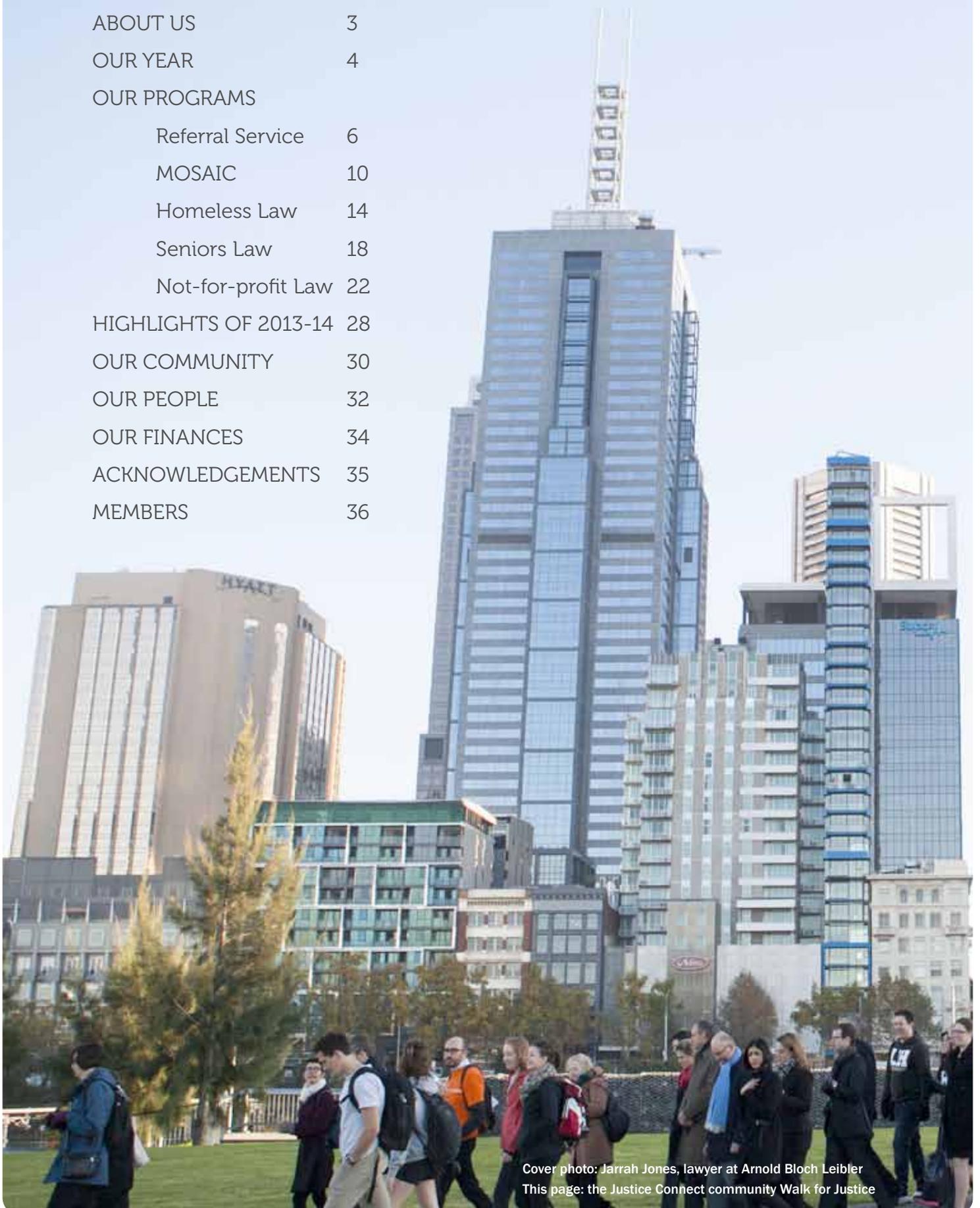


Annual Report 2013-14



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Cover photo: Jarrah Jones, lawyer at Arnold Bloch Leibler
This page: the Justice Connect community Walk for Justice

ABOUT US

We exist to help build a world that is just and fair - where systems are more accessible and accountable, rights are respected and advanced, and laws are fairer

Our unique contribution to this vision is to partner with pro bono lawyers to develop and strengthen pro bono capacity and strategically match this with unmet legal need.

What we do

We deliver access to justice through pro bono legal services, to people experiencing disadvantage and the community organisations that support them.

We build, support and engage a strong commitment to lawyers' pro bono responsibility.

We challenge and change unjust and unfair laws and policies, using evidence from our casework and the stories of our clients to bring about reform.



4711
requests for
assistance



1653
people helped



288
lawyers trained



2400
community
groups trained



OUR YEAR

It is wonderful to review our first full year of operation as Justice Connect and see all that has been achieved. The merger on 1 July 2013 of PILCH New South Wales and PILCH Victoria to create a new pro bono organisation has brought renewed focus to our vision of a world that is just and fair.

For all of us the merger revitalised our commitment to access to justice through pro bono work. At the end of the financial year, we had 40 staff working for Justice Connect in two states, and an income of almost \$4.5 million.

We introduced new services, renamed others, welcomed new members and attracted new supporters, all of which are mentioned in this 2013-14 annual report.

There have been many highlights this year, but we are particularly pleased with the enthusiasm with which Justice Connect has been received in NSW. In November 2013 the Justice Connect Board established the NSW and Victorian State Committees. The Committees are focused on providing advice and support to Justice Connect in their state. Together we have spent time with stakeholders to develop a better understanding of the opportunities for pro bono to help meet the need for access to justice in NSW. We're very excited about seeing many of the ideas come to fruition over the coming year.

Our service to newly arrived migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Sydney, MOSAIC, is just one example. It provides pro bono legal assistance through an outreach service and we are delighted it has received funding from the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation to help enable it to continue for the financial year.

In this report you will read about Aananya, one of MOSAIC's first clients. A newly arrived migrant, she was at the mercy of an uncaring real estate agent until

a pro bono lawyer working with MOSAIC helped her regain her housing bond. While this matter concerned only a few hundred dollars, at issue was justice and fairness for Aananya.

All our services have notable achievements to report this year.

With its practical experience of Victorians suffering homelessness, Homeless Law made powerful submissions to the Victorian Sentencing Advisory Council for its review of the state's infringements system. This review will deliver significant improvements to the fairness and efficiency of the system.

Our Referral Service was deservedly awarded the National Children's Law Award for Outstanding Legal Representation for its work with the Unaccompanied Human Minors Consortium. In June, our team co-ordinated a program to provide assistance to vulnerable children at risk after a change by the Government to migration regulations.

And Seniors Law continued to grow the understanding of issues through a number of collaborations, including hosting a screening for pro bono lawyers of Eastern Community Legal Centre's elder abuse film Ghost Train. As one volunteer lawyer explained, the rate of social and technological progress can leave many older people behind.

Our outreach work benefited from enhancements to our online presence, particularly in Not-for-profit Law (previously called PILCH Connect). Likewise, Justice Connect's website was launched in November providing a hub of information for our members, for pro bono lawyers and for the community.

Our members are at the core of everything we do – through accepting referrals, staffing outreach programs such as Homeless Law, Seniors Law and MOSAIC, attending and hosting events, and providing financial and in-kind support.

We acknowledge that the demand for pro bono work is greater than ever and we are grateful for our members' continued willingness to partner with Justice Connect and to support our vision.

In particular, we appreciate the support of our longstanding key partners, which include the Law Institute of Victoria, the Victorian Bar, NSW and Victorian Legal Aid and our member law firms, corporate legal departments, community legal centres and university law schools.

We're also thankful for the support from those in the philanthropic sector and government and from barristers at the Bars in Victoria and NSW. Our volunteer board members and State Committee members continue to provide wonderful support, and our staff continue to be inspiring and enthusiastic contributors.

Our thanks to them all.

We have many plans afoot for 2014-15. We will be running a new legal advice service for self-represented litigants in the Federal Court and Federal Circuit Court registries in Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart and the ACT. This project, based on a model developed by QPILCH, was funded by the Commonwealth Government to complement work being done by QPILCH in Brisbane and JusticeNetSA in Adelaide and Darwin.

In Victoria, we have received funding to design and pilot a civil law service for prisoners and to run a project designed to sustain the tenancies of women at risk of homelessness, which includes providing legal assistance and support from a social worker.

And in New South Wales we will be investigating ways to improve the presence and impact of coordinated pro bono work in regional, rural and remote areas.

It is a privilege to lead Justice Connect. We are constantly encouraged by the passionate, creative and persistent commitment of our staff, volunteers and the many, many lawyers who provide tens of thousands of hours of pro bono service to our clients each year.

Thank you once again for your support. We look forward to continuing our work with you in 2015.

Fiona McLeay
Chief Executive Officer

Mitzi Gilligan
Chair



Top: Fiona McLeay addresses the crowd at the 2014 Sydney Human Rights Dinner

Bottom: Mitzi Gilligan at the 2014 Melbourne Human Rights Dinner

Referral Service

Our Referral Service provides access to justice through pro bono by linking people experiencing disadvantage and the community organisations that support them with lawyers who will assist for free.

This year we received and assessed 1932 requests for assistance in all areas of law and facilitated 431 referrals to pro bono lawyers. We also began integration of the Referral Service across Victoria and NSW. Close collaboration between our staff in Melbourne and Sydney has meant that we have been able to increase the amount of referrals made in NSW, despite having no additional staff in our Sydney office. We are uniquely placed to access a large pool of lawyers across Victoria and NSW because we administer the pro bono programs of the Victorian Bar and the Law Institute of Victoria and because of the commitment of Justice Connect members and the Bar.

