



annual report

2009-2010



WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

## OUR VISION

To achieve access to justice and a just legal system for all women in NSW, as all women have the right to live free from violence, injustice, inequality and discrimination.

## OUR VALUES

In order to realise our vision, Women's Legal Services NSW (WLS NSW) holds these values as the basis for delivery of our programs and services:

### QUALITY OF SERVICE:

Resources will be used efficiently and effectively, striving for excellence in management, staff, service delivery and accountability to clients and funders.

### EMPOWERMENT:

WLS NSW will work with women in ways which assist them to move to self-determination through being better informed of their legal rights and responsibilities and the resources available.

### PRIORITY:

Priority will be given to programs addressing violence against women with services directed to women most disadvantaged in their access to justice.

### INDEPENDENCE:

WLS NSW is a non-aligned organisation, is independent of government and private services in the area of justice and is responsible to women in NSW.

### BROAD AGENDA:

WLS NSW will seek broad solutions to legal issues through the identification of structural inequalities in the legal system, which limit the lives of women.

### COMPLEMENTARITY AND COOPERATION:

WLS NSW will work to complement the work of other effective legal and women's service providers and will make use of opportunities for cooperative ventures with them.

### ACCESS AND EQUITY:

WLS NSW will work to ensure all women have access to programs and services regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, political or religious beliefs, disability or disadvantage. Where there are competing demands on the resources of WLS NSW, priority will go to the women most disadvantaged in their access to justice.

### RESPECT:

WLS NSW will work and will offer services and programs in ways that are respectful of the dignity, safety and integrity of clients, management and staff.



Women's Legal Services NSW would like to acknowledge  
the Darag Inland Group and the Eora/Dharawal Coastal  
Group who are the traditional owners of the land that  
we work and live on.





Trading as  
Women's Legal Services NSW  
and incorporating  
Women's Legal Resources Centre (WLRC)  
Indigenous Women's Program (IWP)  
Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (DVAS)

PO Box 206  
Lidcombe NSW 1825  
Administration line: 02 8745 6900  
Fax: 02 9749 4433  
Email: [womens\\_nsw@clc.net.au](mailto:womens_nsw@clc.net.au)  
Web: [www.womenslegalnsw.asn.au](http://www.womenslegalnsw.asn.au)  
Office hours: 9:00am - 4:30pm (Monday to Friday)

### **Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service - Walanbaa Yinarr Wharoo**

PO Box 148  
Walgett NSW 2832  
Administration line: 02 6828 3143  
Fax: 02 6828 3148  
Office hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm (Monday to Friday)

### **Bourke/Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Service**

PO Box 298  
Bourke NSW 2840  
Administration line: 02 6872 2440  
Fax: 02 6872 2445  
Office hours: 9:00am - 4:30pm (Monday to Friday)

### **Advice line services**

Legal Advice Line - WLRC & DVAS  
9:30am - 12:30pm and 1:30pm - 4:30pm  
(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)  
Phone: 02 8745 6988 (WLRC)  
Phone: 1800 801 501 (WLRC Rural Free Call)  
Phone: 02 8745 6999 (DVAS)  
Phone: 1800 810 784 (DVAS Rural Free Call)

Legal Advice Line - Indigenous Women's Legal Contact Line  
10:00am - 12:30pm and 1:30pm - 4:00pm  
(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)  
Phone: 1800 639 784

### **Outreach advice clinics**

Blacktown	every second Friday	Phone: 02 9831 2070
Campbelltown	every second Thursday	Phone: 02 4627 2955
Fairfield	every second Thursday	Phone: 02 9726 4044
Liverpool	every second Thursday	Phone: 02 9601 3555
Penrith	every second Tuesday	Phone: 02 4721 8749
Wyang	every second Monday	Phone: 02 4351 1152

### **Local courts domestic violence duty work**

Blacktown	every Wednesday
Mt Druitt	every Monday
Penrith	every Tuesday
Sutherland	once a month on Wednesdays



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## chairperson's report

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW



As a newly appointed Chair with a new Board elected at the annual general meeting I take this opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the previous Board and

to thank each of them for their commitment to Women's Legal Services NSW.

The Chair, Danaë Harvey; Treasurer, Rhonda Fadden; Secretary, Sophie Clarke; and Board members Regina Graycar, Debra Maher and Jane Wangmann initiated a comprehensive review of the services provided by WLS NSW and commenced a process of reform and re-focussing of the work and staff arrangements.

We acknowledge the work of Judith Stubbs and Associates for their consultancy in support of this process.

This has provided us with a guide to the future for WLS NSW. We look forward to implementing new and creative forms of service delivery through maximising the efficiency and effectiveness of the staff and resources available.

### Service achievements

During this time, WLS has continued to provide strategic casework, law reform and community legal education and development services to women across NSW.

Janet Loughman, the Principal Solicitor, leads an exceptional team of dedicated staff – who, working together, provided an impressive array of services.

We provided 467 information and referral services and 2059 legal advices to women during the year either by phone or face-to-face at 6 outreach advice clinic locations and local courts in Western Sydney and on the Central Coast.

We represented women in 549 cases. Further, the strategic nature of WLS' work was strengthened by casework informing and being informed by, the extensive community legal education and law reform work of the service.

An overview of major achievements may be found in the body of this Annual Report. Highlights include convening the NSW Legal Assistance Forum Domestic Violence working group; delivering the Reaching Out For Rights project which enabled us to visit disadvantaged regions in NSW to provide community legal education to community workers on domestic violence and systemic advocacy; and participating in the community delegation to the United Nations to present the NGO reports to the CEDAW Committee and to lobby the Committee about priority issues for women in Australia. We also continued the Sexual Assault Communications Privilege work and the LEAP for women project which takes community legal education and advice to women in prison.

### Organisational achievements

Following from significant reviews of the governance, strategic planning and wages and conditions of the previous year, the Board established a new management model and appointed Deborah Sharp to the newly created position of Chief Executive Officer. Unfortunately Deborah was unable to remain in the role. Helen Campbell was appointed to a temporary management position while the new board took the opportunity to reconsider the optimal management structure for WLS NSW.

Aspects of organisational change can be very difficult and the challenges are many. However, with those challenges come opportunities and WLS is well positioned to meet both. Our new Strategic Plan will guide many changes and improvements in WLS' services in the coming years.



### **Walgett and Bourke Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Services**

Women's Legal Services NSW is no longer the auspice for these services. The program operates on annual funding agreements based on tenders each year. The successful tender agency is Thiyama-Li Family Violence Service Inc, based in Moree. They offer a regional model for service delivery in Moree, Walgett and Bourke, with local Indigenous governance arrangements.

After ten years in Walgett and five in Bourke-Brewarrina we were very disappointed to no longer be the service provider for these areas. However we have done everything in our capacity to ensure that there is a positive transition for our clients to the new service.

Our state-wide Indigenous Women's Program will continue to operate, although with much more limited capacity. We hope to undertake human rights projects in future that will enable us to continue to provide support for the Aboriginal women of Walgett and Bourke-Brewarrina. We thank all the staff, community advisors, and pro bono partners who were involved in these services and wish them well for the future.

### **Awards**

Our staff and work were recognised in the following awards:

- Women Lawyers Association: Woman Lawyer of the Year in a Community Organisation (Edwina Macdonald)
- Law and Justice Foundation: Community Legal Centres Award: the Legal Education and Advice in Prison (LEAP) for Women Project (led by Judith Levitan / team effort).
- Law and Justice Foundation: Pro Bono Partnership Award: Highly Commended for the Sexual Assault Communications Privilege Pilot Project (led by Alicia Jillard / team effort).

### **Acknowledgements**

The Board wishes to acknowledge the members of the Aboriginal Women's Consultation Network: Donna Hensen, Shian Barker, Elsie Gordon, Terry-Anne Carr, Gloria Matthews, Vicki Dennison, Christine Robinson, Kylie Kennedy, Maryanne Matthews, Tina West, Anusha Duray and Karen Stewart. These wonderful women provide WLS with invaluable advice and support in developing strategic service delivery to women and children across NSW.

The work of WLS is greatly enhanced by our pro bono partners, including: Annette Bain and her colleagues at Freehills, Michelle Hannan and her colleagues at Gilbert & Tobin, David Hillard and his colleagues at Clayton Utz and Anne Cregan and her colleagues at Blake Dawson. There are also a large number of pro bono solicitors and barristers who provide an incredible amount of assistance to WLS staff and clients. Thank you all for your support.

To all those who have contributed to the work of the WLS, the Board extends its gratitude. To the Board and Staff, I thank you for your dedication and your tireless efforts to better the lives of women through the work of WLS NSW.

Sara Blazey  
*Chairperson*





## OUR PERSONNEL

During 2009/2010

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sara Blazey	<i>Chairperson</i>		
Sue Knox Davis	<i>Treasurer</i>		
Emily Winborne	<i>Secretary</i>		
Natasha Case		Sophie Clark	<i>(until 25 November 2009)</i>
Sigrid Herring		Rhonda Fadden	<i>(until 25 November 2009)</i>
Pat Johnson		Regina Graycar	<i>(until 25 November 2009)</i>
Janette Prichard		Danaë Harvey	<i>(until 25 November 2009)</i>
Lee-May Saw		Debra Maher	<i>(until 25 November 2009)</i>
Shirely Southgate		Jane Wangmann	<i>(until 25 November 2009)</i>

### ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S CONSULTATION NETWORK

Donna Hensen	<i>Coordinator, Indigenous Women's Program, WLS NSW</i>
Shian Barker	<i>Project Officer, Indigenous Women's Program, WLS NSW</i>
Vicki Dennison	<i>Aboriginal Women's Representative, Armidale</i>
Anusha Duray	<i>CDEP Reform Manager, Buyinbin Aboriginal Corporation</i>
Aunty Elsie Gordon	<i>Women's Housing, Dubbo</i>
Kylie Kennedy	<i>Coordinator, Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service, WLS NSW</i>
Maryanne Matthews	<i>Aboriginal Women's Representative, Mt Druitt</i>
Christine Robinson	<i>Coordinator, Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre</i>
Karen Stewart	<i>Coordinator, Bourke/Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Service, WLS NSW</i>
Tina West	<i>Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Health Service</i>
Aunty Gloria Matthews	<i>Mt Druitt Elder</i>
Terry-Anne Carr	<i>Wirraway Women's Housing, Moree</i>

### Management

Helen Campbell	<i>Acting Executive Officer (from 6 April 2010)</i>
Deborah Sharp	<i>CEO (from 9 November until 30 April 2010)</i>
Dianne Hamey	<i>Acting Principal Solicitor (from 1 March until 10 May 2010)</i>
Janet Loughman	<i>Principal Solicitor</i>
Kim Price	<i>Manager (until 17 July 2009)</i>

### Administrative Staff

Helen Baker	<i>Receptionist (until 31 July 2009)</i>
Daryna Ieth	<i>Receptionist (from 2 August 2009)</i>
Kaylene Evans	<i>Data Entry Operator</i>
Kim Ly	<i>Management Accountant</i>
Balwinder Masawan	<i>Librarian</i>
Margaret Oddy	<i>Accounts Clerk (from 26 October until 28 January 2010)</i>
Pichhorda Phy	<i>Accounts Clerk</i>
Ana Sastrias	<i>Information &amp; Publications Officer</i>





## Women's Legal Resources Centre Solicitors

Dianne Hamey	<i>Supervising Solicitor (5 April until 6 October 2009)</i>
Natascha Rohr	<i>Acting Supervising Solicitor (14 September until 30 June 2010)</i>
Marina Bournazos	<i>Solicitor (until 11 February 2010)</i>
Carolyn Jones	<i>Solicitor</i>
Cecilia Lee	<i>Solicitor</i>
Maha Najjarine	<i>Solicitor</i>
Louisa Stewart	<i>Solicitor</i>
Mari Vagg	<i>Solicitor</i>

## Indigenous Women's Program

Donna Hensen	<i>Coordinator</i>
Dianne Hamey	<i>Supervising Solicitor (substantive position)</i>
Shian Barker	<i>Indigenous Women's Program Officer</i>
Sophia Cubillo	<i>Community Access Worker (from 16 November until 30 June 2010)</i>
Natalie Neumann	<i>Acting Supervising Solicitor (from 25 May until 17 July 2009)</i>
Sara Peel	<i>Acting Supervising Solicitor (from 20 July until 11 September 2009)</i>

## Domestic Violence Advocacy Service

Karen Mifsud	<i>Supervising Solicitor</i>
Rebecca Hitchcock	<i>Solicitor</i>
Alicia Jillard	<i>Solicitor</i>
Felicity Martin	<i>Solicitor</i>

## Community Legal Education

Judith Levitan	<i>CLE Project Officer (until 28 January 2010)</i>
Rebecca Hitchcock	<i>CLE Project Officer (from 8 February 2010)</i>

