments resulted from this event.

The Mildura Rural City Council library staff were very receptive of including our information in their local libraries. We were able to set up several displays in different areas of the Mildura library to target youth and families in particular. The information was on display for 10 days and was very popular with hundreds of publications being taken.



We held three information sessions for the Mildura general public comprising of two Family Law information sessions and one on Termination of Employment which were all very well attended.



**Demelza-Rose promoting free legal information session on the local news**



**Amanda & Allie promoting Law Week in our local newspaper**

A Money Worries event in Dareton was conducted jointly with NSW Office of Fair Trading, NSW Legal Aid and the Consumer Credit Legal Service. This event was held outside in a local park to make the most of the beautiful Autumn day and attracted many members of the local Indigenous community who were able to obtain advice and assistance in a very informal environment. Enquiries for appointments to both the MMCLS and MFC Financial Counselling Services have resulted from our attendance at this event.

We had great media coverage of Law Week locally with a large article in the Sunraysia Daily the week before which listed all our events, radio spot on HOT FM community radio and WIN TV news coverage and interviews with our staff on the Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

### **A CLE Reflection:**

From cooking barbeques when the arranged helpers don't arrive, cleaning vandalized venues before setting up, talking about sex and the law to teenagers, delivering lengthy presentations via interpreters to refugees who have been in Australia less than a week, discussing wills and powers of attorney to the elderly and travelling all over our region; the life of a Community Legal Education Worker is never a dull one. It is extremely rewarding to be able to empower our most vulnerable and provide information to our communities as to how our service can assist them.