Our work for justice through pro bono

We have developed area of law guidelines to assist our volunteer students take instructions from clients in the initial telephone enquiry involving any legal practice area. Each enquiry is considered by our Referral lawyers and assessed against pro bono criteria which include area of law, means, merit and pro bono capacity considerations.

This year a significant number of all our enquiries in Victoria involved Family and Criminal Law requests, in line with funding cuts to Victoria Legal Aid in these practice areas. While the Victorian Bar responded in support of community legal centres and private lawyers assisting clients pro bono, there remains significant unmet need in these areas.

Our response has been to continue to support community legal centres able to instruct in the matter by facilitating pro bono referrals to barristers through the Victorian Bar Pro Bono Scheme. We have also worked closely with the Victorian Women's Legal Service to support women seeking legal assistance.

Pro bono lawyers provided significant assistance in migration law matters, and more broadly in credit and debt, property law where the primary home was at risk, employment law related to unfair dismissal claims, equality and discrimination matters and coronial inquests.

In NSW, our generalist practice was emerging and while the number of enquiries was modest, we did see enquiries in broad practice areas such as discrimination law, property law and torts. We continue to communicate the broadening of eligibility criteria beyond the public interest applying the same pro bono criteria developed in Victoria.

Our work with the Unaccompanied Humanitarian

Minors (UHM) Consortium saw vulnerable children seeking asylum receive assistance in a new way. In June 2014, our service co-ordinated an outreach legal service to assist children in response to a change by Government to migration regulations. These changes imposed further requirements on unaccompanied minors seeking to bring family members to Australia.

The children were asked to provide detailed submissions to satisfy additional 'compelling reasons' to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.



Thanks to your excellent referral, our client was able to save her home, we appreciate your tireless efforts at assisting our vulnerable client base

– Consumer Action Law Centre

The outreach service was a Justice Connect initiative that brought together Law Institute of Victoria members, Justice Connect members, Victoria Legal Aid (VLA) and the community legal sector to assist the children.

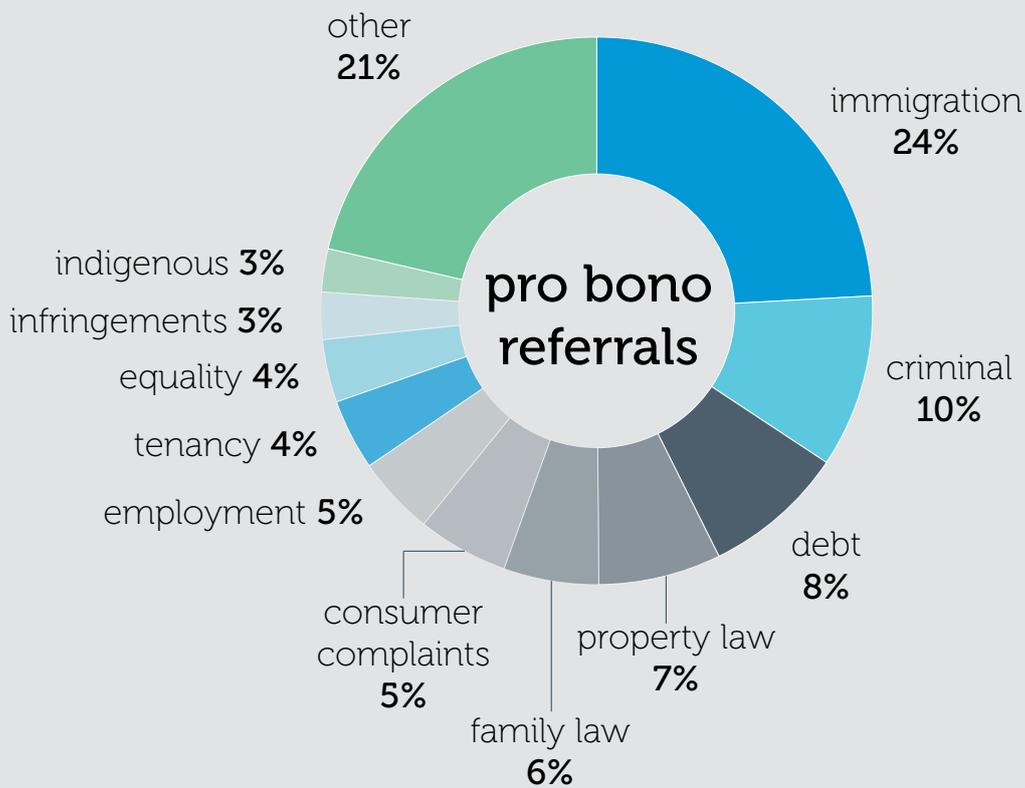
The Consortium also produced a number of template documents that enabled pro bono lawyers, community legal centres and UHM caseworkers to assist their clients effectively.

The Consortium's outstanding contribution to protecting the family reunification rights of child refugees was recognised with the National

Children's Law Award 2014 for Outstanding Legal Representation.

We completed an evaluation of the Unfair Dismissal Conciliation Pilot Project, which was a joint initiative of selected community legal centres in NSW, Law Access, Legal Aid NSW and PILCH NSW (now Justice Connect). The findings will inform future collaborations in responding to unmet legal need in employment law.

Our public interest referral practice included assisting Stolen Generations, coronial inquests, and through our collaboration with the Victorian Legal Assistance Forum, the preparation and review of Disaster Legal Help web based information sheets.



'Other' represents areas of law that did not fall inside the top 12 most referred category. In this case 'Other' is made up of:

- Admiralty
- Contract
- Disability
- Freedom of information
- Insurance
- Health
- Superannuation
- Privacy
- Social Security

Much of our public interest work involved assisting families in coronial inquests and matters around the Stolen Generations, particularly supporting unaccompanied humanitarian minors. Of the matters that we referred in the area of tenancy and debt, homelessness and bankruptcy would not have been avoided without pro bono intervention. Our ability to refer matters in the area of immigration law, family law and criminal law is due to collaborations in the sector and the profession's dedication in responding to this unmet legal need.



1932 enquiries



431 pro bono referrals

Other highlights

The Referral Service reviewed our Stolen Generations casework management including an intensive audit of enquiries, intake processes, referral pathways and how it fit within the broader context of Justice Connect's Indigenous work. Our review concluded that given the absence

of compensation schemes and the intergenerational disadvantage commonly experienced by Stolen Generations, there remained a need for pro bono assistance and the Referral Service would continue to refer individuals for legal assistance.

Our work building lawyers' commitment to pro bono responsibility

As part of our collaboration with the Equal Opportunity Legal Service of Victoria Legal Aid, we assisted with delivering training for community lawyers to develop understanding of discrimination law. The training was held over 25-26 November 2013, and was attended by about 100 lawyers.

The Referral Service has for the first time seen two small Law Institute of Victoria member firms come together to deliver legal costs training to a community legal centre. This highlights the importance of having access to a broad range of firms and a creative outlook in order to facilitate the most appropriate referral for assistance.

Our work in law reform

Our continued focus on identifying and responding to barriers to accessing justice saw us partner with the Consumer Action Law Centre, Footscray Community Legal Centre and the Federation of Community Legal Centres in seeking a review by VCAT of the application of its fee waiver policy. We were also able to garner the support of the Law Institute of Victoria.

As a result of the review VCAT implemented positive changes and improvements to the process designed to enhance transparency, reduce the complexity of procedures and improve access to justice. Significantly, individuals will as-of-right be entitled to a waiver upon production of a means-tested Commonwealth Concession Card.

M61 Project

The M61 Project began in July 2011 to assist "offshore" asylum seekers to exercise a judicial review right that had been recognised by the High Court of Australia in Plaintiff M61/2010E v Commonwealth of Australia & Ors and Plaintiff M69/2010 v Commonwealth of Australia v Ors [2010] HCA 41.

To follow up Justice Connect's M61 Project, the Referral Service engaged a La Trobe university law student to review 130 migration judicial review applications from negative Refugee Review Tribunal decisions to the Federal Circuit Court of Australia between May 2012 and March 2014.

The review found that two-thirds of matters received positive assessments by counsel, leading to successful referrals to law firms that resulted in the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection withdrawing from proceedings. This demonstrates once again the powerful positive impact that pro bono representation can have for clients.

Self Representation Service

In December 2013 the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department provided Justice Connect with a four-year grant to assist unrepresented litigants with civil law proceedings in the Federal Court and Federal Circuit Court.

In the first half of 2014, we laid the foundations of our Self Representation Service, including the recruitment of staff and development work with the respective courts.

The new service will offer eligible clients from NSW, Victoria, the ACT and Tasmania one-hour appointments in which we will provide discrete legal assistance and advice such as the prospects of particular applications or assistance in preparing court documents.

The service will initially focus on bankruptcy proceedings, which were identified as a priority area. We anticipate that as the service expands, we will broaden our areas of assistance to include Fair Work, human rights and discrimination.

Tommy Lyons grew up in a small town in NSW surrounded by cousins, aunts, uncles, and seven brothers and sisters. They were the only Indigenous family in town. Tommy's dad would take him fishing and show him how to live off the land. Then, when he was 10, his mum passed away. Shortly afterwards, Tommy was forcibly removed from his family, sent to Victoria and adopted.