## Law Reform

Edwina MacDonald	<i>Law Reform Solicitor</i>
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## Solicitors Seconded from Freehills to Walgett FVPLS

Danielle Carr	<i>(from 20 April until 30 October 2009)</i>
Shifra Symonds	<i>(from 26 October until 30 April 2010)</i>
Melissa Sanghera	<i>(from 27 April until 31 October 2010)</i>



## our personnel

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### Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service

Kylie Kennedy	<i>Coordinator (until 30 June 2010)</i>
Sandra Dowse	<i>Court Support Worker (until 30 June 2010)</i>
Natasha Kauri	<i>Receptionist (until 12 March 2010)</i>
Cara-Leigh Kennedy	<i>Receptionist (from 9 March until 30 June 2010)</i>
Sara Peel	<i>Solicitor (until 1 April 2010)</i>
Natascha Rohr	<i>Solicitor</i>
Sarah Murray	<i>Community Development Officer (from 17 August until 6 November 2009)</i>
Rebecca Williams	<i>Community Development Officer (from 9 March until 30 June 2010)</i>
Narelle Winters	<i>Community Legal Education Worker (until 9 April 2010)</i>
Courtney Hinch	<i>Cleaner (from 12 August until 14 October 2009)</i>
Felicity Sullivan	<i>Cleaner (from 22 February until 24 April 2010)</i>

### Bourke/Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Service

Karen Stewart	<i>Coordinator (until 30 June 2010)</i>
Janice Edwards	<i>Community Development Officer / Receptionist (until 21 July 2009)</i>
Arlia Fleming	<i>Solicitor</i>
Kathy Mann	<i>Cleaner (until 30 June 2010)</i>
Amy McGowan	<i>Solicitor (from 7 August 2009 until 30 June 2010)</i>
Tania Morison	<i>Community Development Officer (until 30 June 2010)</i>
Natalie Neumann	<i>Solicitor</i>
Leanne Towney	<i>Receptionist (from 21 July 2009 to 30 June 2010)</i>

### Casual, Contract and Locum Staff

Sara Blazey	<i>Solicitor (until 28 August 2009)</i>
Alysha Chhor	<i>Administration Support (from 1 March until 30 June 2010)</i>
Phalkuny Chhor	<i>Assistant Accountant (from 19 November 2009)</i>
Sue Knox Davis	<i>Solicitor (until 14 October 2009)</i>
Jenna Dunwoodie	<i>Solicitor (from 16 November 2009)</i>
Elise Funnell	<i>Solicitor (from 26 October until 30 June 2010)</i>
Annette Lüders	<i>Executive Assistant (from 7 August until 31 March 2010)</i>
Lin Ma	<i>Accounts Clerk (until 15 October 2009)</i>
Yu-Ling Ong	<i>Solicitor (until 15 September 2009)</i>
Tashina Orchiston	<i>Solicitor (from 3 November until 23 December 2009)</i>
Tashina Orchiston	<i>Solicitor (from 15 February 2010)</i>
Anastasia Polites	<i>Solicitor (from 7 April 2010)</i>
Redempta Robinson	<i>Assistant Accountant (from 3 February 2010)</i>
Liz Snell	<i>Solicitor (from 26 October until 23 December 2009)</i>
Liz Snell	<i>Solicitor (from 8 February 2010)</i>
Shifra Symonds	<i>Solicitor (from 3 May until 30 June 2010)</i>
Helen Taranto	<i>Solicitor (until 4 February 2010)</i>

### Volunteer Students

All the staff at Women's Legal Service NSW would like to thank the following student volunteers who kindly donated their time to come to our service providing invaluable assistance to our solicitors. Your work does not go unnoticed. Thank you.

Heather Anderson	Josephine Rechichi
Sarah Bogart	Mom Sum
Rhiannon Partington	Lucy Sunman
Sumitra Khadka	



ABN: 88 002 387 699

## our staff

### management



Helen Campbell



Janet Loughman



Kim Price



Karen Mifsud



Dianne Hamey

### finance



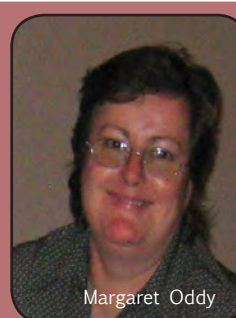
Kim Ly



Kuny Chhor



Pichhorda Phy



Margaret Oddy



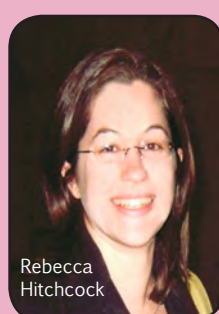
Redempta Robinson



Edwina MacDonald



Judith Levitan



Rebecca Hitchcock



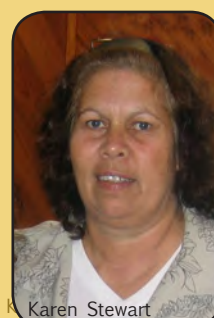
Balwinder Masawan

### law reform cle library

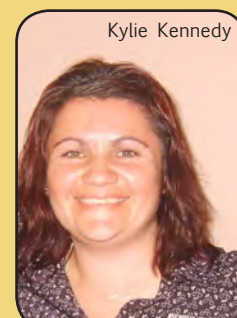
### iwp, bourke and walgett coordinators



Donna Hensen



Karen Stewart



Kylie Kennedy

### iwp, bourke and walgett officers



Shian Barker



Sophia Cubillo



Sandra Dowse



Narelle Winters



Rebecca Williams





## our staff

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW



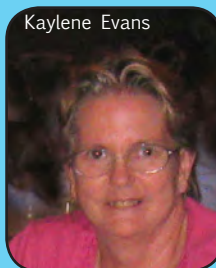
Left to Right: Karen Stewart, Sophia Cubillo, Kathy Mann, Leanne Towney, Mary Brell (Facilitator), Tania Morrison, Sandra Dowse, Shian Barker, Elsie Gordon, Donna Hensen, Natasha Kauri, Kylie Kennedy



Annette Lüders



Ana Sastrías



Kaylene Evans

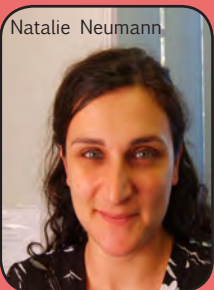


Daryna Ieth



Alysha Chhor

a  
d  
m  
i  
n



Natalie Neumann



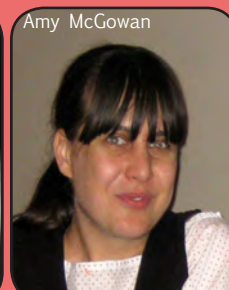
Sara Peel



Jenna Dunwoodie



Arlia Fleming



Amy McGowan

iwp,  
walgett  
& bourke  
solicitors



Danielle Carr



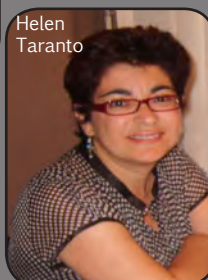
Shifra Symmonds



Melissa Sanghera

freehills solicitors

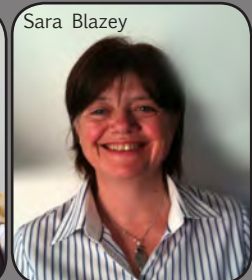
locum solicitors



Helen  
Taranto



Sue Davis



Sara Blazey



Cecilia Lee



Anastasia Polites



Mari Vagg



Maja Najjarine



Louisa Stewart



Carolyn Jones



Liz Snell



Natascha Rohr



## wlrc solicitors

Marina Bournazos



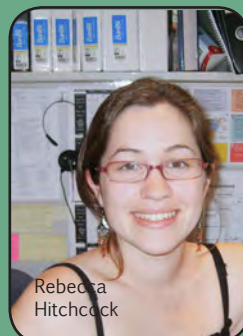
Felicity Martin



Sara Peel



Rebecca Hitchcock



Yu-Ling Ong



Alicia Jillard



Tashina Orchiston



## dvas solicitors





## we provided legal advice and representation

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

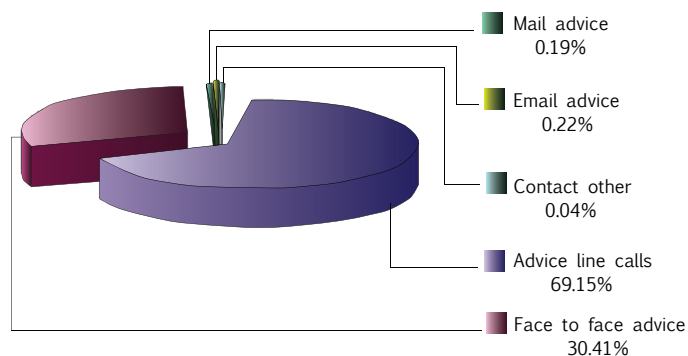
WLS NSW provided legal advice and court representation to the most disadvantaged women in our community. We provided a state-wide telephone advice service with a metropolitan and a rural line for general legal advice; a metropolitan and a rural line for domestic violence legal advice; and a statewide Indigenous Women's Legal Contact Line.

From 15 March – June 2010 the state-wide telephone advice service for general legal advice was suspended to enable us to re-consider our approach to intake and screening and to upgrade the telephone system. During this time information and referral was provided to callers and telephone advice was still provided in urgent circumstances and on referral from agencies including LawAccess NSW.

We provided 467 information and referral services and 2059 legal advices to women during the year either by phone or face-to-face.

We provided face-to-face legal advice through our 6 Outreach Advice Clinics in Western Sydney at Liverpool, Fairfield, Campbelltown, Penrith, Blacktown and on the Central Coast at Wyalong.

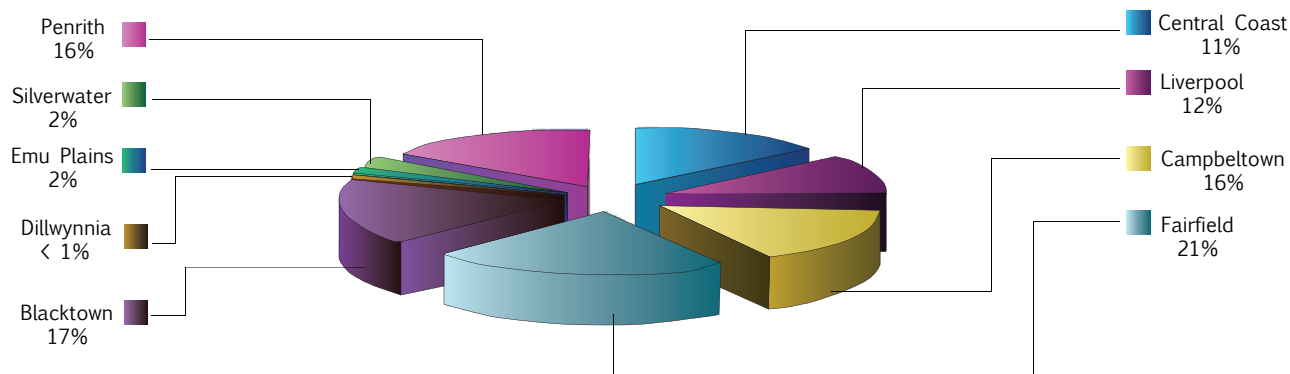
### THE WAYS OUR CLIENTS CONTACTED US FOR INITIAL ADVICE

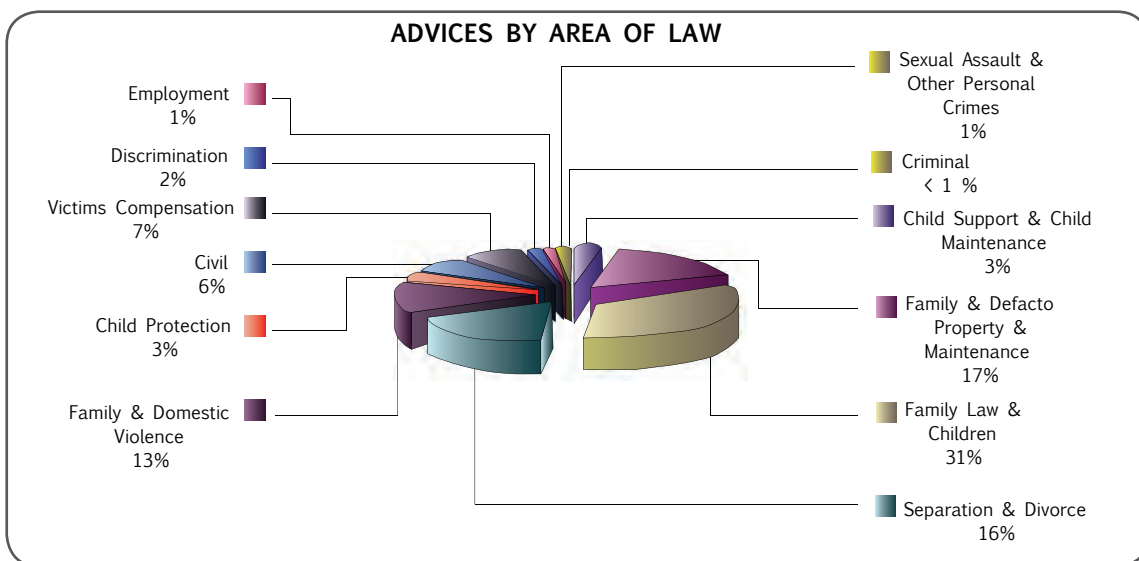


We received additional Commonwealth funding to collaborate with Hawkesbury Nepean Community Legal Centre and Blacktown and Penrith Family Relationship Centres (FRCs) as part of a national pilot. We provided legal information sessions, advice clinics and lawyer assisted family dispute resolution in family law matters being resolved through the two FRCs.