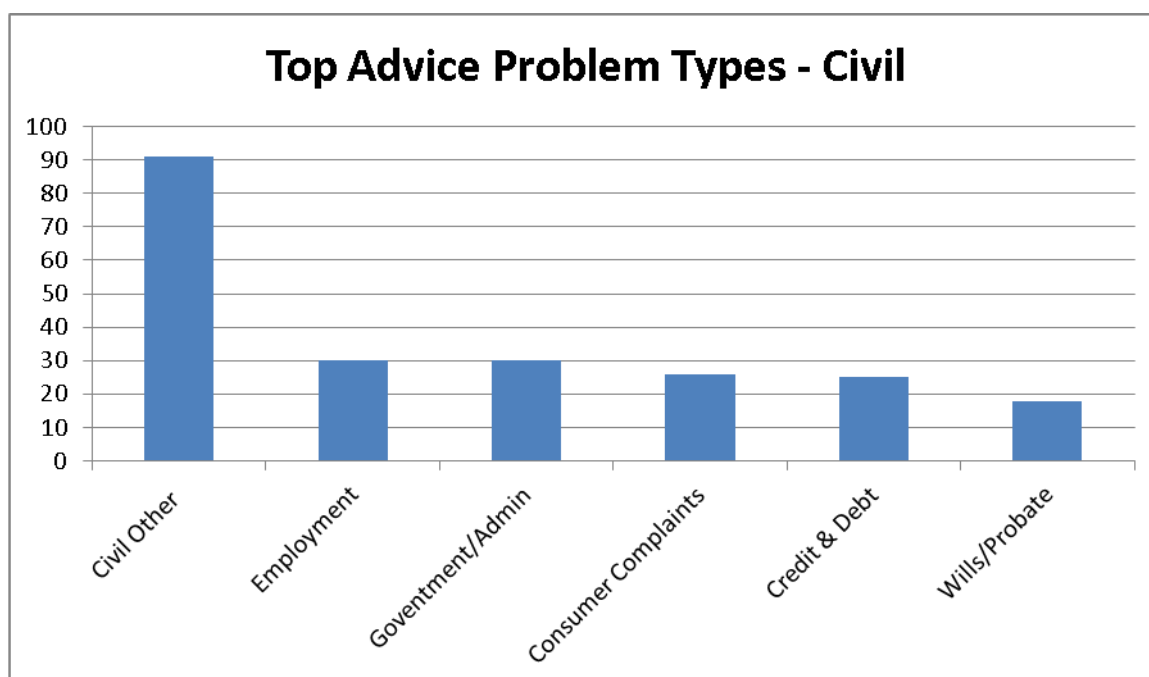
## Client Data

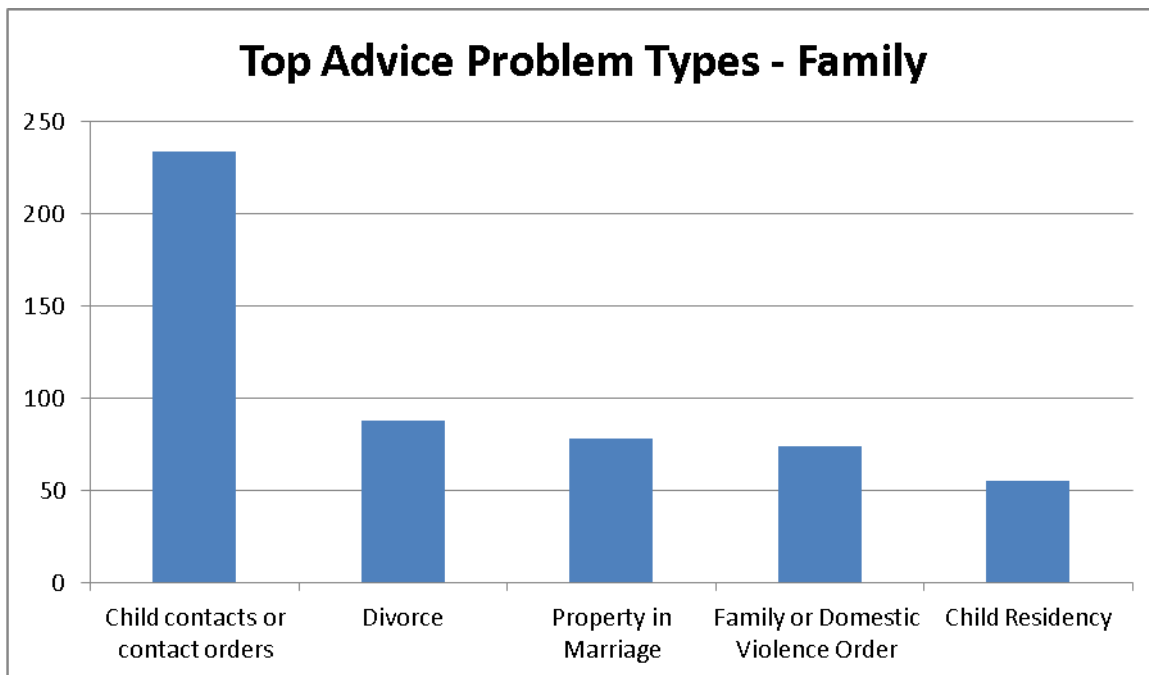
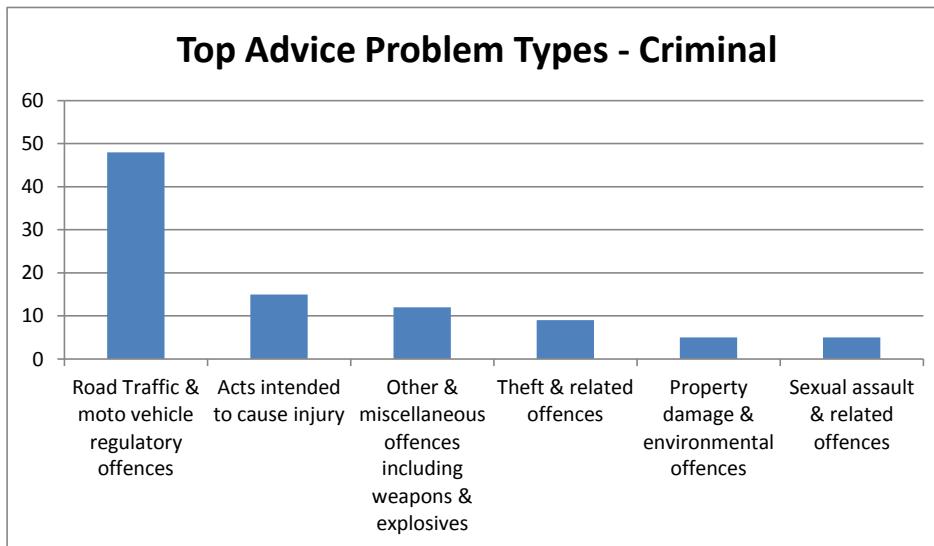
The 2013/2014 year has been very busy for the service as you can see from the data collated below for this report. The service has been able to deliver many legal information and referral activities which has resulted in further advice sessions and casework opportunities. We continue to thank all referring organisations for their continued support for the service.

### **TOTAL OVERALL TARGETS FOR THE SERVICE IN THE 2013-2014 YEAR;**

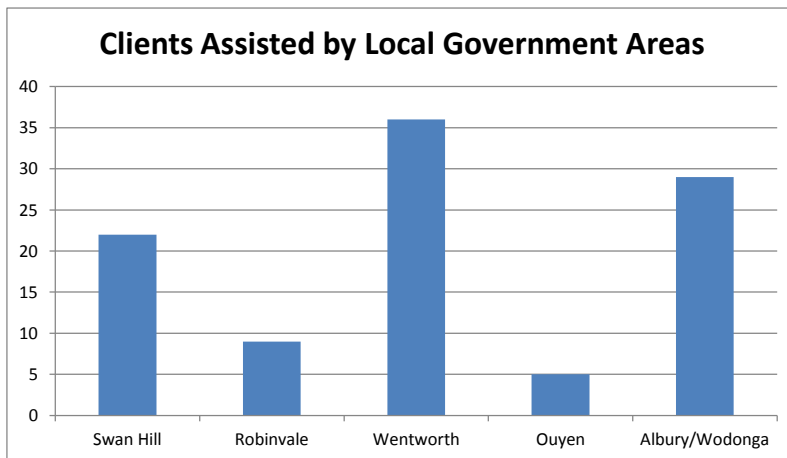
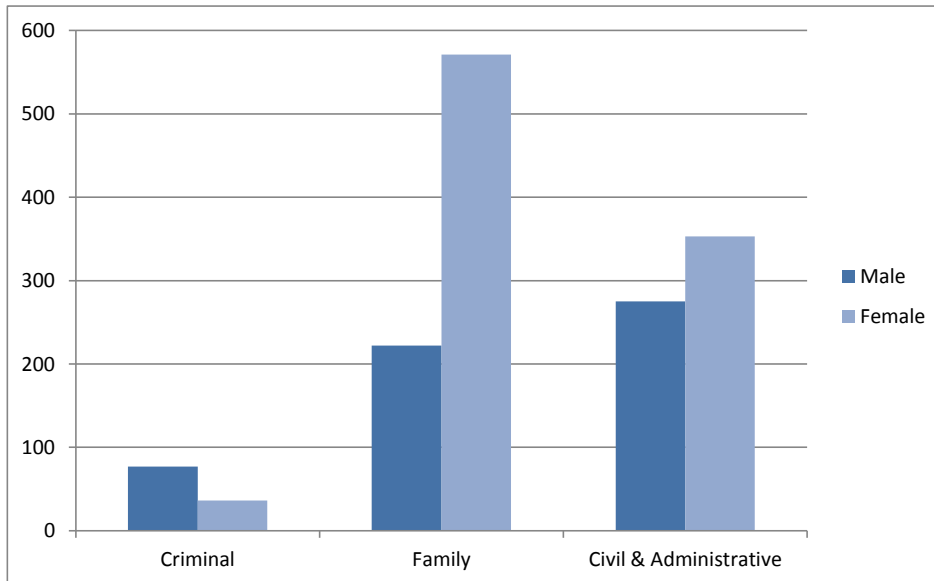
<b><u>ACTIVITY</u></b>	<b><u>TARGET</u></b>	<b><u>MET/NOT MET/ACTUAL</u></b>
<b>Legal Information/Referrals</b>	100	Met – 473
<b>Legal Advices Total</b>	500	Met – 863
<b>Open cases</b>	150	Met – 223
<b>Close cases</b>	150	Met – 226