But his adoptive parents soon surrendered him to the care of the State. Tommy wasn't even aware he had been legally adopted until, as an adult, he sought to obtain identification documents to get his drivers' licence. He found his name had been changed upon his adoption and his adoptive parents were identified on his birth certificate as his only parents.

Having had his family name and his birth parents effectively erased from any official records was a huge injustice for Tommy and immensely painful. "If they take that identity away, you haven't

got a family, you haven't got nobody. Who are you at the end of the day?"

For Tommy, getting formal recognition of his name and his family would mean he could restore his legal Aboriginal identity and have his heritage and culture recognised for himself and his family.

So, Tommy approached Justice Connect for help to change his birth certificate to reflect his birth name and parents. Our Referral Service took his request to Herbert Smith Freehills (HSF), who sought assistance from Counsel through Justice Connect.

The County Court went out of its way to ensure that Tommy's case was heard expeditiously and managed sensitively. The first time Tommy had to attend court was to receive the orders discharging his adoption and requiring the requested amendments to his birth records.

Her Honour Judge Hampel took the time and care to acknowledge

the injustices done to Tommy as a child (including the court's role in that process) and pay tribute to his determination, strength and courage. "This is what being a lawyer is about," she said, "to use your knowledge and skills to benefit others who would not otherwise be able to enforce their rights. It makes me proud to be a lawyer and part of this process."

Tommy hopes his success will make it easier for other members of the Stolen Generations to take the steps that he has, and that his story will give them the courage and confidence to do so.

Tommy was supported through the whole process by his loving and extremely supportive family.

"It's hard, you go through a lot of stuff, and at the end of the day you've got your family, they're the backbone of you, and it keeps you strong and fight for you and what you believe in. It's like winning Tattslotto – but better."



Tommy and family

Tommy gets his name back

To see a video interview with Thomas Lyons visit justiceconnect.org.au/tommy

“ If they take that identify away, you haven't got a family, you haven't got nobody. Who are you at the end of the day?

MOSAIC

MOSAIC (Migrant Outreach Service – Advice, Information and Community Education) began in July 2013, helping newly arrived migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in need of civil law advice.

The program offers a free weekly outreach service where pro bono lawyers provide legal advice and, in many cases, ongoing assistance with civil law issues. Located at the Metro Migrant Resource Centre in Ashfield, MOSAIC facilitated more than 500 hours of pro bono assistance to new migrants in its first year of operation.

Our work for justice through pro bono

In its first year MOSAIC advised newly arrived migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in over 210 matters – more than twice our initial target. It is a generalist service that provides advice on civil law issues such as fines, consumer complaints, social security entitlements, tenancy, insurance claims and workplace disputes.

The breadth of the service has provided insight into the different legal issues that consistently confront and confound our clients, including transport fines and consumer issues such as mobile phone agreements. This insight will help us shape the service in the future.

MOSAIC also provides information and community education to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities and caseworkers on civil law to encourage early intervention and resolution of their civil law issues. In 2013-14, with the support of City of Sydney, we devised and delivered an introductory workshop on civil law issues and free legal service providers to 70 caseworkers from a range of settlement and community organisations.

An evaluation for the Law and Justice Foundation carried out after MOSAIC's establishment phase highlighted the strong demand for the outreach service. The feedback from lawyers, caseworkers and clients was extremely positive. This enabled Justice Connect to gain funding from the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation to help continue the MOSAIC program in 2014 and for the year ahead.

Our work in law reform

In February 2014 MOSAIC provided the NSW State Debt Recovery Office (SDRO) with a briefing paper about uncertainty regarding whether asylum seekers are able to complete Work and Development Orders (WDOs) to satisfy their traffic and transport fines.

SDRO agreed to raise the issue with the Department of Immigration.

Unfortunately, we were told that it was unlikely such clients would be able to undertake WDOs and we would have to resolve their fines in other ways. Despite this, MOSAIC's engagement with SDRO has prompted discussions about how we could work together more effectively. The SDRO Advocacy Team is now increasingly aware of MOSAIC clients' circumstances and are more willing to waive their fines and fees where appropriate.

MOSAIC has also identified a problem of new migrants being signed up to inappropriate and unaffordable mobile phone contracts. In response to this we developed a new project, supported by a grant from the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN) that will document the experience of new migrants and asylum seekers who have difficulties paying mobile phone bills and provide them with advice, training and mentoring to improve their knowledge and skills around telecommunications in Australia.



As a lawyer and as someone who does a lot of pro bono work, this is exactly the reason you do these things: to be able to help out vulnerable members of the community
– MOSAIC pro bono lawyer

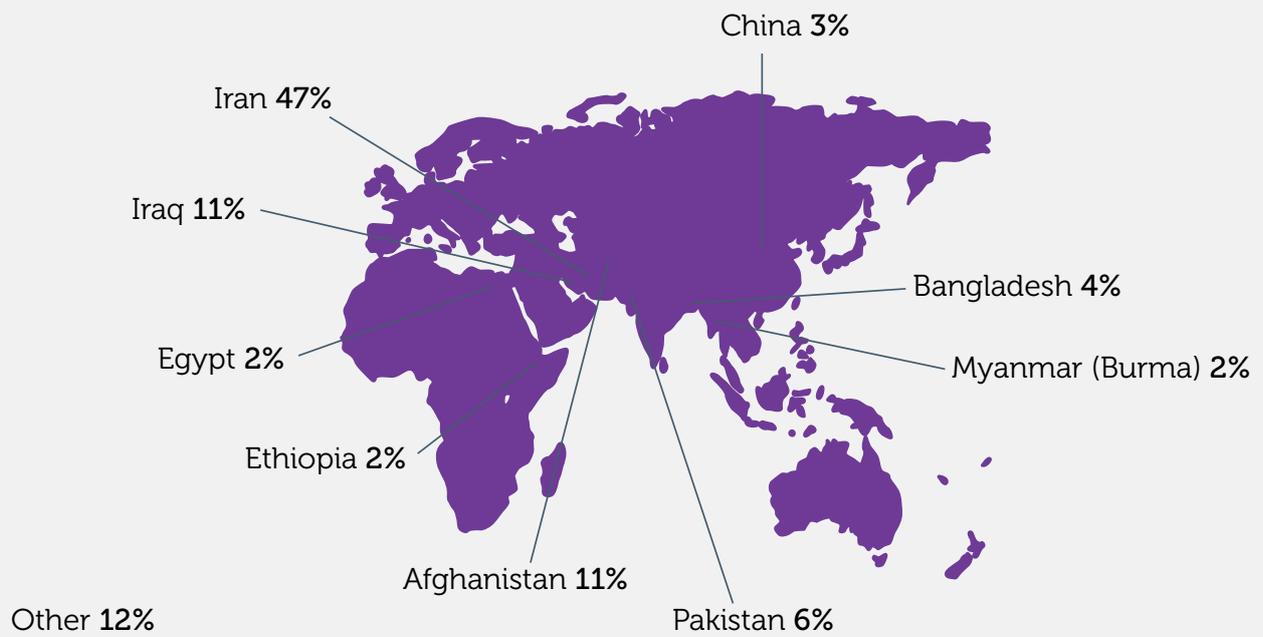


The way she (the MOSAIC lawyer) spoke to me, I have hope
– client

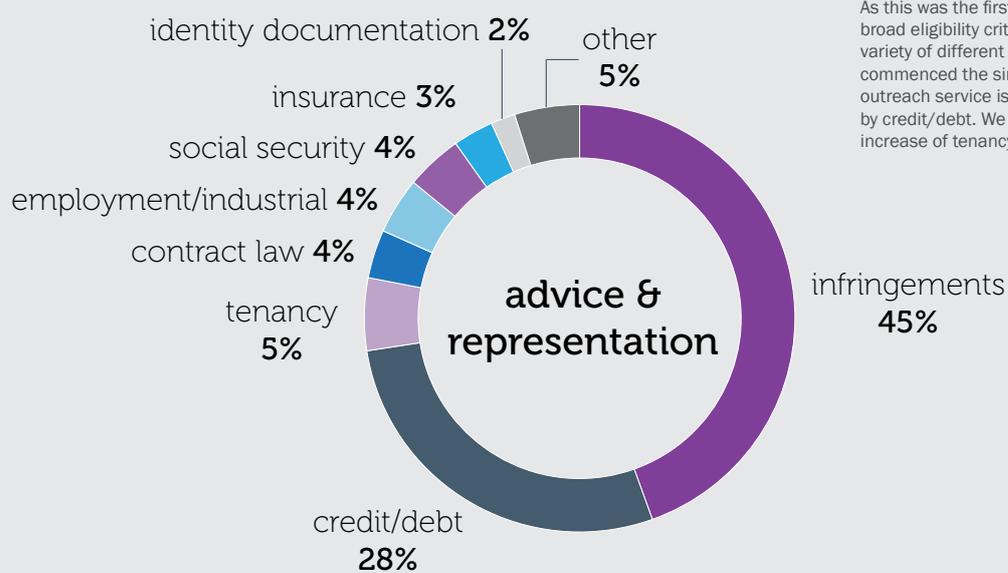
Our work building lawyers' pro bono responsibility

There are currently 49 lawyers involved in MOSAIC from seven different firms. During the year the service provided training to 88 pro bono lawyers on a range of legal topics including credit and debt, Centrelink and social security entitlements, tenancy, infringements and fines, the legal situation

for asylum seekers, and refugees and employment law. We also provided training on a range of non-legal topics such as working with refugees, cross cultural communication skills and working with our client management system.



clients' country of origin



As this was the first year of MOSAIC, we adopted broad eligibility criteria which resulted in a wide variety of different matters. Since the service commenced the single most common issue at the outreach service is infringements/fines followed by credit/debt. We have also seen a steady increase of tenancy matters in 2014.