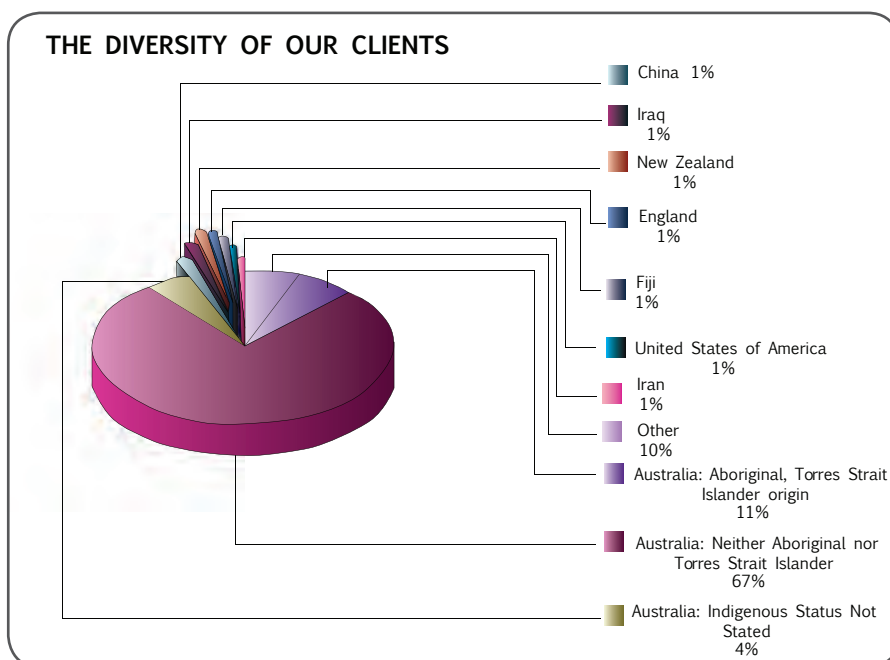
We continued our work in the metropolitan women's prisons through the LEAP for Women (Legal Education and Advice in Prison) project. This collaborative initiative with Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre and Hawkesbury Nepean Community Legal Centre is in its second year and responds to high level legal needs of women in prison.

### CONTACT WITH CLIENTS AT OUR WLRC OUTREACH ADVICE CLINICS





Family Law continued to be the area of law affecting most women who call our service for advice. Other areas of law included domestic and family violence, victims compensation, child protection, employment, discrimination and other civil matters.







## we provided legal advice and representation

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

Our Indigenous Women's Legal Contact Line is answered by an Aboriginal staff member who takes initial details from the client. She refers the call to our solicitors or in some cases to another appropriate service. Answering calls this way enables us to provide an accessible, responsive and culturally appropriate service for Aboriginal women throughout NSW. Areas of law that many Aboriginal women sought advice on during last year were care and protection, family law, domestic violence and victims compensation.

WLS NSW represented women in 549 cases. Below are some examples of our casework:

### **Case study: Victims compensation awards for sexual assault category 3 (pattern of sexual abuse)**

*Sally\* was subject to indecent and sexual assaults by family members. The assaults took place some time ago, making the evidence gathering process more difficult. No police documentation existed in NSW (documents were held by police in a different state). Nonetheless we were successful in establishing that acts of violence occurred in NSW. The client was awarded two significant awards for her claims.*

### **Case study: Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme**

*Two of our elderly Aboriginal clients were awarded the maximum of \$11,000 under the new ATFRS Guidelines for wages that were not paid to them when they worked as minors. These were difficult claims as there were no official records showing that a trust fund existed in the clients' names. It had generally been assumed that if there were no official records of a trust then a claim would not be successful. We undertook extensive research to find supporting evidence, submitted statutory declarations of the clients and other witnesses, plus detailed submissions and the awards were made, despite the absence of any official records of the trust fund.*

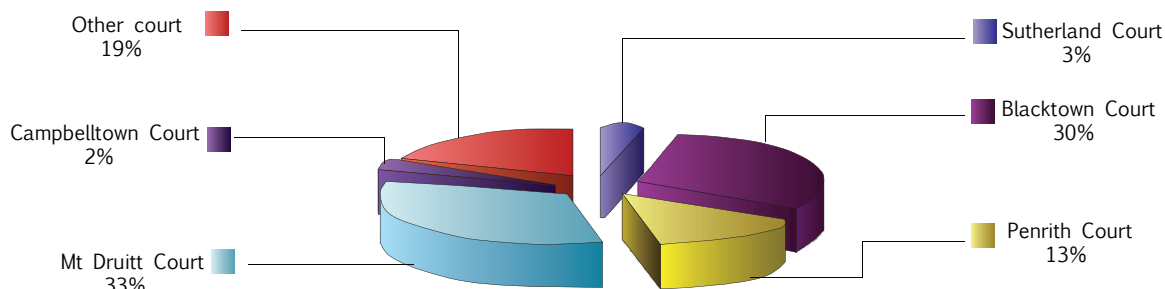
### **Case study: Judicial review in the Supreme Court on 'related acts of violence'**

*We acted for a client in an application to the Supreme Court for judicial review of a decision of the VCT to clarify the meaning of 'related acts of violence'. We previously acted for the client in a District Court appeal from the decision of the VCT. The client was the victim of numerous sexual assaults perpetrated on her while she was in a foster home. The perpetrator was charged with 7 counts of sexual assault, convicted of 3 in relation to this client and other convictions in relation to other children at the home. The Supreme Court judicial review case came to hearing during the year and we were successful [JM v Victims Compensation Fund Corporation [2009] NSWSC 1300]. The Supreme Court decision was widely reported in the media. The VCFC has appealed the decision to the NSW Court of Appeal and counsel Ms Reg Graycar and Mr Robert Beech-Jones SC continue to represent our client.*

### **Case study: Family law - property settlement**

*Maria\* was a CALD woman with limited literacy and a physical disability. The parties had a short marriage. The only significant property was a house purchased primarily with our client's compensation payment. The husband applied for 50% of the property even though he had made minimal contribution. The client was under severe financial strain. WLS successfully obtained (on appeal) a grant of legal aid for a mediation conference, however the husband refused to participate and the matter proceeded in Court. We provided the client with legal advice and assistance to represent herself and prepare documents and correspondence. We also arranged interpreters and support at conciliation. With our assistance, the client negotiated a settlement which enabled her to keep the home and pay the husband a settlement sum representing under 15% of the asset pool.*

\* Not her real name

**DVAS REPRESENTED CLIENTS AT DIFFERENT LOCAL COURTS****Case study: Fair Work Australia claim**

Jessica\* was sexually assaulted by a colleague at his home out of work hours. After she reported to police, an AVO was granted for her protection in circumstances where she and the perpetrator still worked together. A few days after the sexual assault and AVO, our client was dismissed with one week's notice. The perpetrator remained employed. The employer denied the dismissal was related to the proceedings and pointed to poor work performance. We represented the client in Fair Work Australia proceedings alleging the employer's actions in dismissing our client amounted to adverse action on prohibited grounds. The claim settled at the conciliation conference.

Sentence Administration ultimately agreed the client was correct and there had been an error. The levy payments were stopped immediately with the client to be reimbursed all monies taken in error.

Our Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (DVAS) continued to attend local courts in western Sydney on a weekly basis, as well as other courts, to represent women in Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO) matters. A solicitor regularly attends Mt Druitt, Penrith and Blacktown Local Courts and other courts.

**Case study: administrative error in compensation levy**

Suzi\* was seen as an inmate at a Correctional Centre and assisted as part of our LEAP for women project. She was concerned about a compensation levy being incorrectly debited from her account and instructed us that the levy most likely dated back to a previous sentence, which was ultimately reduced on appeal. We researched when the compensation levy should have been paid and made a number of enquiries to ascertain who has the authority to investigate this issue within DCS. We then wrote to the Regional Manager in Sentence Administration and requested that the matter be investigated and if appropriate, the record be corrected and our client reimbursed.

**Case study: apprehended domestic violence order hearing**

Danielle\* was a young woman with three young children. Her former partner had been charged with assaulting her. Danielle applied to extend her existing AVO on the basis of the incident giving rise to the assault charge. The former partner then applied for an AVO against our client. We attended the Local Court on three occasions while evidence was heard. The assault charge was dismissed by the court, however the former partner consented to the extension of the AVO against him and withdrew his application for an AVO against our client.

\* Not her real name



## we provided legal advice and representation

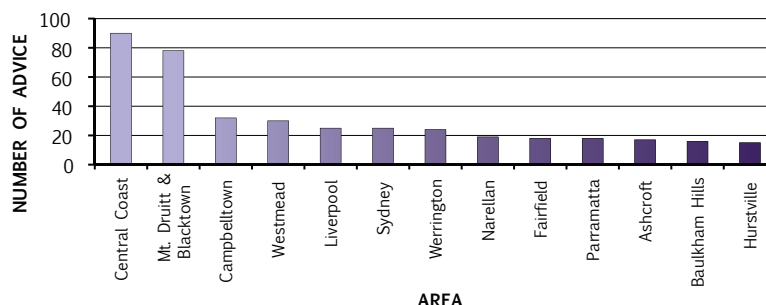
WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### Linking our advice and casework to systemic work – outcomes for the broader community

A crucial part of the work we do as a community legal centre is to identify areas of law or legal process that are unfair, or systemic failures that impact on our clients.

Our casework informs our law reform and community legal education work – either directly or indirectly.

WLS NSW - TOP 13 TELEPHONE ADVICE ACTIVITIES BY AREA



### Sexual Assault Communications Privilege (SACP)

Our Domestic Violence Advocacy Service took a lead role in our project to improve the practical application of the sexual assault communications privilege [see Law Reform and Policy Section for further detail of the project]. The project operated by taking referrals from the Office of Director of Public Prosecutions to WLS and the three partner pro bono law firms (Blake Dawson, Clayton Utz and Freehills) from February 2009 to February 2010. During the year we managed and supported 18 referrals of SACP claims as part of the project. WLS solicitors also represented clients in several of the pilot cases, and also non-pilot cases that arose because of the increased awareness of the issue.

### Impact of domestic violence in tenancy law reform

Our domestic violence casework meant that we were well placed to bring practical experience to tenancy law reform. We made policy submissions to the proposed reform of the Residential Tenancy Act. The new Act now provides that a tenancy agreement will no longer be an impediment to escaping domestic violence. An AVO excluding a person from their rented premises will end the violent person's tenancy. Remaining occupants will be able to take over the tenancy, or end the tenancy if they can't afford to stay.

### Case studies: sexual assault communications privilege claims

*On numerous days in the Parramatta District Court we represented a complainant in a sexual assault trial to assert the privilege. We were successful in limiting access to one page of a medical record. The client expressed to us that if we had not represented her, the defendant would have had access to all her medical records. She thanked us for protecting her privacy and her dignity.*

*Our teenage client complained of being sexually assaulted by her employer. The accused was charged. The Defence subpoenaed all of the counselling records of the victim. We successfully represented the victim in arguing that the sexual assault communications privilege applied to the counselling records and these records were not adduced into evidence.*



Individual legal practitioners and firms continue to assist our clients by giving generously of their time by providing pro bono services. We value their contribution and acknowledge the difference they make in our ability to respond to unmet legal need in the community.