**The following graphs show a snap shot of further work undertaken throughout 2013-2014;**

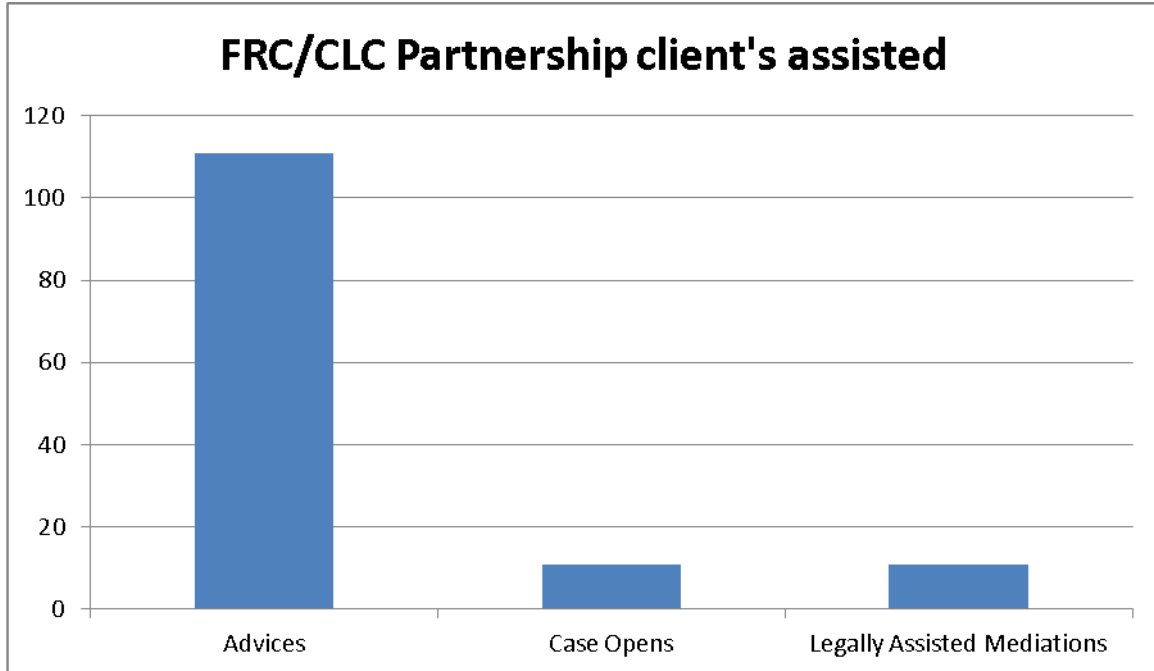




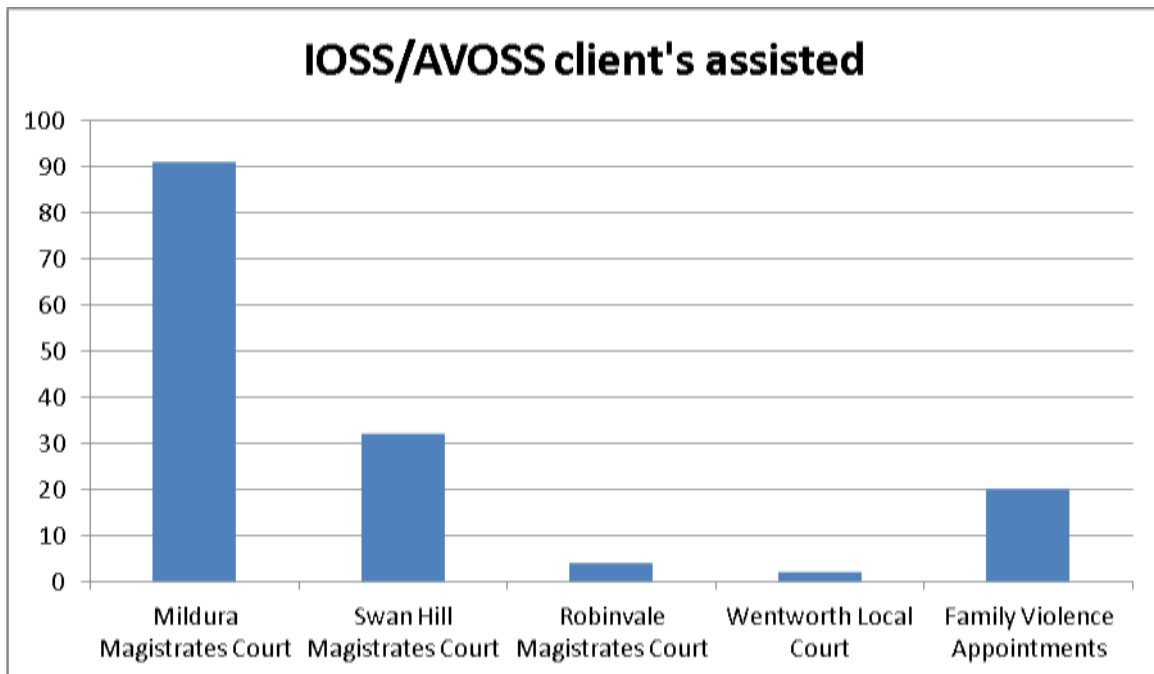