219 intakes



65 open files

Other highlights

Liz Simpson, MOSAIC Manager and Principal Solicitor, gave presentations on the service and the systemic issues affecting our clients at forums including the Settlement Services International Conference for support workers and the CLC NSW Symposium in June 2014.

Liz Simpson also appeared as the guest speaker on *The Way Life Is* on Bankstown Community Radio.



When Aananya*, a recently arrived migrant from Sri Lanka and her young son moved to Sydney in 2013 her caseworker helped her find accommodation in a house with two friends. She was in her early thirties and an asylum seeker with no work rights finding it hard to make ends meet.

When she moved in Aananya paid the real estate agent \$568 in bond but did not receive a copy of the rent agreement or a bond receipt. Subsequently, Aananya paid her share of the weekly rent directly to one of the other tenants. After six months Aananya moved out of the house because she wasn't happy with its condition. On several occasions she had asked the agent about repairs or mowing the grass but nothing had been done.

When Aananya contacted NSW Fair Trading to recover her bond she was told they had no record of her payment. The real estate agent then told her that there was a break-lease fee and cleaning costs that Aananya owed him and that he had used the bond money to cover these costs.

Aananya was determined to get her money back as she needed it to support her son. She lodged a claim at the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal for a bond refund, then, referred by her Settlement Services International Caseworker, contacted MOSAIC for assistance a week before her hearing in June 2014, as her son left for school holidays.

A MOSAIC pro bono lawyer wrote to the real estate agent explaining Aananya's case and asking for a copy of the cleaning receipts. The agent acknowledged he couldn't pursue this claim but

explained that Aananya owed a small amount of outstanding rent because there had been a mistake at the start of her lease. The matter was settled at NCAT and Aananya received a \$360 refund from the real estate agent.

Today, Aananya and her son have returned to her homeland, having spent a year in an apartment in a much better state of repair.

* name has been changed.

Mother gets her bond returned

Aananya's story

Homeless Law

Established in 2001, Homeless Law is a specialist legal service for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Homeless Law staff work closely with approximately 400 pro bono lawyers to provide legal information, advice and representation to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Our vision is to help our clients through the provision of holistic legal services and evidence-based advocacy. Homeless Law received almost 1000 enquiries this year, and with our pro bono lawyers in our member firms we opened more than 360 new files.

Our work for justice through pro bono

Through the provision of holistic legal services, Homeless Law prevented the eviction of 129 people and their families into homelessness this year. We also assisted more than 100 people to resolve overwhelming fines and infringements stemming from homelessness.

Homeless Law has continued to develop and implement innovative ways of delivering holistic legal services to clients experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

The Women's Homelessness Prevention Project (WHPP), funded by the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation and supported by the City of Melbourne and Herbert Smith Freehills, combines legal representation with social work support to prevent women and children being evicted into homelessness.

Already the legal advice and representation in [this project](#), combined with social work support (including linking women with financial counsellors, family violence workers or housing, family, health, education and employment services), is proving to be an effective service model for preventing homelessness.

In early 2014, Victoria Police charged more than 20 people with begging in the City of Melbourne as part of Operation Minta. Homeless Law provided a duty lawyer service at the diversion hearings in the Melbourne Magistrates' Court to ensure vulnerable individuals were legally represented.

Homeless Law represented 15 people as part of this service and our consultation with these clients will inform our work to reduce the impact of laws regulating public space on people experiencing homelessness.

As a result of our research into the legal needs of prisoners, funding came from the Ian Potter Foundation to launch the [Debt and Tenancy Legal Help for Prisoners Pilot Project](#) at Port Phillip Prison. This monthly outreach clinic staffed by pro bono lawyers provides legal assistance to prisoners in relation to tenancy, credit and debt and infringements matters.



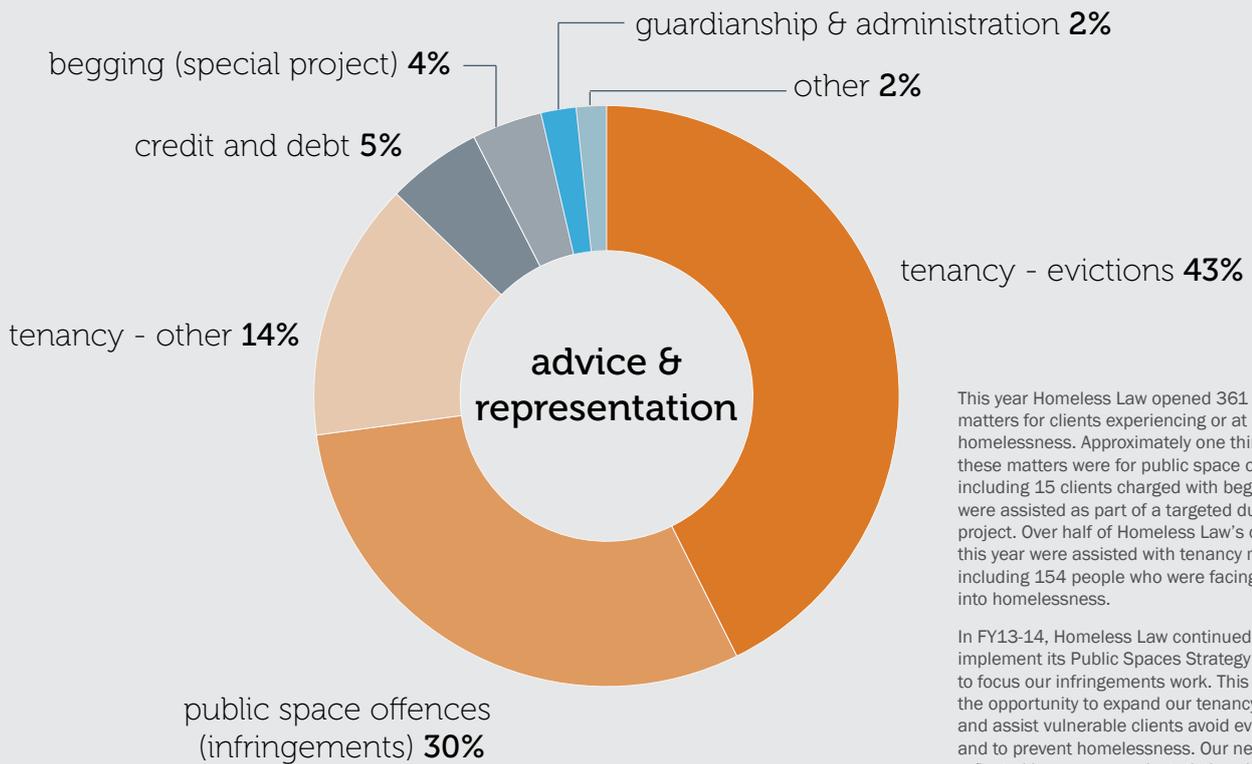
(Homeless Law) has enlightened my whole life, it was like a big weight was lifted...I was so depressed before I met you guys ... in my situation there could not have been a better outcome
- client

Homeless Law continues to provide holistic services to our clients and to strengthen our integrated model of service provision. This year Homeless Law's in-house social worker, the Homeless Persons' Liaison Officer, provided direct support to 80 people with a range of non-legal issues, including housing, mental and physical health, drug and alcohol issues and employment concerns. In April Homeless Law employed a liaison officer for the Women's Homelessness Prevention Project to provide up to three months of intensive casework support to women facing eviction into homelessness.

Our work building lawyers' pro bono responsibility

Homeless Law ran a tailored training program for more than 100 pro bono lawyers, which included induction training for all new Homeless Law lawyers and graduates, as well as casework practice workshops, an advocacy masterclass run by counsel Emrys Nekvapil, and client management training delivered by Dr Danny Sullivan, the assistant clinical director at Forensicare.

This year Homeless Law prepared 294 intake memoranda for pro bono lawyers before clients' first appointments at a Homeless Law clinic. These memos provide lawyers with a strong starting point to commence running the matter efficiently and effectively.



This year Homeless Law opened 361 new matters for clients experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Approximately one third of these matters were for public space offences, including 15 clients charged with begging who were assisted as part of a targeted duty lawyer project. Over half of Homeless Law's clients this year were assisted with tenancy matters, including 154 people who were facing eviction into homelessness.

In FY13-14, Homeless Law continued to implement its Public Spaces Strategy in order to focus our infringements work. This gave us the opportunity to expand our tenancy practice and assist vulnerable clients avoid eviction and to prevent homelessness. Our new focus is reflected in our casework statistics above which indicate an 11 per cent drop in infringements work and a 19 per cent increase in our tenancy work.



977 enquiries



361 open files

Highlights

We worked with many other leading homelessness and community agencies to hold a memorial service in March 2014 for people who have died for reasons related to homelessness. A registry of names of people who have died will be kept in the State Library of Victoria and the memorial service will be held annually.

We conducted a legal needs analysis in Geelong consulting more than 40 workers from a range of specialist homelessness services and 10 people experiencing homelessness in the Geelong area.

We built a new partnership with the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) who will provide approximately 15 in-house lawyers to deliver pro bono legal services in the Geelong area, enabling

us to expand our outreach clinic from fortnightly to weekly.