Lishan Ang	<i>Frederick Jordan Chambers</i>	Tom Jones	<i>Samuel Griffith Chambers</i>
Annette Bain	<i>Freehills</i>	Angela Ketas	<i>Eighth Floor Windeyer Chambers</i>
Phillip Bates	<i>Sir Owen Dixon Chambers</i>	Stephanie Lee	<i>Musgrave Lister Family Lawyers</i>
Grace Basaglia	<i>McDonnell Milne Tolts</i>	Joanne Lister	<i>Musgrave Lister Family Lawyers</i>
Robert Beech-Jones, SC	<i>11th Floor St James Hall Chambers</i>	Brooke Massender	<i>Freehills</i>
Bernard Brassil	<i>8th Floor Garfield Barwick Chambers</i>	Ray McClenahan	<i>Taylor and Scott</i>
Andrea Brooks	<i>Beilby Poulden Costello</i>	Jen McGowan	<i>Adams Partners Lawyers</i>
Danielle Carr	<i>Freehills</i>	Jenni Millbank	<i>Professor, Faculty of Law, UTS</i>
John Catsanos	<i>Henry Parkes Chambers</i>	Julie Mills	<i>Blake Dawson</i>
Carroll & O'Dea	<i>Solicitors</i>	Maxine Morris	<i>Morris Corkill Solicitors</i>
Leah Charlson	<i>CFMEU</i>	Jane Muir	<i>Banco Chambers</i>
Suzanne Christie	<i>Culwulla Chambers</i>	Nicolas Patrick	<i>DLA Phillips Fox</i>
Louise Coady	<i>Solicitor</i>	Kate Rafton	<i>Rafton Family Lawyers</i>
Paul Coady	<i>Blackstone Chambers</i>	Lachlan Riches	<i>Taylor and Scott</i>
Anne Cregan	<i>Blake Dawson</i>	Shanna Riddle	<i>Adams Partners Lawyers</i>
Amelia Davis	<i>Blake Dawson</i>	Anne Kazas	<i>KR Lawyers and Consultants</i>
Amanda Eggleton	<i>Freehills</i>	Rogaris	<i>Sanderson Partners Lawyers</i>
Brian Ferrari	<i>Trust Chambers</i>	Antonella	
Tania Finikiotis	<i>Freehills</i>	Sanderson	<i>Freehills</i>
Tracy Flintoff	<i>Flintoff McNeilly Lawyers</i>	Melissa Sanghera	<i>Sharah &amp; Associates</i>
Ben Fogarty	<i>Gilbert + Tobin</i>	Joanne Shara	<i>Gilbert + Tobin</i>
Trina Francis	<i>Francis Lawyers</i>	Tamara Sims	<i>Abrams Turner Whelan</i>
Louise	<i>Frederick Jordan Chambers</i>	Eileen Slattery	<i>Eleventh Floor Garfield Barwick Chambers</i>
Goodchild		Clive Steirn	<i>Chambers</i>
Reg Graycar	<i>11th Floor St James Hall Chambers</i>	Shifra Symonds	<i>Freehills</i>
Michelle Hannan	<i>Gilbert + Tobin</i>	Ingmar Taylor	<i>State Chambers</i>
Catherine Henry	<i>Catherine Henry Partners</i>	Brenda Tronson	<i>Sixth Floor Selborne / Wentworth Chambers</i>
Mark Higgins	<i>Eleventh Floor Garfield Barwick Chambers</i>	Helen Wall	<i>Henry Parkes Chambers</i>
David Hillard	<i>Clayton Utz</i>	Irving Wallach	<i>Forbes Chambers</i>
		Wayne Warwick	<i>Newcastle Bar</i>



## we educated women about the law

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

The volume and scope of our community legal education and community development initiatives over 2009 – 2010 demonstrate our strong commitment to facilitating women's awareness of the law, their legal rights and access to legal services.

We undertook 164 community legal education initiatives with over 3000 women and community sector workers by running workshops, hosting stalls, talking to women's groups, conducting training and presenting at conferences.

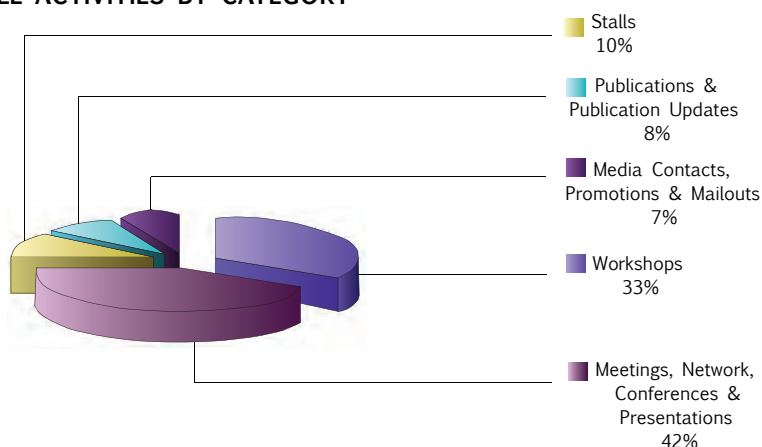
Community Legal Education (CLE) initiatives were undertaken in the following areas:

- Coonabarabran
- Deniliquin, Hay, Dareton, Balranald
- Bathurst
- Goulbourn, Yass
- Wollongong, Bega, Moruya, Cooma
- Wagga Wagga, Albury
- Taree, Port Macquarie, Bowraville, Coffs Harbour
- Western Sydney – Parramatta, Mt Druitt, Doonside, Blacktown, Campbelltown, Wiley Park, Penrith, Emu Plains, Windsor, Cranebrook, Lidcombe, Auburn, Silverwater,
- South Western Sydney - Minto, Cabramatta, Liverpool
- Inner Western Sydney - Campsie, Rockdale, Marrickville, Redfern, Darlinghurst and Petersham
- Central and Eastern Sydney - Sydney CBD, Kensington

### Publications and Resource Development

- Published the 9th edition of Women and Family Law
- Produced Domestic Violence and Legal Process training module for

#### CLE ACTIVITIES BY CATEGORY



Legal Aid NSW for the Behind Closed Doors Forums for Aboriginal Workers to be held in Dubbo, Lightning Ridge and Coonabarabran.

- Assisted drafting and editing a Domestic Violence booklet being published by Department of Justice and Attorney General
- Provided advice and feedback to NSW police about the development of a police resource to address adult sexual assault in the Aboriginal community
- Wrote the script for two vignettes about domestic violence for Immigrant Women's Speakout Association
- Provided advice and input into Women and HIV Aids Handbook

### Highlights

#### Reaching out for Rights

The Reaching out for Rights project operated from September 2009 with funding from the NSW Office for Women. The project aimed to improve access to legal assistance for women who have experienced family violence and who are likely to experience barriers when negotiating the justice system in targeted areas of NSW:

Mid North Coast: Taree, Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour, Bowraville.

Far South Coast: Moruya, Bega, Cooma





Felicity Martin with Laurel Russ from the NSW Ombudsman's Office in Balranald



Centre: Felicity Martin, Laurel Russ and Juliana Demetrius from the NSW Ombudsman's Office with group of trainees in Deniliquin

Far South West NSW: Deniliquin, Hay, Balranald, Dareton / Wentworth, Goulburn, Yass

Metropolitan Sydney: Mt Druitt, Campsie, Bankstown

The project involved active collaboration with the NSW Ombudsman's Office, regional Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Services (WDVCAS), local violence prevention networks, regional police family violence co-ordinators, women's services, Aboriginal services and local legal service providers.

The project had three components:

1. One-day workshops for community, health and other workers who were likely to be providing assistance to women living with family violence. We reached 321 workers from 188 services through 18 workshops (Sep 2009 – Sep 2010)
2. The development of a 'breach diary' to encourage the reporting of breaches of apprehended violence orders and to educate protected persons about the obligations of the NSW police in relation to breaches.
3. Fostering connections with local violence prevention networks to encourage greater collaboration with WLS NSW and the NSW Ombudsman's Office to respond to regional issues that impact on victims of family violence.

The project had a strong community development focus by working with local agencies and networks in taking action to address local concerns regarding responses to reports of family violence to police.

Some feedback about the workshops included the following comments:

*"Informed and inspired."* (Goulburn)

*"The workshop was pretty much the clearest and most comprehensive presentation I've seen on legal issues confronting women who have experienced DV. Both presenters understood the needs of workers in more regional and remote locations and pitched their presentations perfectly to their audience"*

Gerry Orkin NSW Police Regional Domestic Violence Co-ordinator

*"Has made me think more about keeping domestic violence issues on the agenda at work (As I am not in a DV specific service anymore) and has been a good refresher. Migration stats enrage me and I will become more active about this issue."* (Auburn)

### LEAP for Women

We continued our work with Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre and Hawkesbury Nepean Community Legal Centre to establish the 'Legal Education and Advice in Prison' (LEAP) for women project. The project provides individual face-to-face advice and group legal education workshops for women in prison at the three metropolitan correctional centres in Sydney: Emu Plains, Dillwynia and Silverwater.



## we educated women about the law

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW



*Law and Justice Foundation: CLC Award for the LEAP for Women Project.*

### **Law Week Forum with Blacktown FRC**

With funding provided by the Law Society of NSW for Law Week initiatives Blacktown Family Relationship Centre, Hawkesbury Nepean Community Legal Centre and WLS presented a forum at the Blacktown Workers Club titled Family law and family violence: navigating and advocating within the legal system for victims of domestic and family violence.

### **NSW Family Relationship Centres Legal Partnerships Forum**

We worked with Mary Gleeson, the Manager Legal Aid NSW CLC-FRC Partnerships, to develop materials for workshops, facilitate and participate in panels at the first Forum for NSW FRC Legal Partnerships in NSW on 15 March 2010.

The forum brought together FRC managers, Family Dispute Resolution Practitioners, and CLC and Legal Aid solicitors delivering legal services in partnership with FRCs in NSW as part of the Federal Government's pilot for the provision of legal services at FRCs. We also worked with the FRC-CLC Partnership Manager to develop a legal presentation for use by all legal partners across the state.

### **Conference presentations**

- Legal Aid NSW Family Law Conference
  - contributed to panel discussion on family violence.
- Shared Parenting Forum in Parramatta - jointly organised by WLS and Turner Freeman Solicitors with key note speaker Justice David Collier of the Family Court of Australia
- National Association of Community Legal Centres Conference – workshops presented by WLS staff:
  - DV Risk Assessment
  - How to win cases and influence judges: using social science research in family law cases.
  - How to use CEDAW to advance women's rights
  - Influencing policy & law reform: Tips for communicating with government
  - New to CLCs?
  - One size does not fit all: Community Legal Education in CALD communities
  - Family Law 101



## Man Up Campaign

The Man Up Campaign is an international youth led initiative to end violence against women. Men and women aged 18 -30 across the world were invited to apply to become a delegate for their country and attend the Man Up Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa from 4-11 July.

Rebecca Hitchcock and Maha Najjarine, solicitors from WLS NSW were selected along with four other Australian from Canberra and Sydney. The Man Up campaign works directly with UNIFEM, international and grassroots NGOs and key stakeholders from the sport and entertainment industries to engage youth.

Rebecca and Maha found the experience truly life changing and inspirational and something they will never forget. Both women are keen to implement their ideas and new found skills into a program in NSW.



*Centre: The Co-founder of Women in Peace and Security Network, Africa*



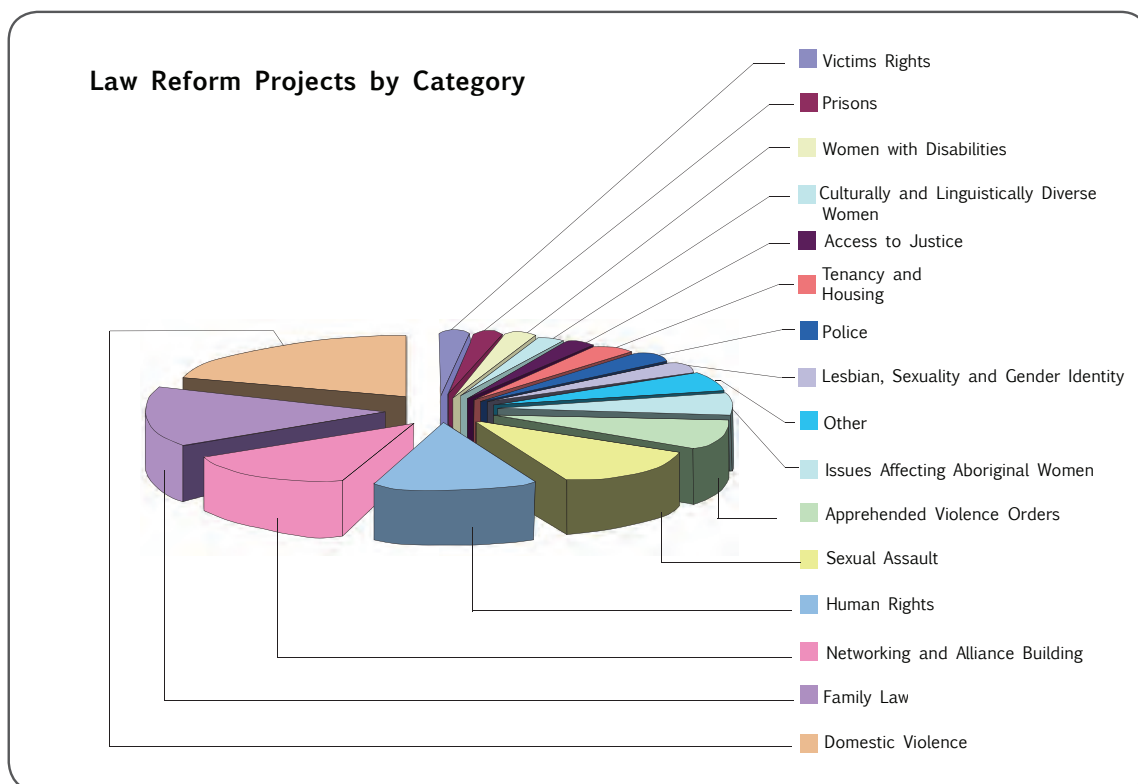
## we advocated for changes to law and legal processes

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

We maintained a strong commitment to our objective of engaging in law reform. Our law reform activities focus on the justice needs of women, and aspects of the law and the legal structures that affect women's lives.

advocating for the rights of women. She was also selected to attend an international training workshop in Nepal on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

We have continued to engage in the numerous government inquiries and consultation processes, as well as work on major service law reform projects. We also coordinated the law reform work of Women's Legal Services Australia until November 2009 when we handed this role over to Women's Legal Service SA.