## Gender breakdown for matter types



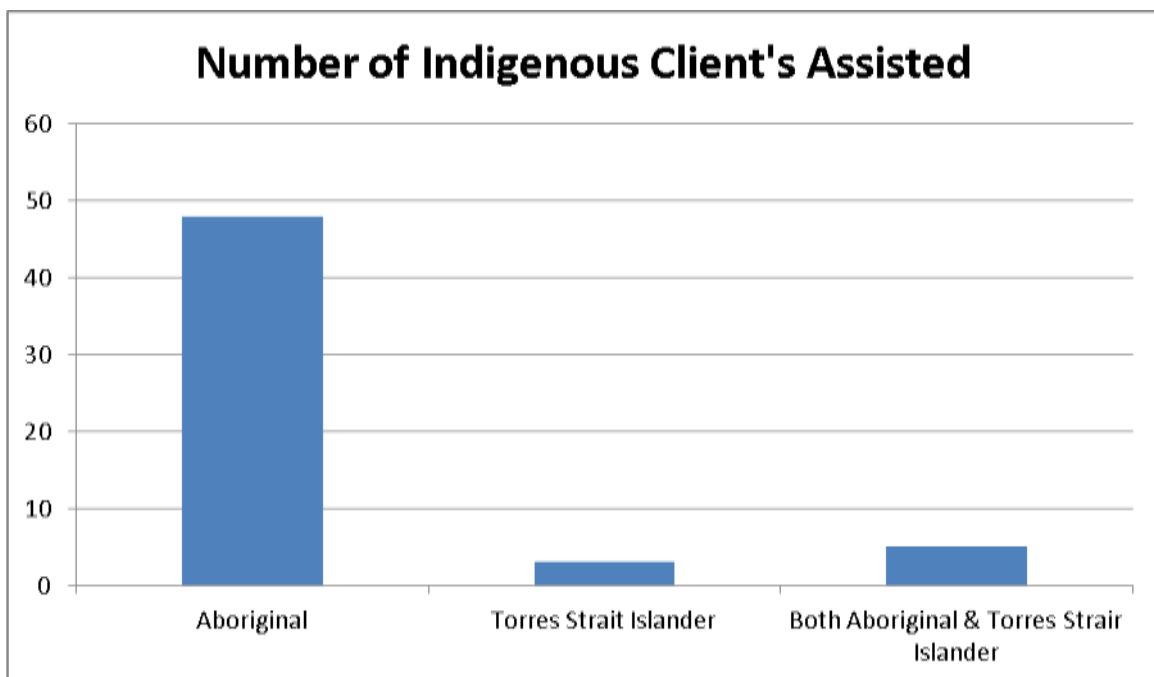
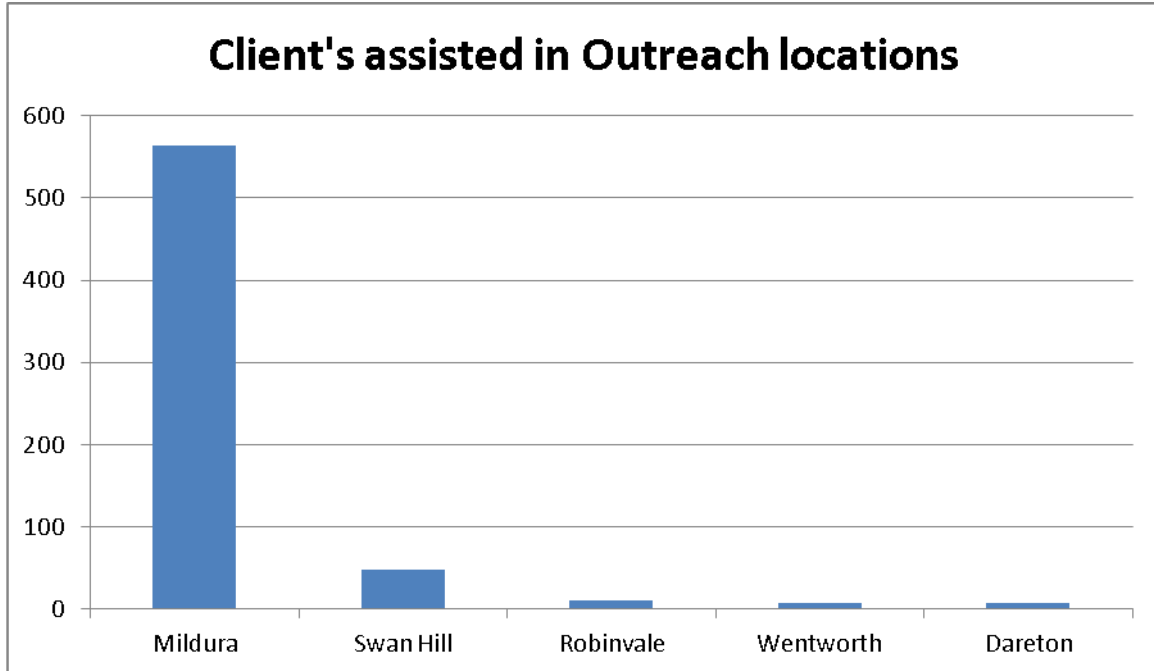


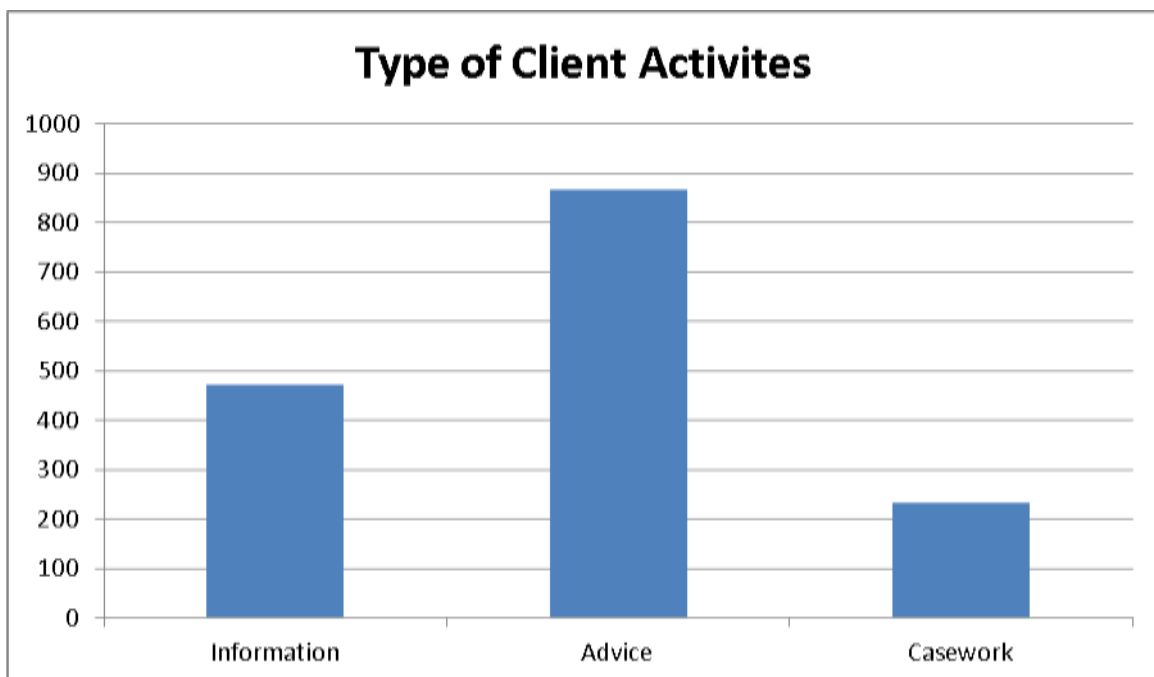
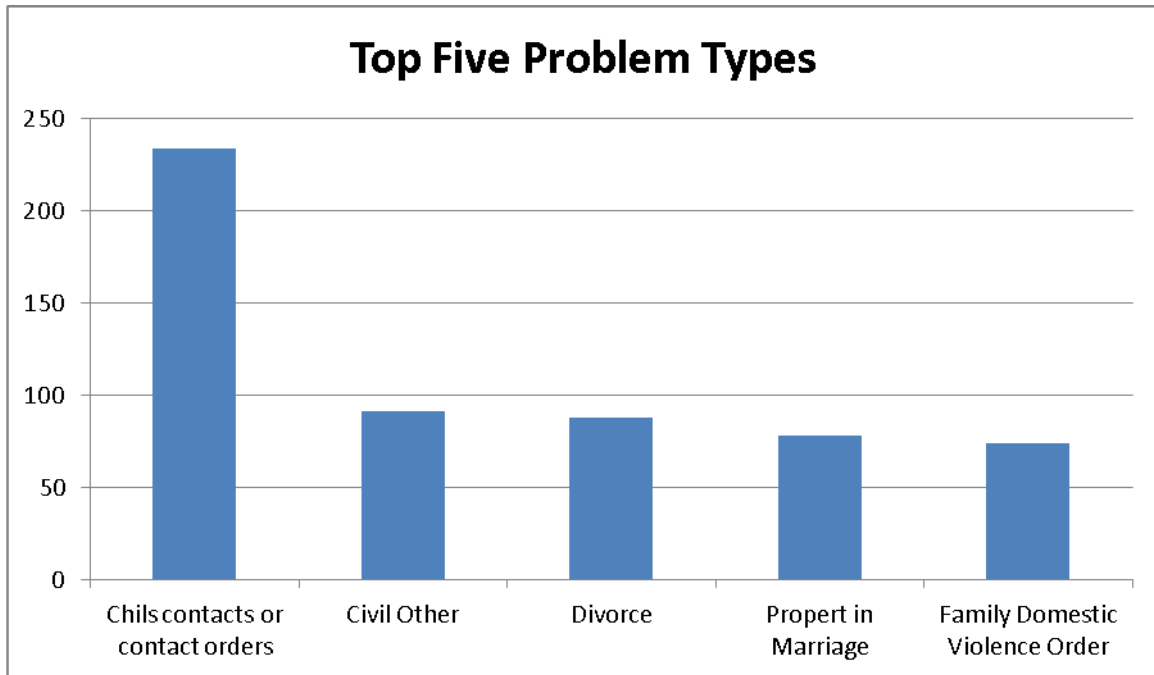