In August 2013, Homeless Law created In the Public Eye – personal stories of homelessness and fines, a video project launched by the Victorian Attorney-General and viewed by over 3000 people.

Our work in law reform

Since the Homeless Law service was established 13 years ago, fines and infringements for public space offences have prevailed as the most common legal issue affecting our clients. Based on our casework, we made [a submission](#) in October 2013 to the Sentencing Advisory Council (SAC), consulted with the Attorney-General's Infringements Standing Advisory Committee and the Department of Justice, and played a leading role in the Infringements Working Group.

Homeless Law's submission to SAC is cited extensively in the Council's comprehensive report on the fines and infringements system. SAC took on board all of our key recommendations, many of which were reflected in the *Fines Reform Act 2014* (Vic), which passed in June 2014.

The infringements system is undergoing fundamental changes and the reforms will deliver significant improvements to the fairness and efficiency of the current infringements system.

Homeless Law continues to work closely with the Department of Justice and the Attorney-General's Department on the implementation of these reforms. We're optimistic the changes will reduce the impact of the current system on our clients and we're pleased to have used the evidence from more than a decade of casework to inform and influence these reforms.

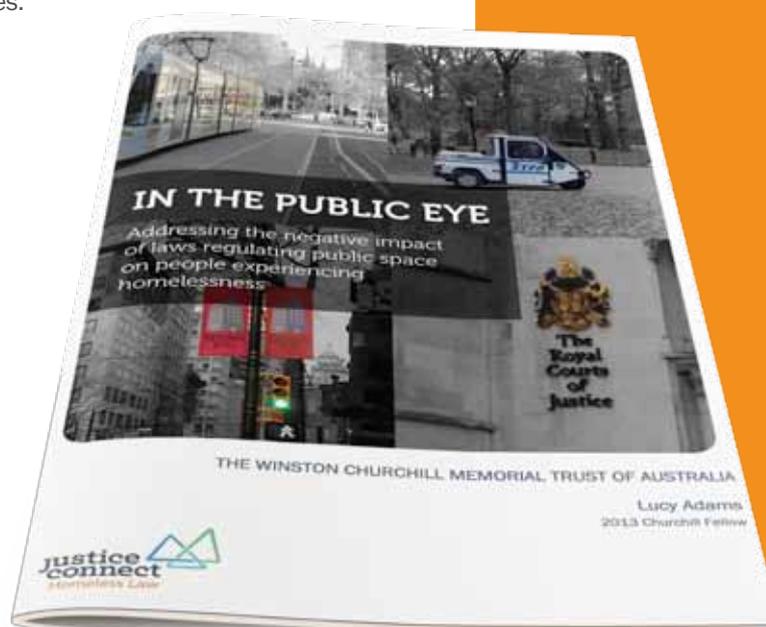
As part of our ongoing work on the criminalisation of homelessness, Homeless Law Manager and Principal Lawyer Lucy Adams released her Churchill Fellowship report on law enforcement as a response to homelessness and the use of public space, [In the Public Eye: Addressing the negative impact of laws regulating public space on people experiencing homelessness](#). The report presents 10 recommendations for better informed, more effective, more efficient approaches to homelessness and related conduct in public spaces.

Homeless Law has started conversations with local councils, Victoria Police and the Department of Justice about the report and some of the constructive alternative models it identifies.

“

The support we get from Justice Connect is terrific. I'm a massive fan of the 'new' triage system and the resources/analysis/assistance provided through the intake memos is fantastic. You guys are doing a fantastic job. I also really appreciate how responsive you are to our queries/needs

– pro bono lawyer



Bronwyn* is a 30-year-old woman who came to Homeless Law fearful for the safety of herself and her two children. She had experienced extreme family violence from the father of her first child, which had resulted in him going to jail.

Since then Bronwyn had re-partnered and had another baby. Due to the violent history of her ex-partner, the Director of Housing had relocated Bronwyn's family but she had learned her ex-partner was due for parole and that he knew her new address.

A new request for relocation to the Director of Housing had been refused on the basis Bronwyn allegedly had a housing debt of \$1600 from her previous property, the home she had been removed from due to the risk of violence.

"I was being approved for a transfer then I received a letter in relation to a maintenance debt of \$1600 that needed to be paid before I moved. I actually read it at a red light and had a panic attack with my baby in the car. I was petrified that I was never going to be able to move and feel safe again'.

The damage that led to this debt had been caused by Bronwyn's ex-partner, and included blood stains on the property's carpet.

Bronwyn was assisted through Homeless Law's Women's Homelessness Prevention Project, which includes legal representation and social work support. The Homeless Law lawyers represented Bronwyn at the VCAT compensation hearing in relation to the alleged \$1600 debt. The lawyers successfully advocated for the Director of Housing to waive the debt and urgently relocate the family.

"Justice Connect has given me room to breathe. I now don't have to stress about a debt I didn't owe. I'm grateful for all they've done. Words can't explain it."

Bronwyn's name has now been added to a victim's register for her increased safety, and pro bono lawyers continue to work with her to have her youngest son's surname changed.

*Name has been changed



Providing protection from violence

Bronwyn's story

“

Justice Connect has given me room to breathe. I now don't have to stress about a debt I didn't owe. I'm grateful for all they've done

Seniors Law

The Seniors Law service began in Victoria in 2009 and continues to provide a dedicated focus on legal issues affecting vulnerable older Victorians.

Our service assists people whose age makes them easy prey for exploitation, including by their own family, and raises awareness of these issues through extensive stakeholder engagement, particularly with health and community workers.

Our work for justice through pro bono

Raising awareness of Seniors Law and the issues impacting our clients was a major part of our year.

We redesigned and delivered a new Induction Training Program and General Elder Law Series for seconded and community sector lawyers, attended by almost 150 lawyers and others, and we engaged in an intensive stakeholder engagement program to deliver training to approximately 500 health and community workers. We rolled out our Legal Health Check document as part of this program.

This document is a screening tool developed for use by community workers and it plays a key role in identifying elder abuse, by helping workers navigate difficult conversations with patients about elder abuse to streamline the referrals to Seniors Law.

Our work building lawyers' pro bono responsibility

Seniors Law continued to offer its annual training program to lawyers from the five firms that staff our outreach service, to our other pro bono partners and to community lawyers.

The eight sessions in the program cover areas of law commonly associated with ageing, such as powers of attorney, consumer credit protection and family violence. The sessions also address practical issues such as assessing capacity and appearing at VCAT.

We introduced a new practical session in which lawyers worked through a case study which highlighted the issues that commonly affect our clients. For the first time, an older persons' advocate attended our training to provide valuable insights into the complexities and sensitivities to be aware of when working with older people. This brought a powerful and valuable perspective to the training.

Over the next year we will be looking to develop a bank of resources and precedents to enhance the ability of our lawyers at the service.

Our work in law reform

In September 2013, Seniors Law co-hosted a roundtable discussion on incapacity and access to the justice system in Victoria at the Law Institute Victoria

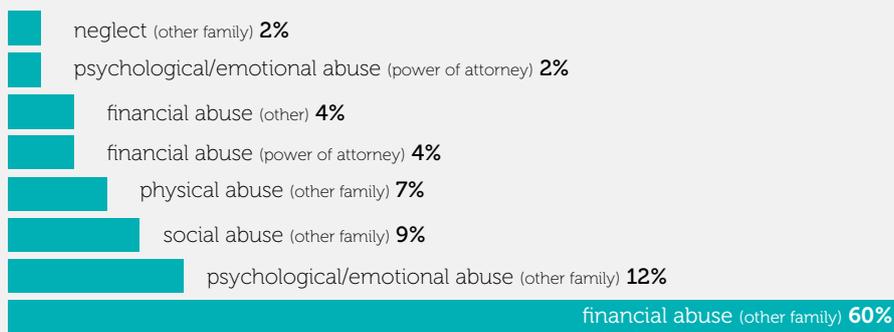
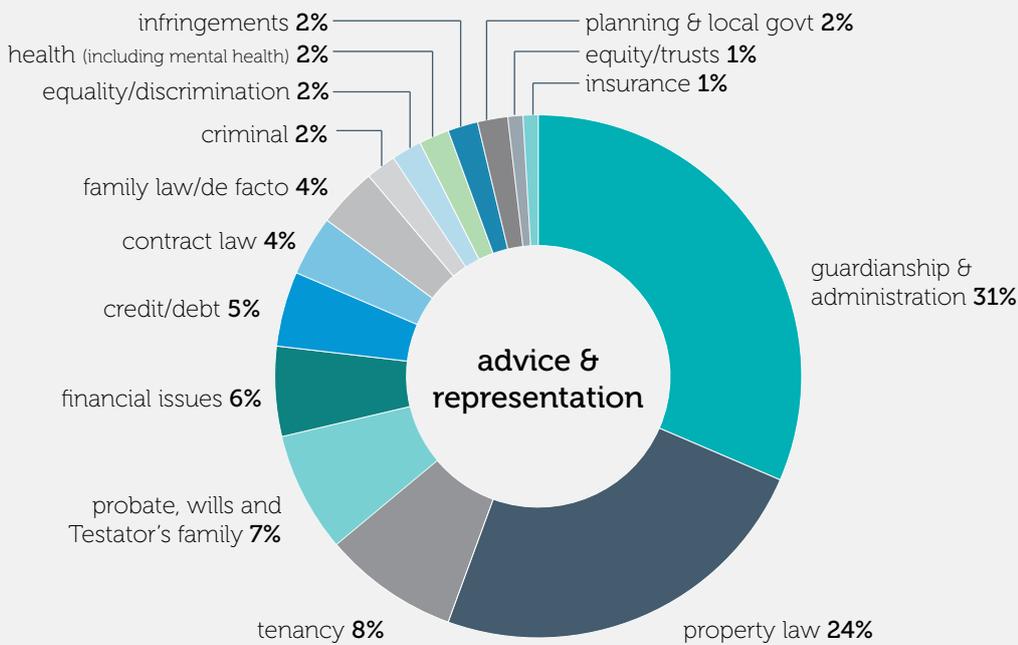
(LIV). The discussion was co-hosted by the LIV and the Office of the Public Advocate and came about as the result of a discussion following a paper presented by Lauren Adamson, Seniors Law Manager and Principal Lawyer, at the 2012 World Congress on Adult Guardianship.