Our law reform and policy work was acknowledged by others. Our Sexual Assault Communications Privilege Referral Pilot was Highly Commended in the Pro Bono Partnership Category at the Justice Awards. Our human rights work was recognised with a nomination in the legal category of the Australian Human Rights Awards. Law Reform and Policy Coordinator, Edwina MacDonald, was awarded the Woman Lawyer of the Year in a Community Organisation by the Women's Lawyers Association of NSW for her work



*Law and Justice Foundation: Pro Bono Partnership Award: Highly Commended for the Sexual Assault Communications Privilege Pilot Project*

## we advocated for changes to law and legal processes



*Women Lawyers Association: Woman Lawyer of the Year in a Community Organisation (Edwina MacDonald)*

### Protecting the privacy of sexual assault victims

We coordinated the Sexual Assault Communications Privilege Referral Pilot, which brings together three pro bono firms (Blake Dawson, Clayton Utz and Freehills), the Bar Association and the Office of Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP).

The project provided free legal representation to enable complainants in sexual assault trials to claim and argue the right to the protection of the sexual assault communications privilege. In doing so, it provided practical legal help to victims of sexual assault who may experience intimidation and further violation when sensitive counselling records are subpoenaed in a criminal trial. The project also aimed to gather evidence for a case for publicly funded legal services as well as identify the legal and procedural changes that are needed to turn the right into a more widespread reality. The project ran for one year until February 2010 and the project partners continue to undertake work in this area.

Throughout the year we continued to engage with NSW Department of Justice and Attorney-General on changes that are needed to law reform and policy, and have provided advice to the Queensland Government and services in other states on this issue.

### Taking the voices of women to the United Nations

Along with the YWCA Australia, we coordinated the Australian NGO Report on Australia's implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which was submitted to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women in August 2009. The report was endorsed by 135 non-government organisations and provided a comprehensive overview of the status of women's rights in Australia.

### Seeking changes to family law

We have continued to seek changes to family law and the family law system, particularly in relation to protecting women who are escaping domestic violence. There were a number of significant inquiries into this area, including inquiries by the Australian Institute of Family Studies, former Family Court Chief Justice Professor Richard Chisholm and the Australian and NSW Law Reform Commissions. We actively participated in all these inquiries by meeting with the inquiry bodies, participating in consultations, including a pilot online consultation forum and making written submissions. The reports published to date all recommend changes to better protect women and our work campaigning for reform in this area continues.



## we advocated for changes to law and legal processes

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### Submissions

We coordinated or contributed to submissions and written comments made to:

- Australian Institute of Family Studies on the Family Law Evaluation
- Professor Chisholm on the Review of Family Court Procedure and Family Violence
- Australian and New South Wales Law Reform Commissions on Family Violence
- Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on Access to Justice
- Australian Attorney-General's Department on Family Dispute Resolution Enhancement
- Australian Attorney-General's Department on Family Relationship Centre Legal Services Protocol
- NSW Attorney-General's Office and the Office of the NSW Shadow Minister for Women on the Domestic Violence Death Review Team Bill
- NSW Greens on Housing and Domestic Violence
- NSW Greens on Criminal Justice Policy
- NSW Attorney-General's Office on Police Service of AVOs
- NSW Police on its Draft Code of Practice
- Department of Justice and Attorney-General on Sexual Assault Communications Protections
- Victims Services on the Charter of Victims Rights
- NSW Fair Trading on the Draft Residential Tenancies Bill 2009
- Various politicians on the Residential Tenancies Bill
- Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on Government Compensation Payments
- Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on Parliamentary Scrutiny of Human Rights
- Senate Scrutiny of Bills Committee on the Committee's Role
- Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination NGO Report

- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women NGO Reports
- Universal Periodic Review NGO Report
- Australian Attorney-General's Department on the Universal Periodic Review
- Australian Human Rights Commission on the Universal Periodic Review

### Hearings, consultations, forums and meetings

We sought to change laws and policies by attending and engaging in the following formal and informal consultations, forums, meetings and hearings:

- Australian Attorney-General's Department meeting on legal service provision
- NSW Minister for Women's Peak Women's Forum
- Strategic meeting on women's human rights issues
- Strategic roundtable on the Human Rights Act
- Australian Human Rights Consultation on gender equality
- Professor Baird's consultation on discrimination and employment
- Police Commissioner Scipione and the Ombudsman's office meeting on issues affecting Aboriginal women
- NSW Police consultation on adult sexual assault and Aboriginal women
- Senate Committee on Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities hearing
- Meeting with Professor Chisholm on the review of Family Court procedure and family violence
- Sydney Family Law Courts Legal Profession Forum
- Australian and NSW Law Reform Commissions meetings and online forum on the Family Violence Inquiry
- NSW Office for Women consultation on the Domestic Violence Strategic Framework



## we advocated for changes to law and legal processes

ABN: 88 002 387 699

- Legal Aid consultation on Domestic Violence Strategy
- Consultation on domestic violence behaviour change programs
- Amnesty International consultation on the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children
- Judicial Commission meeting regarding domestic violence training for judges
- Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse Forum regarding domestic violence and financial security
- NSW Attorney-General's Office consultation on domestic violence victims giving evidence
- NSW Ombudsman Domestic Violence Community Stakeholders Forum
- NSW Police Stakeholder Forum
- Apprehended Violence Legal Issues Coordinating Committee consultation on cross-jurisdictional AVOs
- NSW Police consultation on police issued AVOs
- NSW Department of Justice and Attorney-General consultations on sexual assault communications protections
- University research into sexual assault communications protections
- Queensland Department of Justice consultation on sexual assault communications protections

### Capacity building

We built the capacity of others to engage in law reform and policy activities by:

- Drafting and circulating a paper on variations to NSW AVO laws
- Drafting and circulating a paper on a range of family law reports
- Coordinating a workshop on human rights law
- Coordinating a workshop on engaging with government
- Contributing to a women's alliance election platform and brief

### Media contacts

Our main contacts with media during the year were:

- Article in the National Pro Bono Resource Centre Newsletter on sexual assault communications privilege
- Contribution to Department of Justice and Attorney-General's media release on sexual assault communications protections
- Article in the September Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse Newsletter on the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women
- Media spokesperson and various interviews as part of the launch of the Police Domestic Violence Code of Practice
- Provided information to The Sun Herald for an article on the interaction between child sexual assault allegations and family law
- Interview on ABC radio re domestic violence
- Interview with Sydney Morning Herald regarding contact orders and AVOs
- Interview on 2UE regarding domestic violence relationships
- Interview with 2SM regarding domestic violence homicide panels
- Briefed media on the release of three family law reports





## we advocated for changes to law and legal processes

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WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### Committees

We built alliances and worked strategically with others by participating in Community Legal Centres NSW, National Association of Community Legal Centres and external committees.

#### Community Legal Centres NSW

- Aboriginal Advisory Group
- Care & Protection Working Group (convened by WLS until March 2010)
- Community Legal Centres NSW Board
- Coordinators & Directors Forum
- Domestic Violence and Victims Compensation Subcommittee (co-convened by WLS)
- Family Law Working Group (convened by WLS)
- Law Reform And Policy Committee

#### National Association of Community Legal Centres

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Legal Services Network
- Human Rights Network
- LGBTI Network
- Women's Legal Services Australia (convened by WLS)

### Interagencies and other external committees

- Abortion Law Reform Campaign Group
- Advisory Group on Women's Access to Legal Protection from Domestic Violence
- Apprehended Violence Legal Issues Coordinating Committee
- CEDAW NGO Report Working Group (as project coordinator)
- Central Coast CLSD
- Chief Justice's Family Law Forum (until November 2009)
- Corrective Services Women's Advisory Council
- Disability and Domestic Violence Project Advisory Group
- Equality Rights Alliance Steering Group (as WLSA representative)
- Legal Aid's Family Relationship Centre Legal Service Pilot Steering Committee
- NLAF CALD Working Group
- NLAF Domestic Violence Working Group (as chair)
- NSW Child Support Agency Legal Liaison Committee
- Same Sex Domestic Violence Interagency
- Sexual Assault Review Committee
- Sydney West Legal Services Group
- WDVCAAP Advisory Committee
- Women in Prison Advocacy Network
- Working Group for the NSW Same Sex Domestic Violence Conference
- Steering Group for the development of a mediation model in cases involving domestic violence



The Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service (WVPLS) main role is to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children with the support and understanding of the affects of family violence and sexual assault.

The Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service provides support to women and children in the community and guides them towards a better and brighter future without family violence/sexual assault.

The Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service facilitated and liaised with different service providers in Walgett and surrounding local areas to provide knowledge and understanding, information and awareness of family violence/sexual assault.

#### Strategic Objectives by Importance

- Legal advice and Representation
- Support for Indigenous Women and Children
- Access to Legal Services
- Referrals to Safe Houses
- Counselling
- Education on Family Violence/Sexual Assault

#### Community Events we have organised or supported

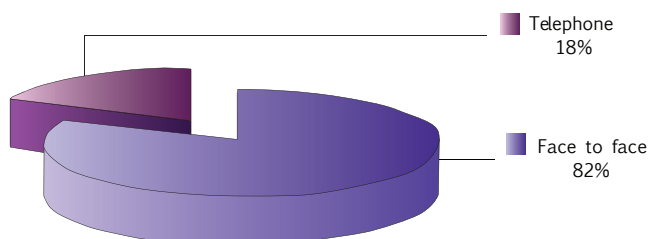
##### NAIDOC

All staff were involved in the NAIDOC Celebrations which were a variety of activities such as NAIDOC Week opening at Walgett Shire, NAIDOC Celebrations at the Primary and High Schools, Barbeque in the park for children and adults.

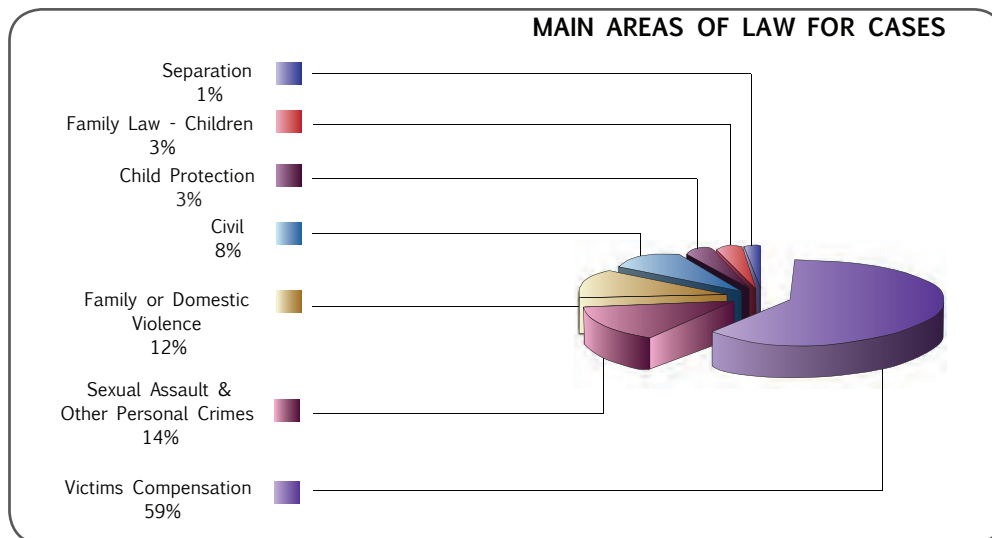


Kylie Kennedy and Rebecca Williams our new community Development Officer (WVPLS) at NAIDOC Ball with the special cake.