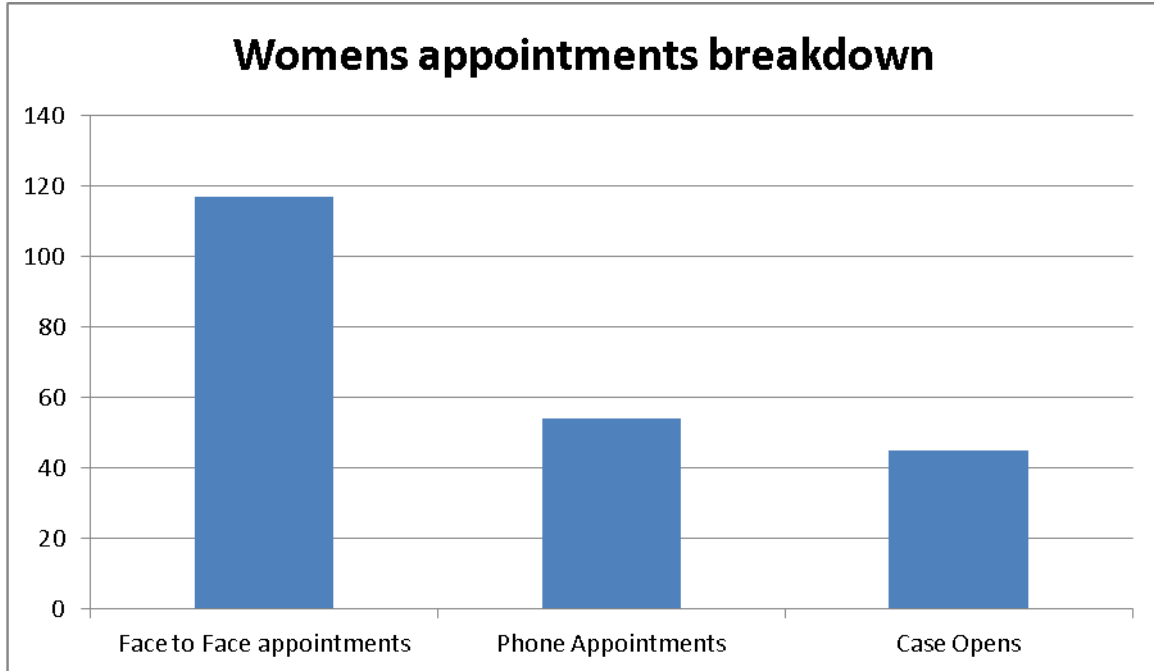
**Total number of clients assisted in the FRC/CLC program =133**



**Total number of clients assisted in the State Project 3 program =149**







# Professional Development

## **Amanda Morrison:**

- Advocacy and Koori Court Training - VLA
- Infringements Special Circumstances - VLA
- Leo Cussen Family Law Conference
- Subpoenas - VLA
- Ethics Workshop – David Yarrow, Barrister
- Community Lawyers CPD Training conference – Federation of CLC's Victoria
- Salvation Army Suicide Training for legal workers

## **Chenae Sparkes:**

- VLA/VALS training – Advocacy
- VLA – LPE Infringements Special Circumstances
- Leo Cussen – Family Law Practice
- CPD Day – February 2014 – various topics

## **Kim Hubbard:**

- Advocacy and Koori Court – VLA
- Family Violence Duty Lawyer CRAF Training – risk assessment – Swinburne University
- Safer Families CPD Training 2014 – Womens Legal Service
- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 - Effective Supervision in CLC's – Judith Dixon
- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 – Working with Mentors – Panel including Zione Walker-Nthendad
- Information session – Disability Discrimination – Jackie Kerr
- Conflict of Interest Training – David Yarrow, Barrister
- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 – Ethics Considerations: Clients with Diminished Capacity – Eleanor Fritz
- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 – Managing Client Expectations and Risk Management

- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 – Introduction to Evaluations in the Community Legal Sector – Emma Pritchard
- Salvation Army Suicide Training for legal workers