Seniors Law and Russell Kennedy co-authored a discussion paper that formed the basis of the discussion and Russell Kennedy kindly sponsored publication of the paper. There was consensus at the roundtable that law reform and further resources were required to ensure that those without legal capacity were able to access the justice system.

We subsequently met representatives from the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) in relation to the Inquiry into Equality, Capacity and Disability in Commonwealth Laws. The ALRC quoted and referenced our document in its own discussion paper released in May 2014. Seniors Law, in partnership with Seniors Rights Victoria, then made a submission in response to ALRC paper. The ALRC's final report was due in August 2014.

Seniors Law is also collaborating with partners including Seniors Rights Victoria (SRV) and Lander & Rogers Lawyers to consider the adequacy of the current legal response to elder abuse. We were scheduled to co-present a paper on this issue at the National Elder Abuse Conference in September 2014.

We are also collaborating with the Consumer Action Law Centre (CALC) and Housing for the Aged Action Group to lobby for improved consumer protection in the *Retirement Villages Act 1986*.



The most common form of elder abuse we continue to see is financial, comprising 68 per cent of all elder abuse matters. A staggering 25 per cent of matters Seniors Law assisted with during the year involved property / equity and trust issues. These matters are extremely complex and can involve protracted higher court litigation.

We have also continued our focus on capacity, with guardianship and administration files accounting for 31 per cent of all matters. These may involve challenging VCAT applications or orders, advocating on behalf of a represented person with their guardian or administrator and drafting powers of attorney.



316 enquiries



108 files opened

Highlights

We hosted a screening of elder abuse documentary [Ghost Train](#), facilitated by Kaz McKay from Eastern Community Legal Centre.

We welcomed Maddocks to the program who have partnered with us to deliver the Seniors Law Bundoora clinic since October 2013.

We assisted 91 vulnerable older people in relation to 108 matters of which 40 per cent involved elder abuse. Of that, 42 per cent involved more than one type of abuse.



Stock image

Terry*, a musician, was devastated to discover that the daughter he had trusted with his power of attorney had abused that trust.

His daughter said she had purchased a home on his behalf but instead registered the property in her own name. She also used the power to misappropriate funds; a gift of \$50,000 left to Terry in his late father's estate. After a lifetime of hard work, at 60 years of age Terry was left with nothing except terrible grief at the loss of his relationship with his daughter.

"I was in total shock. I couldn't believe (my daughter) could do this to me," he said. "The whole thing, for three years, was a nightmare".

Terry contacted Seniors Rights Victoria who referred him to Seniors Law. Seniors Law lawyers acted on Terry's behalf to negotiate a settlement that resulted in his daughter repaying the \$50,000. As soon as she received an email from Terry's lawyer the resistance she had previously shown to returning Terry's money began to fade. In the end, although it took another twelve months to sort out signatures and stamp duty, his daughter signed a declaration of trust and power of attorney in favour of Terry in relation to the property, enabling him to sell the house and receive the money from the sale.

Terry is slowly rebuilding his relationship with his daughter "It's not bad, I still see her, and sometimes support her financially. I've got four grandchildren...and I can't afford to lose contact with them. So I do see her, but I won't trust her with anything again".

Terry has regained control and decision making power over his own affairs as well as his dignity and looks forward to moving into new accommodation.

Thanks to Chris Brodrick and Clare O'Shea of Holding Redlich for assisting Terry with this matter.

*Name has been changed

Back in control after daughter's financial abuse

Terry's story

“ I couldn't believe my daughter could do this to me

Not-for-profit Law

Using an integrated service delivery model, Not-for-profit Law provides legal information, training and advice to not-for-profit community organisations and charities in Victoria and NSW.

In 2013-14, Not-for-profit Law focused on expanding its service in NSW, and reaching out across Victoria and NSW to ensure as many groups as possible can access the legal help we offer. We worked closely with small not-for-profits and regional groups via face-to-face training and webinars, and significantly enhanced our online resources, developing the new Not-for-profit Law Information Hub.

Our work for justice through pro bono

Not-for-profit Law received 1276 legal enquiries from not-for-profits across Victoria and NSW this year. Of these, almost half received free legal advice by way of telephone advice or referral to a pro bono lawyer, with the remainder directed to legal help through our information and training or via other avenues for assistance.

More than 2400 organisations attended our not-for-profit seminars in Melbourne and Sydney delivered by specialist pro bono lawyers and Not-for-profit Law lawyers.

Not-for-profit Law focused its efforts on hard-to-reach community groups most in need of legal assistance, including in regional and rural areas. We launched our monthly webinar program, and delivered video conferencing training to 10 regional Victorian locations. Working with local councils, not-for-profit peak bodies and support networks across Victoria, Not-for-profit Law ran tailored training programs that were offered free to local groups – a sustainable approach to providing face-to-face training to rural and regional community organisations.

The new Not-for-profit Law Information Hub was developed, expanding our legal information service and providing 45 new resources for NSW organisations with the assistance of pro bono lawyers. Nominated for an Australia and New Zealand Internet Award, the Hub resources are accessed tens of thousands of times a year.

This year, government reforms of funded social

services at both state and federal levels have put significant pressure on not-for-profit organisations delivering community services. Not-for-profit Law is exploring ways to assist community organisations seeking to work together to deliver services, and also assist groups dealing with the repercussions of losing funding in the reform process.

Our work building lawyers' pro bono responsibility

Not-for-profit Law's Continuing Legal Education program for lawyers sought to encourage new pro bono contributors at member firms, with a seminar specifically aimed at junior lawyers on common legal issues faced by not-for-profit groups. Not-for-profit Law also spoke to several groups of new lawyers about engaging in pro bono work, helping to foster a strong pro bono culture in member firms.

Not-for-profit Law was an inaugural member of a new Law Institute of Victoria working group on not-for-profit and charity law issues. The formation of this group represents an important step in the recognition of not-for-profit law as a specialist area of legal practice, which in turn builds expertise within the legal profession to undertake pro bono work to support the sector.

Throughout the year, Not-for-profit Law made a number of contributions to legal sector publications, including the Law Institute Journal, Alternative Law Journal and Pro Bono News. Not-for-profit Law also presented two papers on current issues in not-for-profit law to professional development forums, attended by a diverse range of legal practitioners.



The (training) presentation was comprehensive, clear and very pertinent. Great resources and templates provided – a clear step-by-step guide to take away. Very empowering!
- training registrant



In FY14, NFP Law completed the Rules Review Project, providing holistic support to Victorian incorporated associations in light of changes contained in the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. This led to an increase in assistance classified as 'governance' as much of the support was helping groups update their rules/constitutions.



390 telephone advices



153 pro bono referrals



2400 orgs at our seminars

Other highlights

A new Information Hub that provides extensive plain English resources on legal topics affecting charities and not-for-profits in both states was developed. We extended the existing information webportal and created multimedia resources including videos,

recorded webinars and podcasts. The development of the Hub was possible through the enormous pro bono contribution of member law firms in drafting and reviewing resources in preparation for our July launch, as well as through assistance from government and philanthropic grants.

Our work in law reform

In a year of significant uncertainty regarding the future national regulation of charities, Not-for-profit Law's policy work focused on supporting the retention of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) or debates on other Commonwealth reform proposals affecting charities, including the new statutory definition of charity and taxation reform.

Not-for-profit Law has taken an active role in the continuing effort to effect policy change, participating in several sector roundtables, as well as responding to eight public consultations on national, Victorian or NSW issues. In particular, Not-for-profit Law coordinated a roundtable of charity law practitioners and academics to discuss strategies and shared views on the future of the ACNC. This resulted in the drafting of an open letter to government expressing support for the ACNC, which was signed by Justice Connect and 54 other charities, publicly signalling the sector's united desire to see the ACNC retained.

“

Thanks again. What a wonderful service you run - helpful, practical, friendly and timely legal advice. We can't ask for more!

- telephone advice recipient



Launch of the Not-for-profit Law Information Hub
L-R: Kate Fazio, Victorian Attorney-General Robert Clark,
Robert Fitzgerald AM, Fiona McLeay, Juanita Pope

The Reach Foundation is one of the best-known youth support services in Victoria and NSW.

Each year, 50,000 young people aged 10-18 experience Reach through workshops that are 100 per cent youth-led, designed and delivered by its young crew.

CEO of Reach, Sarah Davies, uses Not-for-profit Law's resources on a regular basis, helping the organisation understand and comply with the many laws that apply to Reach in Victoria, NSW and federally.

"Having access to such accessible, clear, and comprehensive information is hugely valuable for non-profits," Sarah says. "It gives us accurate and trusted content. If we go to Not-for-profit Law, we don't need to go anywhere else."