#### THE WAYS OUR CLIENTS CONTACTED US FOR INITIAL ADVICE







## Highlights

### Walgett

- We conduct fortnightly women's groups and young girls groups
- Children's Fun Community Day at



*Women's Group Activities*

- Reclaim the night march
- An information forum at Walgett regarding community structures and DAA offices and staff
- Staff attended the Walgett Community Centre opening
- WFLVPLS donated resources to the community and services for Harmony Day
- Staff attended the women's forum with minister for families in Walgett.

Gray Park on Thursday, 22 October 2009, where our service participated in the day and made rice shakers with children aged 0 - 5 years old



*Children's Day*



### Lightning Ridge

- Staff attended the women's group at Lightning Ridge Safehouse and the Neighbourhood Centre Open Day

The Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service have had feedback from local Service Providers, our women's group, and the community.

### Collarenebri

- Staff did an outreach visit to the women's group, attended the Women's Yarn-up and Community Fun Day where our staff facilitated CLE workshops with adults and workshops and games with the children with the Walgett Shire Council and Youth Off the Streets
- WFPVLS donated resources to the Collarenebri community for their community information fun day
- Advice Clinic in Collarenebri for clients of the WFPVLS



*Sandra, Kylie and Narelle*

### Training

- Love Bites Facilitator training in Brewarrina
- Keep Me Safe Workshop in Walgett
- Team Building Day in Dubbo with Bourke FVPLS and Indigenous Women's Program (IWP)
- Legal Advice Workshop in Walgett
- Attended CWP Meeting and Safe Families Workshop

The feedback from our women's group was great with the women saying that the groups are very useful and that they went home at the end of the session knowing what their rights were. We have also changed our women's groups from monthly to every fortnight now due to the requests from the women wanting the groups to happen more often.

### Staff

We had three staff leave in the last year including the Community Development Officer (CDO) Sarah Murray, Administration Officer – Natasha Kauri and Community Legal Educator (CLE) – Narelle Winters.

We then had two new staff join us in 2010 including our new Community Development Officer (CDO) – Rebecca Williams and Receptionist – Cara-Leigh Kennedy.



*Danielle Carr (Pro Bono Solicitor) with Natascha Rohr (Walgett Solicitor)*



### **Referral to Pro Bono Assistance.**

Our client came in to the Walgett office for advice about a personal injury/medical negligence matter. She needed to commence proceedings in a very short period of time to comply with the laws about time to commencing proceedings. We were able to organise a referral to a pro bono solicitor in the Hunter region who prepared and filed the required document by the time limit. The client's access to a legal remedy was preserved by the existence of the Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service and Women's Legal Services NSW's network of pro bono solicitors.

### **Victims compensation claims**

Women's Legal Services NSW has represented many clients of the Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (FVPLS) in their claims for victims' compensation in relation to domestic violence and sexual assault. Our solicitors worked closely with the staff at the FVPLS to facilitate appointments, including home visits, to explain the process, prepare detailed statutory declarations and have relevant documents signed. When our solicitors were in the Sydney office they continued to work on these clients' matters and liaised with the staff at the FVPLS to take documents to the clients and transport them to the FVPLS office to speak to our solicitor on the phone.

### **Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme (Stolen Wages)**

We assisted many Aboriginal women through the FVPLSs to understand and file applications for direct and descendent claims to the NSW Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme (ATFRS). The ATFRS had set a deadline of 1 May 2010 to file these applications and our solicitors, with staff and at the FVPLSs conducted many meetings with local elders and community groups to inform them of the ATFRS scheme and their eligibility to make claims. Without our assistance many Aboriginal people in those areas would not have filed claims in time, or even been aware of their rights to do so. We subsequently acted for some of these women in their claims through the Indigenous Women's Program at WLS and referred other women and men to PIAC or Legal Aid. At 30 June 2010 two clients had been awarded the maximum payable of \$11,000. The FVPLSs provided a crucial link in our communication with our clients, some of whom were very elderly, as we were able to see these clients when our solicitors travelled out to the FVPLS each fortnight.





## bourke/brewarrina family violence prevention legal service

The Bourke/Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Service provides support, legal advice and representation, information and advocacy for Indigenous women and children who are victims/survivors of family violence and sexual assault.

### Promoting Service with Community Focus

Participation in community events has been an important part of being identified in the community as a key service for our women and children.

### March Against Violence

We spoke out against violence and led services in organizing a street march after a serious violent assault to one of the women in our community. This was well attended and ended in the park with a variety of information stalls from local service providers.

### White Ribbon Day

Staff handed out white balloons, ribbons and information about domestic violence.

### Stronger Women's Project Gathering (weekly)

Encourage and enhance Aboriginal women's skills, knowledge and understanding to address issues relating to women and children within the community.

Addressing family violence and sexual assault within service area through development and implementation of activities/programs increasing community awareness through participation.

### CLE and Outreach work

Narelle Winters (CLE) assisting on occasion Tania Morison (CDO) BBFVPLS and attending Solicitors conducted CLE's in the following areas.

- Enngonia
- Bourke
- Wanaaring
- Weilmoringle

### Staff Training

The BBFVPLS Coordinator Karen Stewart negotiated with ECAV to conduct free Certificate IV Aboriginal Family Health (Family Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Protection) training in Bourke so that the whole community could benefit from this.



### Team Building Day

All of the Bourke, Walgett and IWP staff participated in a Team Building Day in Dubbo. The focus was on recognizing different communications styles so we can improve communication with our clients and teams as a lot of our communication is not face to face.



BBFVPLS continues to increase community awareness, strengthen service networks and improve client access to assist Indigenous women and children experiencing family violence including sexual assault or at risk of such violence through service provision and community/service network education.



### Service Network Meetings/Service Promotion

- Community Working Party (monthly) – forum for Indigenous Service Providers to discuss and identify community issues and implement appropriate strategies through service provision.
- Aboriginal Justice Group (monthly) – forum for service providers to discuss and identify issues relating to crime within the community and implement appropriate strategies.
- Human Services Interagency (monthly) – forum to build and strengthen service networks to improve service networks relating to service provision.
- DV Interagency (monthly) – build service networks and develop appropriate service operating systems relating to client access and service delivery to assist Indigenous women and children who are victims-survivors of family violence.
- PCYC – identify and develop youth strategies to assist youth experiencing family violence, drug and alcohol related issues, education and training programs to support and increase youth self esteem within the community
- Joint Investigation Response Team (JIRT) Meeting – introduction to JIRT Service which is a specially trained team of workers from NSW Police, NSW Community Services (formerly DoCS) and NSW Health to address serious child abuse cases in NSW

### Casework

#### Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme (Stolen Wages)

We assisted many Aboriginal women through the FVPLSs to understand and file applications for direct and descendent claims to the NSW Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme. The ATFRS had set a deadline of 1 May 2010 to file these applications and our solicitors, with staff at the FVPLSs conducted many meetings with local elders and community groups to inform them of the ATFRS scheme and their eligibility to make claims. Without our assistance many Aboriginal people in those areas would not have filed claims in time, or even been aware of their rights to do so. We subsequently acted for some of these women in their claims through the Indigenous Women's Program at WLS and referred other women and men to PIAC or Legal Aid. At 30 June 2010 two clients had been awarded the maximum payable of \$11,000. The FVPLSs provided a crucial link in our communication with our clients, some of whom were very elderly, as we were able to see these clients when our solicitors travelled out to the FVPLS each fortnight.



## bourke/brewarrina family violence prevention legal service

ABN: 88 002 387 699

### **Successful separate victims compensation claims for domestic violence and sexual assault**

We represented a client in four victims' compensations claim. She had been the victim of sexual assaults and domestic violence by a male relative.

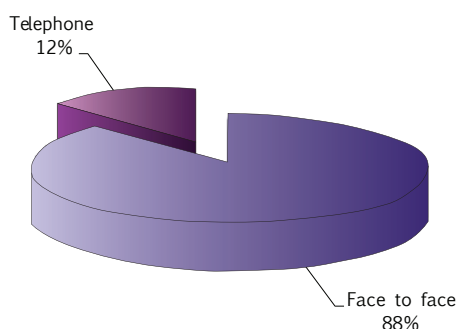
The solicitor claimed the compensable injury of Domestic Violence for the physical violence perpetrated by her male relative. We filed a separate claim for the pattern of sexual abuse claiming the compensable injury of Psychological Injury Category 2.

We successfully argued that the sexual assaults and the domestic violence were separate acts of violence. The Tribunal awarded the Applicant compensation for the domestic violence and separate compensation for Sexual Assault Category 3.

### **Assistance at court for mother in care proceedings**

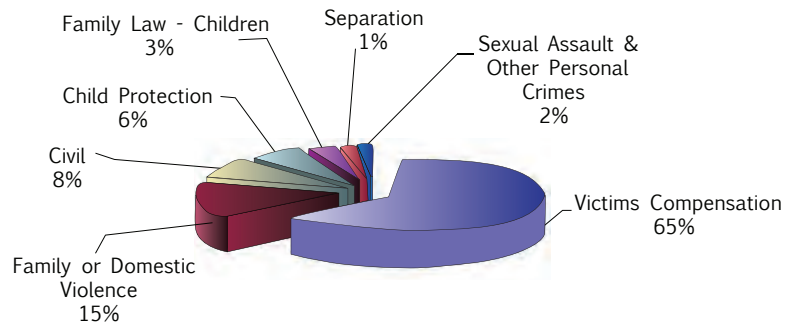
Whilst attending Brewarrina Local Court for the AVO list day, we represented a young mother at the first return date in a care application in relation to a young baby. There was no Legal Aid lawyer and the Aboriginal Legal Service was unable to represent the client. We were able to advise the client about the process, negotiate with the Independent Children's Lawyer about the matter and organise an adjournment to allow the client time to get Legal Aid representation. We also referred her to support services in relation to housing and parenting. We subsequently organised a solicitor to apply for Legal Aid and represent the client.

### **THE WAYS OUR CLIENTS CONTACTED US FOR INITIAL ADVICE**





**MAIN AREAS OF LAW FOR CASES**



### Victims compensation claims

We have represented many clients of the FVPLS in their claims for victims' compensation in relation to domestic violence and sexual assault. Our solicitors worked closely with the staff at the FVPLS to facilitate appointments, including home visits, to explain the process, prepare detailed statutory declarations and have relevant documents signed. When our solicitors were in the Sydney office they continued to work on these clients' matters and liaised with the staff at the FVPLS to take documents to the clients and transport them to the FVPLS to speak to our solicitor on the phone.