**Katie Davies:**

- Mental Health & the Law – Legal Aid NSW
- Renting, Evicting and Homelessness Services – VLA
- VLA Assignments – VLA
- Court Ethics & Etiquette – VLA
- Challenging Subpoenas – VLA
- Ethics – Conflicts of Interest – David Yarrow, Barrister
- Community Lawyers CPD training – Federation of Community Legal Centers (Vic)
- Disability Discrimination – Jackie Kerr, Disability Discrimination Legal Service
- How to resolve a 3<sup>rd</sup> party insurance debt – Federation of Community Legal Centers (Vic)
- New Mental Health Act: An Overview – VLA
- Salvation Army Suicide Training for legal workers

**Lisa Archbold:**

- Publication of article - Use of 'healthy' brands: legal issues
- Challenging Subpoenas Marcus Dempsey VLA
- Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution Process Pilot
- Understanding accident investigation reports Dr Shane Richardson Delta V Experts
- Managing Client Expectations and Risk Management
- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 - Ethics Considerations: Clients with Diminished Capacity
- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 - Introduction to Evaluations in the Community Legal Sector
- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 - Effective Supervision in CLCs
- Community Lawyers CPD Training 2014 - Working with Mentors

**Demelza-Rose Gale:**

- Salvation Army Suicide Training for legal workers
- 14 April 2014- Third Party Insurance Debt



## Source of Income Received From Other Bodies

Program of Mallee Family Care	Funder	Department
Disability Employment Assistance	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Disability Employment Services	Commonwealth of Australia	Employment, Education and Workplace Relations
Regional Family Dispute Resolution	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Family Relationship Services	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Child Contact Service	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Family Relationship Centre	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Post Separation Cooperative Parenting	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Financial Counselling	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Financial Counselling	Victoria	Consumer Affairs Victoria
Out Of Home Care	New South Wales	Family and Community Services
Early Intervention and Placement Prevention	New South Wales	Family and Community Services
Safe Aboriginal Youth	New South Wales	NSW Justice
Indigenous Parenting Program	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services

Family Preservation	New South Wales	Family and Community Services
INCLUDE Sport and Recreation Program	Commonwealth of Australia	Prime Minister and Cabinet
Children's Services Pre-School Program	New South Wales	Family and Community Services
Out Of Home Care	Victoria	Human Services
Family Preservation	Victoria	Human Services
Enhanced Family Support	Victoria	Human Services
Supported Playgroup	Victoria	Education and Early Childhood Development
Early Intervention Service	Victoria	Education and Early Childhood Development
Kindergarten Inclusion Support Service	Victoria	Education and Early Childhood Development
Pre-School Field Officer	Victoria	Education and Early Childhood Development
CIRCLE Therapeutic Foster Care Program	Victoria	Human Services
Psychiatric Disability Support Services	Victoria	Health
Mental Health Respite Carer Support Program	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Personal Helpers and Mentors Program	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Disability Respite	Victoria	Human Services
Independent Living Skills	Victoria	Human Services
Dementia Outreach Services	Golden City Support Services Inc.	-
Supported Accommodation and Assistance Program	Victoria	Human Services
Refugee Settlement Program	Commonwealth of Australia	Immigration and Citizenship
Humanitarian Support	Victoria	Premier and Cabinet
Chances For Children	Public and Philanthropic donations from a wide variety of sources	-



Reading Discovery	Mildura Rural City Council	-
Total Learning Centre Swan Hill	Mrs Jenny Hilton	-
Chances for Children Administration	Portland House Foundation	-
Communities For Children - Robinvale Facilitating Partner	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Communities For Children - Robinvale Direct Service	Commonwealth of Australia	Department of Social Services
Parental and Community Engagement	Commonwealth of Australia	Employment, Education and Workplace Relations
Registered Training Organisation	Commonwealth of Australia	Employment, Education and Workplace Relations

## **Contact Us:**

### **Murray Mallee Community Legal Service**

**Haselgrove House  
122 Ninth Street, Mildura Vic 3500  
Postal Address: PO Box 1870, Mildura Vic 3502  
Telephone: (03) 5023 5966  
Fax: (03) 5021 7357  
Free Call Country Victoria: 1800 243 002  
Email: [mmcls@malleefamilycare.com.au](mailto:mmcls@malleefamilycare.com.au)**



# Financial Details

Auditors report and annual financial statement attached.

**MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT  
2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR  
Consolidated**

	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2012/13</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR</b>		
Surplus/Deficit from previous year	\$32,313	\$49,880
Approved Expenditure from Surplus	\$0	\$0
Net Surplus Deficit from previous year	<b>\$32,313</b>	<b>\$49,880</b>
<b>CLSP INCOME</b>		
Commonwealth	\$461,647	\$412,606
State	\$155,845	\$138,836
Service Generated Income	\$11	\$6,294
Total CLSP Income	<b>\$617,503</b>	<b>\$557,736</b>
CLSP General Purpose Income (Total CLSP Income plus Net Surplus / Deficit)	<b>\$649,816</b>	<b>\$607,616</b>
<b>CLSP EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries	\$445,920	\$417,486
Superannuation	\$31,272	\$30,101
On Costs	\$8,556	\$5,235
Rent	\$5,164	\$5,290
Repairs and Maintenance	\$4,423	\$3,509
Other Premises Costs	\$12,971	\$13,393
Staff Training	\$2,509	\$8,338
Staff Recruitment	\$10,324	\$249
Communications	\$6,763	\$9,462
Office Overheads	\$44,776	\$40,495
Insurance	\$5,804	\$4,836
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	\$300	\$291
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	\$1,683	\$3,017
Travel	\$26,585	\$19,226
Programming and Planning	\$4,207	\$10,142
Client Disbursements	\$0	\$0
Leases	\$957	\$1,241
Minor Equipment	\$3,456	\$2,482
Depreciation	\$0	\$504
Other	\$0	\$5
<b>Salary and Related Expenses</b>	<b>\$485,748</b>	<b>\$452,822</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$129,922</b>	<b>\$122,480</b>
<b>Total CLSP Expenses</b>	<b>\$615,670</b>	<b>\$575,302</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit for Current Year</b>	<b>\$1,833</b>	<b>(\$17,566)</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME (Not to be added to CLSP Funds Surplus/Deficit)</b>		
Total Funds received from Other Bodies	\$0	\$0
Total Funds received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities	\$0	\$0
Less Actual Capital Expenditure in Current Year	\$0	\$0
Surplus /Deficit for Next Year	\$34,146	\$32,313

**MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT  
2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR  
Generalist**