Reach aims to improve the wellbeing of young people. It creates safe spaces where young people can explore and

talk about their lives and experiences in order to build their resilience, confidence and self-efficacy.

Sarah says Not-for-profit Law is helping Reach build its capacity. "It's the confidence of knowing you have really rigorous back-up and evidence. I think it's phenomenal," she says.

"We refer everyone to the Not-for-profit Law website – it is the best place to go. The information and resources are of the highest quality so you can rely on them with confidence, and the generous sharing of resources saves so much time and duplication."

Without the free online resources from Not-for-profit Law, Sarah said Reach would be heavily reliant on individual law firms providing pro bono assistance. "If we went to (our pro bono partner) with all our questions we'd use up our goodwill quickly," she says. "We only ask them to help with very specific and particular issues."

Like many not-for-profits, Reach is operating in an environment of reform and uncertainty.

"There is heightened awareness and attention in the sector because we know more change is coming. We need to keep on top of developments and implications," Sarah says.

Sarah says Not-for-profit Law's resources on proposed law reforms give the sector a voice.

"Many organisations struggle with knowing what to say when law reform is proposed, or how to put their voice into the mix. We can use Not-for-profit Law's resources on law reforms to clarify our understanding of the issues, help us frame our views and positions. It gives us confidence to speak out."

Now that Not-for-profit Law's Information Hub covers NSW, Sarah says it is even more useful and a "terrific extension" for Reach.



Having access to such accessible, clear, and comprehensive information is hugely valuable for non-profits



Sarah Davies

Online hub extends Reach

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013-14



The year 2013-14 saw the first full twelve months of Justice Connect. The renaming, rebranding and merging of PILCH VIC and PILCH NSW into one entity has gone from strength to strength as we honoured the past and looked to the future. For more, please watch our video, ["From Clearing to Connecting"](#).



MOSAIC – the Migrant Outreach Service, Advice, Information and Community education program – enjoyed its first year, adding another string to Justice Connect’s bow and helping disadvantaged migrants in Sydney.



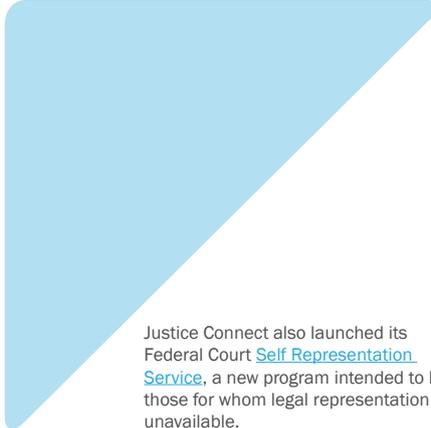
Once again, in concert with the Human Rights Law Centre, we hosted the Human Rights Dinner. This year, 593 of the Australian legal scene’s who’s who attended to make the case, and raise money, for the importance of human rights and access to justice.



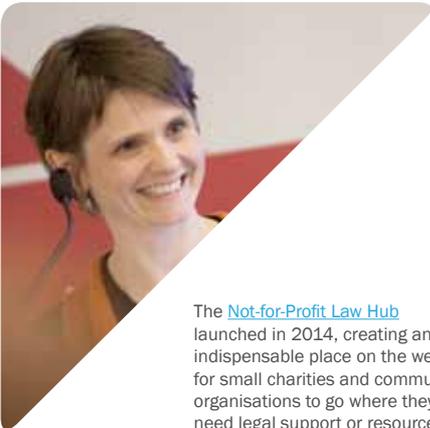
This year we hosted our first ever Human Rights Dinner in Sydney, welcoming 223 guests at what was the first of many successful events to come. They were inspired by the words of Pakistani human rights defender Hina Jilani.



Our dedicated staff joined in the fun with The Big Issue, Justice Connect's Homeless Law program and people experiencing homelessness at the annual Street Soccer tournament, raising money and plenty of smiles.



Justice Connect also launched its Federal Court [Self Representation Service](#), a new program intended to help those for whom legal representation is unavailable.



The [Not-for-Profit Law Hub](#) launched in 2014, creating an indispensable place on the web for small charities and community organisations to go where they need legal support or resources.



On 13 May, National Pro Bono Day, a record 900 members of the legal community came together to Walk for Justice through the streets of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Newcastle, raising \$30,000 and again boosting the profile of Justice Connect around the country.



OUR COMMUNITY

"It was inspiring to spend time working with the incredibly talented, determined and passionate lawyers in the NFP Law team, who have chosen to devote their legal skills and talents to the not-for-profit sector."

– Kirsten Agnew, Associate,
Norton Rose Fulbright

"I was astonished to find that pro bono work was the only thing that made me feel like I was doing something useful"

– Julian Burnside AO QC,
Justice Connect Patron



"My experiences in pro bono work has definitely kept me in the law."

- Amanda Jones, Maddocks

"Pro bono work helps me maintain my skills as a lawyer. It's a fantastic avenue through which I can maintain contact with the real world, with real people, with real problems."

- Christopher Balfour-Browne, Lander & Rogers

"I joined Justice Connect as a volunteer Practical Legal Training student due to their longstanding reputation in the legal and social justice community. It is an absolute pleasure to work amongst such talented and passionate staff."

- Karina Jones, Justice Connect volunteer.

Justice Connect could not continue its great work without the constant support of our community of pro bono barristers, pro bono lawyers, judges, volunteers, patrons, members and others who all contribute to such a vibrant legal community that we see every day.

OUR PEOPLE



40 employees
33 EFT
0.82 avg. EFT
82.5% female /
17.5% male
77.5%
 permanent /
22.5% fixed
 term
20% turnover
11 external
 appointments
5 internal
 promotions
9.4 years
 period of
 longest service
2.75 years
 avg. period of
 service

Justice Connect is successful through the passionate commitment of our staff.

This feeds into two important ways of working. Firstly, we hold ourselves to the highest standards of professional practice, driven by practical outcomes for our clients. Secondly, we recognise our part in a network of people and organisations in the legal assistance sector. We seek to be generous in collaboration, sharing what we know and engaging with all our stakeholders and partners.

These ways of working feed into a key defining commitment – to respond creatively to the opportunities that present themselves, in line with our strategy. This inspires us to develop new responses to unmet legal need working with pro bono lawyers and to continually improve what we are already doing.

However we know that just being professional does not necessarily deliver effective solutions. And that passionate commitment must be sustainable. Likewise, that a creative response will not have the desired effect if it doesn't lead others to get involved.

So, leadership, sustainability and effectiveness are the principles that guide our individual and collective behaviour.

Staff

A list of our current staff can be found at justiceconnect.org.au/staff.

Secondees

In 2013-14 we received invaluable support from firms that are recognised in the Acknowledgements section. The secondment program greatly assists Justice Connect and provides a valuable experience to participating firms and practitioners.

Volunteers

The contribution made by volunteers is crucial to the operation of Justice Connect. We are assisted by a diversity of professional volunteers as well as students from university law schools, fellows sponsored by Justice Connect member firms and law graduates in Melbourne and Sydney who are undertaking their practical legal training. We extend our thanks to all of the talented and committed volunteers who made such a difference to our effectiveness this year.

Patrons

We were delighted to welcome Julian Burnside AO QC and Professor Gillian Triggs as our inaugural Patrons.



90%
Melbourne



10%
Sydney



100% female
senior leadership
team

Board

We are governed by an independent, skills based volunteer board whose commitment to the organisation is crucial to our success.

The purpose of the Board is to promote and protect the interests and objectives of Justice Connect. In carrying out their responsibilities and exercising their powers, Board Members ensure they act honestly, fairly and diligently, in accordance with the law in serving the interests of Justice Connect and, where appropriate, the reasonable expectations of Justice Connect's stakeholders.

The key responsibilities of the Board are:

- » Strategy
- » Accountability
- » Risk Management
- » Compliance

Board members were active in a number of sub-committees in 2013/14, including the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee, the Nominations Committee, and the NSW and Victorian State Committees.

The new State Committees provide us with vital assistance on issues relevant to Justice Connect's activities in each state, and have been a welcome addition to our organisation.

Our Directors for 2013/14 were:

- » Mitzi Gilligan: Chair
- » Gordon Renouf: Deputy Chair
- » Alexandra Rose
- » Carmel Mulhern
- » Geoff Rush
- » Nicky Friedman
- » Simon Lewis
- » Richard Wilson

State Committees

Our NSW State Committee members for 2013/14 were:

- » Alexandra Rose
- » Anna McCann
- » Daniel Creasey
- » David Hillard
- » Edward Santow
- » Gordon Renouf
- » Jane Cipants
- » Jillian Mitford-Burgess
- » Meghan Carruthers
- » Michelle Hannon

Our VIC State Committee members for 2013/14 were:

- » Celia Tikotin
- » Gary Czalet
- » Joanna Renkin
- » Lyn McColl
- » Mitzi Gilligan
- » Richard Wilson
- » Stuart Webb
- » Ted Hill
- » Tom Danos
- » Victor Harcourt



OUR FINANCES

We finished the 2013/14 year in a healthy financial position.