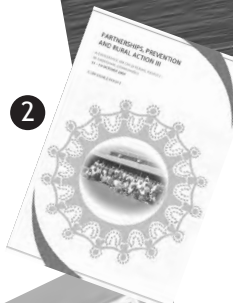


1

**Women & Family Law - 9<sup>th</sup> Edition 2010**

An essential tool to assist women to understand the law as it impact on their relationships with partners and children. The 9th Edition reflects the current status of Family Law from March 2009. [1]

2

**Partnerships, Prevention & Rural Action III Report**

A Conference on Child Sexual Assault in Aboriginal Communities  
15 - 19 October 2007 Sport and Recreation Centre, Lake Burrendong,  
Wellington [2]

3

**A Long Way to Equal, an update of Quarter Way to Equal, a report on barriers to access to legal services for migrant women 2007**

Long Way to Equal gives a current assessment and analysis of the legal problems and barriers to access to legal services experienced by migrant and refugee women in Australia. The 2007 report considers government and community sector responses to recommendations made in 2004, and considers strategies for change. [3]

4

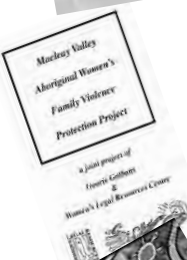
**Our Dream...Stopping The Violence 2nd Edition 2007**

This is an information booklet for Aboriginal women on domestic violence and the law in NSW. The second edition has been updated to include legal information about the changes to NSW Domestic Violence Law that occurred in March 2007. It is designed primarily for Aboriginal women; it may also be a useful resource for non-Aboriginal service providers. [4]

**Macleay Valley Project**

Aboriginal one stop-shop best practice manual. Reprinted in June 2005. [5]

5

**Our Silence is Abusing our Kids**

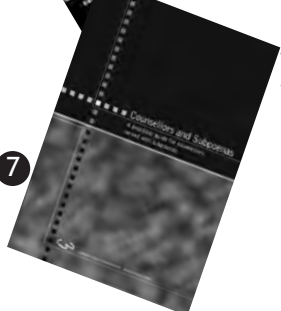
Unique and innovative stories about Aboriginal women working locally to stop child sexual assault. Jointly produced by Dymrna House and Women's Legal Services NSW, the booklet contains interviews with community women and Aboriginal workers about their own efforts in their communities to protect children and support young people. It also contains vital information about child sexual assault. [6]

6

**Counsellors & Subpoenas 3rd Edition (with addendum)**

A practical guide for counsellors about the law on subpoenas. The guide is now in its 3rd edition and covers the law on criminal proceedings, such as sexual assault trials and family law proceedings. It sets out the law and procedure in the areas, with particular reference to the 'Sexual Assault Communications Privilege' in sexual assault trials. More importantly, the guide provides practical guidance to counsellors on how to comply with subpoenas and disclosure notices and what steps to take when making an objection on a client's behalf. Included are a number of draft letters to the Court setting out reasons for objections. The guide also provides reference to additional resources in the area and contact details for further assistance. Please note that some aspects of the law have changed since this book was published. [7]

7





## our publications

### Quarter Way to Equal

The 1994 report is still available. [8]

### Women Out West

Women Out West was an innovative project initiated by WLS and funded by a grant from The Law Foundation of NSW for Aboriginal women in the far west of NSW during 1992. This publication was reprinted in June 2005. The project used a multi disciplinary approach to provide legal education workshops, information, legal advice and resources on domestic violence, family law and sexual assault. The report describes the project objectives, the distribution of legal and health information and fliers. It includes maps of places visited and photos documenting the work. Reprinted in June 2005. [9]

### Working with Interpreters in Legal Settings

We have a poster and checklist available since 2009. [10]

### Women's Legal Services NSW pictorial pamphlet 2007

This pictorial pamphlet provides advice to women about the telephone legal services of Women's Legal Services NSW. The pamphlet has been produced with Streetwise Communications for women who identify as culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) or Aboriginal, and for women who have minimal English literacy. It responds to the needs of many women, including those who were consulted as part of the Long Way to Equal research.

The pamphlet uses only pictures with no words to depict situations where women may need the legal support offered by WLS NSW. Available free of charge. [11]

### Is this Love? pamphlet (Indigenous and non Indigenous)

This pamphlet is a colourful visual pamphlet about domestic and relationship violence, particularly aimed at young women. Support services are listed at the back of the pamphlet. The pamphlet is also available in Indigenous colours, for the Aboriginal community. Available free of charge. [12]

### WLS NSW folding cards

We have several folding cards available, one for our Domestic Violence Advocacy Service, one for our Indigenous Women's Program and a generic WLS NSW card. Our Walgett and Bourke/Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Services also produce their own folding cards. These cards provide advice line phone numbers and contact details of our services and programs, and are available free of charge by contacting WLS NSW. [13]

### Ordering Publications

Please download order forms at  
[www.womenslegalnsw.asn.au](http://www.womenslegalnsw.asn.au)

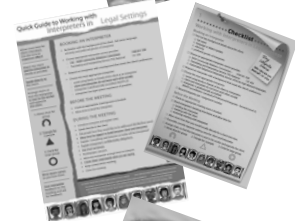
For further information please call  
Ana Sastrias on (02) 8745 6900



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9



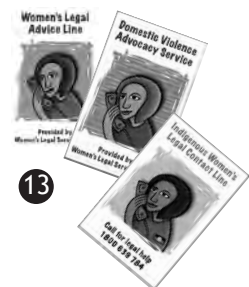
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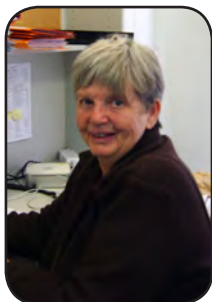
11



12



13



I am pleased to present the 2009-2010 audited Financial Statements of Women's Legal Resources Limited, trading as Women's Legal Services NSW. Thank you to Mark Schiliro and his staff for

their detailed work on the Audited Statements and for their advice.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the Board's appreciation of the contribution of Kim Ly, Management Accountant, and our accounting staff, whose skill and thoroughness are so essential to effective management and to developing our services.

Sue Knox Davis  
*Treasurer*

Our core income for services was received from the Commonwealth Government through the Attorney General's Department and from the New South Wales and Commonwealth Governments through the Legal Aid Commission of NSW.

In brief, funding income was made up of:

- Women's Legal Resource Centre Program - \$819,211
- Outreach Program - \$184,319
- Indigenous Women's Program - \$282,399
- Domestic Violence Advocacy Service Program - \$409,763
- Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service - \$633,200
- Bourke/Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Service - \$555,860
- Funding from the NSW Office for Women for "Reaching out for Rights" a community legal education project - \$135,000

I would like to acknowledge with thanks the continuing support provided by the New South Wales and Commonwealth Governments, and to extend our appreciation to the program officers who have worked with us during the year.

Provision has been made for the transition to a new level of salaries reflected in the Enterprise Agreement. Negotiations have now been completed and the Agreement takes effect from 1 July 2010.



## director's report

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

#### Directors' Report

Your directors present this report on the company and its controlled entities for the financial year ended 30 June 2010.

#### Directors

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

Sara Blazey	<i>Chairperson (appointed November 2009)</i>
Sue Knox Davis	<i>Treasurer (appointed November 2009)</i>
Emily Winborne	<i>Secretary (appointed November 2009)</i>
Natasha Case	<i>(appointed November 2009)</i>
Sigrid Herring	<i>(appointed November 2009)</i>
Pat Johnson	<i>(appointed November 2009)</i>
Janette Prichard	<i>(appointed November 2009)</i>
Lee-May Saw	<i>(appointed November 2009)</i>
Shirley Southgate	<i>(appointed November 2009)</i>

Sophie Clarke	<i>(resigned November 2009)</i>
Rhonda Fadden	<i>(resigned November 2009)</i>
Regina Graycar	<i>(resigned November 2009)</i>
Danaë Harvey	<i>(resigned November 2009)</i>
Debra Maher	<i>(resigned November 2009)</i>
Jane Wangmann	<i>(resigned November 2009)</i>

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

#### Operating Results

The profit of the entity for the financial year amounted to \$0 (2009: \$0).

A review of the operations of the entity during the financial year and the results of those operations are as follows:

	2010 \$	2009 \$
Operating profit/(loss) for the year	-	-
Income	3,188,852	2,777,886
Expenditure	3,188,852	2,777,886

**WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED**

ABN 88 002 387 699

**Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the entity during the financial year were the provision of free legal services to women in New South Wales as well as specific services relating to domestic violence towards women and children. There were no other significant changes in the nature of the entity's principal activities during the financial year.

**Significant Changes in State of Affairs**

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the entity in subsequent financial years.

**Future Developments**

Likely developments in the operations of the entity and the expected results of those operations in future financial years have not been included in this report, as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the entity.

**Environmental Issues**

The entity's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

**Dividends Paid or Recommended**

No dividends were paid or declared since the start of the financial year. No recommendation for payment of dividends has been made.

**Options**

No options over issued shares or interests in the company were granted during or since the end of the financial year and there were no options outstanding at the date of this report.

**Insurance of Directors**

During the financial year, the entity has given indemnity and paid insurance premiums to insure directors against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending any legal proceedings arising out of the conduct of the entity while acting in the capacity of director of the company, other than conduct involving a wilful breach of duty in relation to the company.

Total premium paid was \$1,636.36. The directors and officers' liability of the company insures any past, present or future director, secretary, executive officer or employee of Women's Legal Resources Limited.

**Proceedings on Behalf of The Entity**

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the entity or intervene in any proceedings to which the entity is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the entity for all or any part of those proceedings.

The entity was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.





## director's report

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

#### Information on Directors

**Sara BLAZEY**

Qualifications

**Director - Chairperson**

BA (Hons) LL.B

Experience

Current – Family and Care Legal Officer for Law Access NSW.  
Solicitor – 30 years experience, specialising in family law, care and protection. First practice in private practice in the United Kingdom where she was a senior partner and head of the family law department.  
Work as a generalist solicitor for WLS NSW and other community legal centres for 15 years. Extensive experience being a board member, including Board of Legal Aid NSW as a Legal Aid Commissioner.

**Sue Knox DAVIS**

Qualifications

**Director - Treasurer**

MBA; ME; B.SSc; B Legal Studies; Grad Dip Com; Grad Dip S Admin;  
Grad Dip Adult Ed; Dip S.W. Dip D Rad.  
Admitted to NSW Bar; Admitted Legal Practitioner.

Experience

Legal practitioner private practice, management, policy, training and administration; community services and government positions; Board positions children and family services and community legal services, consultant policy and strategic planning Aboriginal Services, government and community organisations.

**Emily WINBORNE**

Qualifications

**Director - Secretary**

BA/LLB. Admitted as a practitioner of the Supreme Court of NSW  
(2005 - present)

Experience

Solicitor, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (NSW) (2005 - 2006;  
2007 - present)  
Solicitor, Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (2006 - 2007)  
Youth worker, Juvenile Justice (2004)  
Socio-legal researcher, Justice Policy Research Centre (2003)  
Volunteer, University of Newcastle Legal Centre (Missing Persons Project,  
2001 - 2002; Aboriginal Civil Legal Rights Service, 2003)

**Natasha CASE**

Qualifications

**Director**

BA (Hons) LLB Melbourne  
Admitted as Legal Practitioner of the Supreme Court of NSW, WA,  
the High Court and Federal Court of Australia, 2001

Experience

Solicitor – Pilbara Native Title Service (WA)  
Solicitor – Cridlands Lawyers (NSW)  
Solicitor – Kingsford Legal Service (NSW)  
Executive Lawyer, Australian Human Rights Commission  
Senior Solicitor, Public Interest Advocacy Centre  
Director, Community Legal Centre NSW, 2008 – present  
Secretary, Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, 2010 – on going.

**Sigrid HERRING**  
Qualifications**Director**

Bachelor of Education, Certificate IV Aboriginal Family Health

## Experience:

Management, administration, training, and representative roles in community based organisations, 1988 - 2010

**Pat JOHNSON**  
Qualifications:**Director**

PhD in Philosophy, RMIT (2005)

## Experience:

Work in community services for more than 25 years. Has worked with community organisations in the areas of research, writing policies and procedure manuals, facilitating reviews and strategic planning and the provision of training. Has managed large NGO's in Western Sydney. Teaching with TAFE NSW since 1997. And has developed curriculum and learning resources.

**Janette PRICHARD**  
Qualifications:**Director**

B.Sc (Hons), Dip. Ed, M.A

## Experience:

Sector Development Support Officer, Council of Social Service NSW (NCOSS) 2009 - 2010  
Induction Project Officer, Women's Legal Services NSW, 2008 - 2009  
Mathematics Teacher, state high schools, casual, 2008 - 2009  
Education Resource Development Officer, Women's Legal Services NSW 2004 - 2008  
Resource Administrator, Women's Legal Services NSW, 2002 - 2004  
Resource Administrator/Database Manager, Domestic Violence Advocacy Service, 1998 - 2002  
Training and Resource Unit DVAS, 1996 - 2000  
Researcher and Writer, Women's Studies Centre, University of Sydney, 1995 - 1998

**Lee-May SAW**  
Qualifications:**Director**

BA/LLB.

Admitted as a Legal Practitioner of the High Court of Australia (2007)

Admitted as a Legal Practitioner of the Supreme Court of NSW (2005)

## Experience:

Barrister, New South Wales Bar, 2010 - present  
Solicitor In Charge, Family Law and Care & Protection Law, JPM Legal, 2007 - 2009  
Solicitor, Women's Legal Services NSW, 2006 - 2007.

**Shirley SOUTHGATE**  
Qualifications:**Director**

BA; LLB (Hons).

Admitted as barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Western Australia (1996)

Practised in NSW since 2005

## Experience:

Manager - Policy and Good Practice, Office of the Information Commissioner NSW  
Principal Solicitor, Kingsford Legal Centre  
Managing Solicitor - Client Services, Legal Aid Western Australia.