	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2012/13</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR</b>		
Surplus/Deficit from previous year	\$13,499	\$36,490
Approved Expenditure from Surplus	\$0	\$0
Net Surplus Deficit from previous year	<b>\$13,499</b>	<b>\$36,490</b>
<b>CLSP INCOME</b>		
Commonwealth	\$321,428	\$278,162
State	\$143,610	\$132,734
Service Generated Income	\$11	\$6,294
Total CLSP Income	<b>\$465,049</b>	<b>\$417,190</b>
CLSP General Purpose Income (Total CLSP Income plus Net Surplus / Deficit)	<b>\$478,548</b>	<b>\$453,680</b>
<b>CLSP EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries	\$338,102	\$324,032
Superannuation	\$21,299	\$21,690
On Costs	\$6,201	\$3,198
Rent	\$3,889	\$3,942
Repairs and Maintenance	\$3,331	\$2,615
Other Premises Costs	\$9,769	\$9,979
Staff Training	\$1,890	\$6,213
Staff Recruitment	\$7,775	\$185
Communications	\$5,093	\$7,051
Office Overheads	\$33,721	\$30,174
Insurance	\$4,371	\$3,604
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	\$226	\$217
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	\$1,268	\$2,248
Travel	\$20,021	\$14,326
Programming and Planning	\$3,168	\$7,557
Client Disbursements	\$0	\$0
Leases	\$721	\$925
Minor Equipment	\$2,603	\$1,849
Depreciation	\$0	\$376
Other	\$0	\$0
<b>Salary and Related Expenses</b>	<b>\$365,602</b>	<b>\$348,920</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$97,846</b>	<b>\$91,261</b>
<b>Total CLSP Expenses</b>	<b>\$463,448</b>	<b>\$440,181</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit for Current Year</b>	<b>\$1,601</b>	<b>(\$22,991)</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME (Not to be added to CLSP Funds Surplus/Deficit)</b>		
Total Funds received from Other Bodies	\$0	\$0
Total Funds received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities	\$0	\$0
Less Actual Capital Expenditure in Current Year	\$0	\$0
Surplus /Deficit for Next Year	\$15,100	\$13,499

**MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT  
2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR  
Rural Womens Outreach Program**

	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2012/13</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR</b>		
Surplus/Deficit from previous year	\$6,406	\$235
Approved Expenditure from Surplus	\$0	\$0
Net Surplus Deficit from previous year	<b>\$6,406</b>	<b>\$235</b>
<b>CLSP INCOME</b>		
Commonwealth	\$82,018	\$77,103
State	\$4,687	\$4,332
Service Generated Income	\$0	\$0
Total CLSP Income	<b>\$86,705</b>	<b>\$81,435</b>
CLSP General Purpose Income (Total CLSP Income plus Net Surplus / Deficit)	<b>\$93,111</b>	<b>\$81,670</b>
<b>CLSP EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries	\$64,505	\$51,424
Superannuation	\$5,967	\$4,628
On Costs	\$1,409	\$1,121
Rent	\$725	\$781
Repairs and Maintenance	\$621	\$518
Other Premises Costs	\$1,821	\$1,978
Staff Training	\$352	\$1,231
Staff Recruitment	\$1,450	\$37
Communications	\$950	\$1,397
Office Overheads	\$6,287	\$5,980
Insurance	\$815	\$714
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	\$42	\$43
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	\$236	\$446
Travel	\$3,733	\$2,839
Programming and Planning	\$591	\$1,498
Client Disbursements	\$0	\$0
Leases	\$134	\$183
Minor Equipment	\$485	\$367
Depreciation	\$0	\$74
Other	\$0	\$5
<b>Salary and Related Expenses</b>	<b>\$71,881</b>	<b>\$57,173</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$18,242</b>	<b>\$18,091</b>
<b>Total CLSP Expenses</b>	<b>\$90,123</b>	<b>\$75,264</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit for Current Year</b>	<b>(\$3,418)</b>	<b>\$6,171</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME (Not to be added to CLSP Funds Surplus/Deficit)</b>		
Total Funds received from Other Bodies	\$0	\$0
Total Funds received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities	\$0	\$0
<b>Less Actual Capital Expenditure in Current Year</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Surplus /Deficit for Next Year</b>	<b>\$2,988</b>	<b>\$6,406</b>

**MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT  
2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR  
Family Relationship Centre Project**

	2013/14	2012/13
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR</b>		
Surplus/Deficit from previous year	\$12,408	\$13,155
Approved Expenditure from Surplus	\$0	\$0
Net Surplus Deficit from previous year	<b>\$12,408</b>	<b>\$13,155</b>
<b>CLSP INCOME</b>		
Commonwealth	\$58,201	\$57,341
State	\$7,548	\$1,770
Service Generated Income	\$0	\$0
Total CLSP Income	<b>\$65,749</b>	<b>\$59,111</b>
CLSP General Purpose Income (Total CLSP Income plus Net Surplus / Deficit)	<b>\$78,157</b>	<b>\$72,266</b>
<b>CLSP EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries	\$43,313	\$42,030
Superannuation	\$4,006	\$3,783
On Costs	\$946	\$916
Rent	\$550	\$567
Repairs and Maintenance	\$471	\$376
Other Premises Costs	\$1,381	\$1,436
Staff Training	\$267	\$894
Staff Recruitment	\$1,099	\$27
Communications	\$720	\$1,014
Office Overheads	\$4,768	\$4,341
Insurance	\$618	\$518
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	\$32	\$31
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	\$179	\$323
Travel	\$2,831	\$2,061
Programming and Planning	\$448	\$1,087
Client Disbursements	\$0	\$0
Leases	\$102	\$133
Minor Equipment	\$368	\$266
Depreciation	\$0	\$54
Other	\$0	\$0
<b>Salary and Related Expenses</b>	<b>\$48,265</b>	<b>\$46,729</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,834</b>	<b>\$13,128</b>
<b>Total CLSP Expenses</b>	<b>\$62,099</b>	<b>\$59,857</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit for Current Year</b>	<b>\$3,650</b>	<b>(\$746)</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME (Not to be added to CLSP Funds Surplus/Deficit)</b>		
Total Funds received from Other Bodies	\$0	\$0
Total Funds received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities	\$0	\$0
<b>Less Actual Capital Expenditure in Current Year</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Surplus /Deficit for Next Year</b>	<b>\$16,058</b>	<b>\$12,408</b>

**MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT  
2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR  
Family Law Solicitor Administration Support Project**