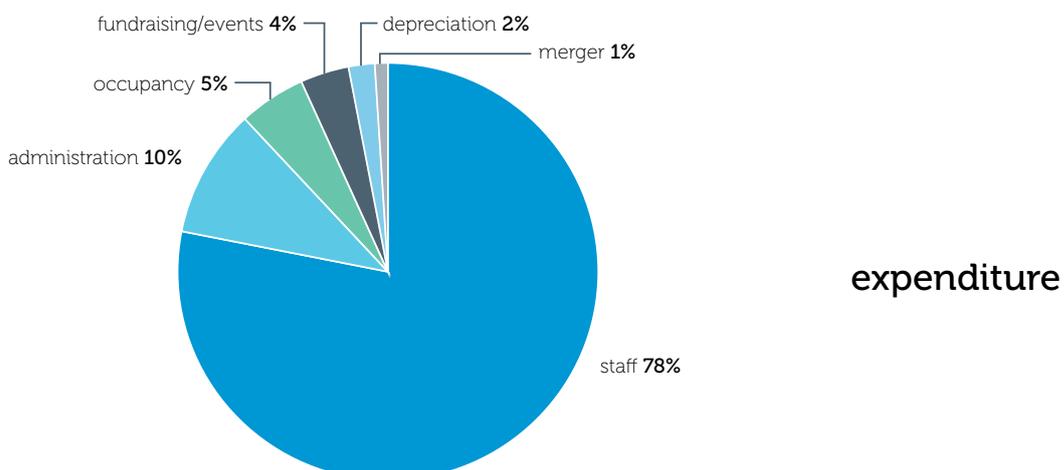
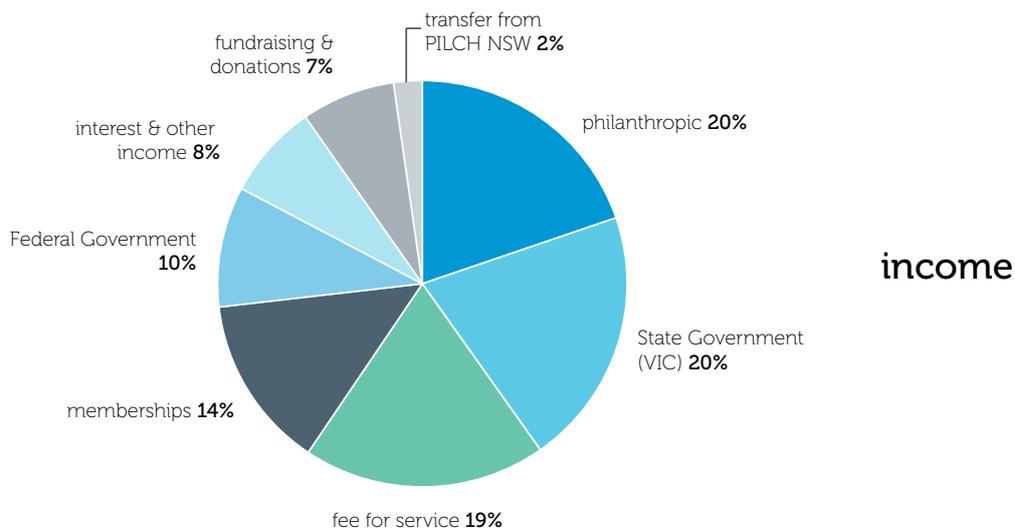
Thanks to the impact we are able to demonstrate, and a creative and persistent approach to fund seeking, we continued to strengthen our capacity to deliver on our strategy by increasing our income from a diversity of sources including grants, donations, memberships and fee for service activities. Our expenditure was well contained within the limits of our income and we finished the year with a surplus of \$129,409.

We continued to receive funding from state and federal government grants, memberships, philanthropic organisations, corporates, fee for service programs and fundraising events. We also received a range of very generous in-kind support from our members including secondment of professional staff, volunteer engagement and donation of resources and facilities.

Governance

On 1 July 2013 Justice Connect became a company limited by guarantee. We are a public benevolent institution, endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a deductible gift recipient organisation. Our accounts are independently audited. A copy of our Constitution and Organisational Strategy is available at justiceconnect.org.au/who-we-are/our-story.

A copy of our audited, annual financial report can be found at justiceconnect.org.au/financials.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We occupy a unique place between the private, community and government sectors and place great importance on these relationships.

Our capacity to pursue and achieve public interest goals derives from the culture and community of goodwill that we have fostered over many years with lawyers, governments, professional legal associations and community groups.

In particular we would like to acknowledge the support and contribution of:

Australian Government Solicitor
Australian Consumer Communications Action Network
Barristers of the Victorian Bar Pro Bono Scheme
Col Duthie
Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department
Community Legal Centres NSW Inc.
Council on the Ageing Victoria
Department of Health Victoria
Department of Justice Victoria
Emmylin Harris Photography
Ernst Young Foundation
Federation of Community Legal Centres Vic
H & L Hecht Trust managed by Perpetual
Housing for the Aged Action Group
IKD – Innovative Knowledge Development
JusticeNet SA
KPMG
Law & Justice Foundation
Law Institute of Victoria and LIV Access to Justice Committee
LIV Legal Assistance Service member firms
Legal Services Board Grants Program
Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
National Australia Bank
National Association of Community Legal Centres
NSW Legal Aid
Office of the Public Advocate
Office of the Community Sector
Perpetual Trustees
Phyllis Connor Memorial Trust administered by Equity Trustees
Portland House

QPILCH
Seniors Rights Victoria
Telematics Trust
Telstra
The Collier Charitable Fund
The Council of the City of Sydney
The Ian Potter Foundation
The Ian Rollo Currie Estate Foundation (administered by The Trust Company)
The Myer Foundation
The Trust Company as trustee for the Fred P Archer Charitable Trust
The Trust Company Limited
Timothy Herbert Photography
Transport Accident Commission
Victoria Law Foundation
Victoria Legal Aid
Victorian Attorney-General's Department
Victorian Bar and Victorian Bar Pro Bono Committee
Victorian Community Legal Centres
Victorian Government
Victorian Government through the Community Support Fund
Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation
Walk for Justice Patrons at our Walks in NSW and Victoria
Westpac
William Angliss (Victoria) Charitable Fund
William Buckland Foundation
Womens' Legal Service
Workhealth
Worklogic

Members who provided pro bono lawyers at our services, visitors and secondees

Allens Linklaters
Carroll & O'Dea
Clayton Utz
Corrs Chambers Westgarth

Gilbert + Tobin
Hall & Wilcox
Harwood Andrews
Herbert Smith Freehills
Henry Davis York
Holding Redlich
HWL Ebsworth
K&L Gates
Lander & Rogers
King & Wood Mallesons
Maddocks
Minter Ellison
Norton Rose Fulbright
Russell Kennedy
Wotton + Kearney
Transport Accident Commission
TressCox

Justice Connect site hosts

Bundoora Extended Care Centre (Northern Health)
Caulfield Hospital (Alfred Health)
Central City Community Health Service
City of Melbourne
Cohealth (formerly known as Western Region Health Centre, Doutta Galla Community Health and NYCH)
Homeground Services
Melbourne City Mission
Salvation Army in Geelong
Victorian Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centres NSW

Donors to Justice Connect

We also sincerely thank all our individual donors and our many supporters who joined us for our popular events including the launch of Justice Connect, the Walks for Justice and the Human Rights Dinners.

How you can make a difference to providing access to justice



Become a donor

Make a tax deductible donation to support our services [through our website](#) and we will stay in contact to let you know how your donation is making a difference



Leave a gift in your Will

Please contact our CEO Fiona McLeay to discuss the several ways in which you can include a gift to Justice Connect in your Will



Corporate support

- Sponsor Justice Connect's popular annual Walks for Justice, Human Rights Dinners and or another event or program
- Corporate and workplace giving

More info

Contact:

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Director
Engagement and
Development
(03) 8636 4426
sari.baird@
justiceconnect.org.au

[justiceconnect.org.au/
donate](http://justiceconnect.org.au/donate)



Follow us on
Twitter



Like us on
Facebook



Join our
LinkedIn group

MEMBERS

Community legal centres

Advocacy & Rights Centre Ltd
Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic)
Job Watch Inc
Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC)
Women's Legal Service

Law firms

Allens
Arnold Bloch Leibler
Arnold Dallas McPherson
Ashurst
Baker & McKenzie
Banki Haddock Fiora
Carroll & O'Dea
Clayton Utz
Clifford Chance
Corrs Chambers Westgarth
Dibbs Barker
DLA Piper Australia
Doogue O'Brien George
Fragomen
Francis Abourizk Lightowers
Gilbert + Tobin
Graham Jones Lawyers
Hall & Wilcox
Harwood Andrews
Henry Davis York
Herbert Geer
Herbert Smith Freehills
Holding Redlich
HWL Ebsworth Lawyers
Justitia
K & L Gates
Kennedys
King & Wood Mallesons
Lander & Rogers
Lewis Holdway Lawyers
McCullough Robertson Lawyers
Maddocks
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers
Meridian Lawyers
Minter Ellison

Nicholes Family Lawyers
Norton Rose Fulbright
Rigby Cooke Lawyers
Robinson Gill
Russell Kennedy
Shine Lawyers
Sparke Helmore
Swaab Attorneys
The Office of David Grace QC
Thomsons
TressCox
Webb Henderson
William Roberts Lawyers
Woolf Associates
Wotton & Kearney

Universities

UTS Faculty of Law
University of NSW Law School
LaTrobe University
Monash University
University of Melbourne
Australian Catholic University

Other members

Law Institute of Victoria
Legal Aid NSW
NSW Bar Association
Law Society of NSW
Victorian Bar Council

Corporate organisations

Westpac
NAB

Barrister floors

Sixth Floor St James Hall
Twelfth Floor Selbourne
Wentworth Chambers
Tenth Floor Chambers
Ground Floor Wentworth Chambers



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