	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2012/13</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR</b>		
Surplus/Deficit from previous year	\$0	\$0
Approved Expenditure from Surplus	\$0	\$0
Net Surplus/Deficit from previous year	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>CLSP INCOME</b>		
Commonwealth	\$0	\$0
State	\$0	\$0
Service Generated Income	\$0	\$0
Total CLSP Income	\$0	\$0
CLSP General Purpose Income (Total CLSP Income plus Net Surplus / Deficit)	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>CLSP EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries	\$0	\$0
Superannuation	\$0	\$0
On Costs	\$0	\$0
Rent	\$0	\$0
Repairs and Maintenance	\$0	\$0
Other Premises Costs	\$0	\$0
Staff Training	\$0	\$0
Staff Recruitment	\$0	\$0
Communications	\$0	\$0
Office Overheads	\$0	\$0
Insurance	\$0	\$0
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	\$0	\$0
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0
Programming and Planning	\$0	\$0
Client Disbursements	\$0	\$0
Leases	\$0	\$0
Minor Equipment	\$0	\$0
Depreciation	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0
<b>Salary and Related Expenses</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total CLSP Expenses</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit for Current Year</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME (Not to be added to CLSP Funds Surplus/Deficit)</b>		
Total Funds received from Other Bodies	\$0	\$0
Total Funds received from Other Bodies for non-CLSP CLSIS Activities	\$0	\$0
Less Actual Capital Expenditure in Current Year	\$0	\$0
Surplus /Deficit for Next Year	\$0	\$0



**Murray Mallee Community Legal Service**  
**Balance Sheet As At 30 June 2014**

	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2012/13</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
National Australia Bank Operating Account	\$ 74,196	\$ 84,194
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 74,196</b>	<b>\$ 84,194</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Fixed Assets		
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 16,866	\$ 16,866
Less Provision for Depreciation	\$ 16,866	\$ 16,866
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 74,196</b>	<b>\$ 84,194</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors		
Accrued Wages	\$ 7,549	\$ 2,591
Employee Entitlements		
Annual Leave	\$ 14,776	\$ 23,938
Long Service Leave	\$ -	\$ 13,766
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 22,325</b>	<b>\$ 40,295</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Employee Entitlements		
Long Service Leave	\$ 12,847	\$ 6,708
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 12,847</b>	<b>\$ 6,708</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 35,172</b>	<b>\$ 47,003</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 39,024</b>	<b>\$ 37,191</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>		
Retained Surplus/(deficit) at Beginning of Year	\$ 37,191	\$ 64,758
Surplus/(deficit) for Year	\$ 1,833	\$ (17,566)
	<b>\$ 39,024</b>	<b>\$ 37,191</b>

**Murray Mallee Community Legal Service**  
**Cashflow Statement**  
**Year Ended 30 June 2014**

	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2012/13</u>
<b>Cash inflows (outflows) from operating activities</b>		
<i>Receipts</i>		
Operating grants from Government	\$ 679,241	\$ 606,567
Other income	\$ 12	\$ 6,923
	<u>\$ 679,253</u>	<u>\$ 613,510</u>
<i>Payments</i>		
Payments to employees	\$ (497,579)	\$ (446,716)
Payments to suppliers and providers	\$ (142,914)	\$ (134,224)
GST paid	\$ (48,758)	\$ (43,527)
	<u>\$ (689,251)</u>	<u>\$ (624,467)</u>
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	(a) \$ (9,998)	\$ (10,957)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Payments for fixed assets	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Net increase(decrease) in cash for year</b>	<u>\$ (9,998)</u>	<u>\$ (10,957)</u>
<b>Cash at beginning of financial year</b>	\$ 84,194	\$ 95,151
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	<u><u>\$ 74,196</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 84,194</u></u>
<b>(a) Reconciliation of net cash from operating activities to surplus from operating activities:-</b>		
Net (deficit) surplus for the year	\$ 1,833	\$ (17,566)
<b>Add (Less):</b>		
Depreciation	\$ -	\$ 504
Increase (Decrease) in employee provisions	\$ (16,789)	\$ 8,050
Increase (Decrease) in creditors	\$ 4,958	\$ (1,945)
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<u><u>\$ (9,998)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (10,957)</u></u>

Murray Mallee Community Legal Service  
Notes To The Financial Statements  
2013/14 Financial Year

**NOTE 1: BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

Income in these Income and Expenditure Reports is recognised on a cash basis, while expenses are recognised on an accrual basis.

**ORGANISATION'S CERTIFICATION**

I certify that:

1. The income and expenditure reports presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial performance of the Murray Mallee Community Legal Service for the year ended 30 June 2014 in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 of the income and expenditure statement.
2. The income and expenditure reports are in accordance with the agreement, applicable Australian Accounting standards and based on proper accounts and records.
3. The Organisation has maintained complete and proper accounting records in respect of the Murray Mallee Community Legal Service.
4. The funds received by Mallee Family Care Inc. from Victorian Legal Aid under the Agreement have been properly spent in accordance with the Agreement.



Signature:

GLEN HORNSBY  
COMPANY SECRETARY

28 October 2014

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Board of Mallee Family Care Inc. and the Commonwealth of Australia represented by the Attorney-General Department

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Mallee Family Care Inc. in relation to the Murray Mallee Community Legal Service Program which comprises the income and expenditure reports – Mallee Family Care Inc. Murray Mallee Community Legal Service Program for the year ended 30 June 2014 and the Organisation's Certification. The financial report has been prepared by the Board of Mallee Family Care Inc. based on the financial reporting provisions of Clause 10.3 of the standard terms and conditions in respect of the agreement dated 19 November 2011 between Mallee Family Care Inc. and the Commonwealth of Australia represented by the Attorney-General Department ("the Agreement").

### Board's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board are responsible for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Clause 10.3 of the Agreement; and for such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards.


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#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Mallee Family Care Inc. in respect of the Mallee Family Care Inc. Murray Mallee Community Legal Service Program for the year ended 30 June 2014 presents fairly, in all material respects and is in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Clause 10.3 of the Agreement.

#### Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist Mallee Family Care Inc. to comply with the financial reporting provisions of the Agreement referred to above. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for Mallee Family Care Inc. and Commonwealth of Australia represented by the Attorney-General Department and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than Mallee Family Care Inc. or Attorney-General Department.

  
**Crowe Horwath Murray Darling**

Nick Walker  
Partner  
RCA number: 339638

28 October 2014  
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