## auditor's independence declaration

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

#### Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 6 meetings of the Board of Directors were held. Attendances by each of the director were as follows:

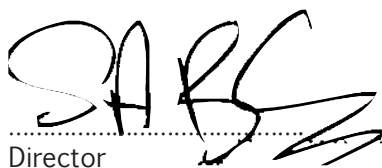
#### *Board of Directors' Meetings*

	<i>Number eligible to attend</i>	<i>Number attended</i>
Sara Blazey	4	4
Sue Knox Davis	4	3
Emily Winborne	4	4
Natasha Case	4	3
Sigrid Herring	4	3
Pat Johnson	4	4
Janette Prichard	4	4
Lee-May Saw	4	3
Shirley Southgate	4	4
Sophie Clark	2	2
Rhonda Fadden	2	2
Regina Graycar	2	0
Danaë Harvey	2	1
Debra Maher	2	1
Jane Wangmann	2	2

#### Auditor's Independence Declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2010 has been received and can be found on page 43 of the financial statements.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of directors;

  
.....  
Director

  
.....  
Director

Dated this 13th day of October 2010



ABN: 88 002 387 699

## auditor's independence declaration

### **WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED**

ABN 88 002 387 699

#### **AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001 TO THE DIRECTORS OF WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2010 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**MNSA PTY LTD  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

**MARK SCHILIRO**

**DIRECTOR**

**DATED THIS 13TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2010 AT SYDNEY**



# comprehensive income

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

## WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED ABN 88 002 387 699

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

#### CLASSIFICATION OF EXPENSES BY FUNCTION

	Note	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>Operating revenue from ordinary activities</b>	2	<b>3,188,852</b>	<b>2,777,886</b>
Service expenses		395,801	396,005
Occupancy expenses		129,816	152,725
Administration expenses		288,118	149,891
Employment & contract expenses		2,365,138	2,071,512
Financing expenses		-	377
Depreciation Expenses		9,979	7,376
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>3,188,852</b>	<b>2,777,886</b>
Profit / (Loss) from ordinary activities before income tax expense	9	-	-
Income tax expense relating to ordinary activities		-	-
Net profit/(loss) from ordinary activities after income tax	9	-	-
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year		42,005	42,005
<b>Retained profits at the end of the financial year</b>		<b>42,005</b>	<b>42,005</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.





**WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED**  
ABN 88 002 387 699

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 30 JUNE 2010**

	Note	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	1,478,062	1,249,877
Trade and other receivables	4	53,006	24,712
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>1,531,068</u>	<u>1,274,589</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	5	<u>744,836</u>	<u>750,726</u>
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>744,836</u>	<u>750,726</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>2,275,904</u>	<u>2,025,315</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	6	1,724,892	1,411,555
Short-term provisions	7	293,248	363,887
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>2,018,140</u>	<u>1,775,442</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Borrowings	8	64	63
Long-term provisions	7	<u>70,271</u>	<u>62,381</u>
		<u>70,335</u>	<u>62,444</u>
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>70,335</u>	<u>62,444</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>2,088,475</u>	<u>1,837,886</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><b>187,429</b></u>	<u><b>187,429</b></u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Special Reserve		145,424	145,424
Retained Profits	9	<u>42,005</u>	<u>42,005</u>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u><b>187,429</b></u>	<u><b>187,429</b></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



## income and expenditure

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

#### STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Special Reserve \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2008</b>		42,005	145,424	187,429
Profit attributable to entity	9	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2009</b>		42,005	145,424	187,429
Profit attributable to entity	9	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2010</b>		42,005	145,424	187,429

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED**

ABN 88 002 387 699

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Cash Flow from Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from grants		2,885,252	2,434,929
Other receipts		(235,586)	(270,581)
Interest received		68,014	72,376
Interest paid		-	-
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,485,406)	(1,904,100)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	10(b)	232,274	332,624
<b>Cash Flow from Investing Activities</b>			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(4,089)	(24,149)
Repayment of borrowings		-	(36)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		(4,089)	(24,185)
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>		228,185	308,439
Cash at 1 July 2009		1,249,877	941,438
Cash at 30 June 2010	10(a)	1,478,062	1,249,877

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



## notes to the financial statements

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

The financial statements are for Women's Legal Resources Limited as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Women's Legal Resources Limited is a company limited by guarantee.

### NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the entity in the preparation of the financial statements. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

#### Accounting Policies

##### (a) Statement of Financial Position

The statement of financial position of Women's Legal Resources Ltd incorporates the assets and liabilities of the Women's Legal Resources Centre, Indigenous Women's Program, Outreach Program, Domestic Violence Advocacy Service, Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service and the Bourke/Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Service.

##### (b) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

##### (c) Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated, less where applicable, accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

##### Property

There was no revaluation of land and buildings during the year.

##### Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis, less depreciation and impairment losses.

##### Depreciation

All assets, excluding freehold land and buildings, are depreciated on a straight line basis over the useful lives to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.



**NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Buildings	-
Plant and equipment	10%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting period.

Asset classes carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimate recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the statement of comprehensive income. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to those assets are transferred to retained earnings.

**(d) Impairment**

At each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of comprehensive income.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and when the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an assets class, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the class of assets belong.

**(e) Leases**

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

**(f) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

**(g) Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the entity's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with benefits arising from wages, salaries and annual leave which may be settled after one year, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled plus related on costs. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the net present value.



## notes to the financial statements

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

Additional provision has been included in the current year due to the staff salary review currently under negotiation and not yet settled as at the signing date of this financial statement.

Contributions made by the entity to employee superannuation funds are charged as expenses when incurred.

### (h) Revenue

Grant revenue is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income when the entity obtains control of the grant. When there are conditions attached to grant revenue relating to the use of those grants for specific purposes it is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until such conditions are met or services provided.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the clients.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the floating interest rate applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

### (i) Good and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

### (j) Comparative Figures

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

### (k) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

**NOTE 2 – REVENUE**

	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Grants		
- Legal Aid Commission (Commonwealth)	863,755	818,065
- Legal Aid Commission (State)	713,373	696,556
- Attorney General's Department - FVPLS	1,189,060	991,140
- Less: Uncommitted / unspent funds	(16,436)	(70,833)
- Sundry Grants	135,500	-
	<u>2,885,252</u>	<u>2,434,928</u>
Other income		
- Interest received	68,014	72,378
- Donations	100	300
- Fees and contributions	86,235	80,059
- Costs recovered and retained	57,828	78,740
- Rental income	86,300	86,300
- Sales of publications and merchandise	487	2,787
- Referral Fees	4,636	4,182
- Law Reform – Women's Legal Service Australia	-	18,212
	<u>303,600</u>	<u>342,958</u>
Total other income	<u><b>3,188,852</b></u>	<u><b>2,777,886</b></u>

**NOTE 3 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

<b>Current</b>		
Cash at bank	29,672	29,926
Cash on deposit	1,447,890	1,219,451
Cash on hand	500	500
	<u>1,478,062</u>	<u>1,249,877</u>

**NOTE 4 – TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

<b>Current</b>		
Trade receivables	18,026	5,670
Deposits / Bonds	1,200	1,200
Prepayments	33,780	17,842
	<u>53,006</u>	<u>24,712</u>



## notes to the financial statements

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>NOTE 5 – PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Building – at cost	717,480	717,480
Plant & equipment – at cost	96,660	92,572
Less accumulated depreciation	(69,304)	(59,326)
	<u>744,836</u>	<u>750,726</u>

### Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year

	Property, Plant and Equipment	Total
<b>2009</b>		
Balance at the beginning of year	733,953	733,953
Additions	24,149	24,149
Disposals	-	-
Depreciation Expense	(7,376)	(7,376)
Carrying amount at the end of year	<u>750,726</u>	<u>750,726</u>
<b>2010</b>		
Balance at the beginning of year	750,726	750,726
Additions	4,089	4,089
Disposals	-	-
Depreciation Expense	(9,979)	(9,979)
Carrying amount at the end of year	<u>744,836</u>	<u>744,836</u>

### NOTE 6 – TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES

<b>Current</b>		
Trade payables	176,752	171,963
Uncommitted/ Unspent Grant Funds	592,056	422,927
Payroll liabilities	122,914	92,556
GST Payable	54,631	37,807
Employee benefits	778,539	686,302
	<u>1,724,892</u>	<u>1,411,555</u>

### NOTE 7 – PROVISIONS

<b>Current</b>		
Provision for long service leave	18,309	28,952
Provision for locum fees	50,230	80,355
Provision for IWP Consultation	34,476	33,522
Provision for research and reprint of publications	-	5,984
Provision for staff development	86,332	71,213
Provision for re-establishment	17,610	17,610
Provision for service evaluation	-	10,583
Provision for equipment replacement	50,978	80,355
Provision for Directors' planning meetings	25,313	25,313



**NOTE 7 - PROVISIONS (Continued)**

	2010 \$	2009 \$
Provision for legal expenses	10,000	10,000
	<u>293,248</u>	<u>363,887</u>
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Provision for long service leave	70,271	62,381
	<u>70,271</u>	<u>62,381</u>

**Provision for Long-term Employee Benefits**

A provision has been recognised for employee entitlements relating to long service leave. In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based on historical data. The measurement and recognition criteria relating to employee benefits have been included in Note 1 to this report.

**NOTE 8 - BORROWINGS**

	2009 \$	2010 \$
<b>Non-Current</b>		
National Australia Bank	43	42
National Australia Bank	21	21
	<u>64</u>	<u>63</u>

**NOTE 9 - RETAINED EARNINGS**

Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year	42,005	42,005
Net profit/(loss)	-	-
Retained profits at the end of the financial year	<u>42,005</u>	<u>42,005</u>

**NOTE 10 - CASH FLOW INFORMATION****(a) Reconciliation of Cash**

Cash at bank	29,672	29,926
Cash on deposit	1,447,890	1,219,451
Cash on hand	500	500
	<u>1,478,062</u>	<u>1,249,877</u>



## notes to the financial statements

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### NOTE 10 - CASH FLOW INFORMATION (Continued)

(b) Reconciliation of cash flows from operations with profit from ordinary activities after income tax

Profit from ordinary activities after income tax	-	-
Non cash flows		
Depreciation	9,979	7,376
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase) / Decrease in prepayments	(15,939)	2,291
(Increase) / Decrease in receivables	(12,355)	5,929
Increase in provisions	29,488	167,341
Increase in payables	22,101	149,687
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>232,274</u>	<u>332,624</u>

(c) The entity has no credit, standby or financing facilities in place.

(d) There were no non-cash financing or investing activities during the year.

### NOTE 11 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

#### a. Financial Risk Management Policies

The entity's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, short-term investments, accounts receivable and payable.

The entity does not have any derivative instruments at 30 June 2010.

##### i. Treasury Risk Management

A finance committee consisting of senior committee members meet on a regular basis to analyse financial risk exposure and to evaluate treasury management strategies in the context of the most recent economic conditions and forecasts.

##### ii Financial Risk Exposures and Management

The main risks the entity is exposed to through its financial instruments are interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

##### *Interest rate risk*

The entity is not materially affected. At 30 June 2010, balance of long-term borrowings is \$64

##### *Foreign currency risk*

The entity is not exposed to fluctuations in foreign currencies.

##### *Liquidity risk*

The entity manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate unutilised borrowings facilities are maintained.



## NOTE 11 – FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

There are no material amounts of collateral held as security at 30 June 2010.

Credit risk is managed by the entity and reviewed regularly by the finance committee. It arises from exposures to customers as well as through deposits with financial institutions.

The entity monitors the credit risk by actively assessing the rating quality and liquidity of counterparties:

- Only banks and financial institutions with an 'A' rating are utilised.
- Only accredited fund managers linked to 'A' rated financial institutions are used.
- No more than 3% of total investments may be held at any time in a particular investment.
- The credit standing of counterparties is reviewed monthly for liquidity and credit risk.

The trade receivables balances at 30 June 2010 and 30 June 2009 do not include any counterparties with external credit ratings.

Price risk

The entity is not exposed to any material commodity price risk.

### b. Financial Instruments Composition and Maturity Analysis

The table below reflects the undiscounted contractual settlement terms for financial instruments of a fixed period of maturity, as well as management's expectations of the settlement period for all other financial instruments. As such, the amounts may not reconcile to the statement of financial position.

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate		Floating Interest Rate		Fixed Interest Rate Maturing		Non-interest Bearing		Total	
	2010 %	2009 %	2010 \$	2009 \$	2010 \$	2009 \$	2010 \$	2009 \$	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>Financial assets</b>										
Cash at bank	0.01	0.01	30,172	30,147					30,172	30,147
Cash on deposit	5.85	3.05	1,447,890	1,219,730					1,447,890	1,219,730
Trade and other receivables							53,006	24,712	53,006	24,712
<b>Total financial assets</b>			1,478,062	1,249,877			53,006	24,712	1,531,068	1,274,589
<b>Financial liabilities</b>										
Trade and other payables							176,752	171,963	176,752	171,963
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>							176,752	171,963	176,752	171,963

Trade payables are expected to be paid as follows:

	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>Trade payables</b>		
Less than 6 months	109,204	119,400
6 months to 1 year	67,548	52,563
<b>Total trade payables</b>	176,752	171,963



## notes to the financial statements

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### c. Net Fair Values

The fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position at their carrying values. Fair values are those amounts at which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

Cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables and trade and other payables are short term instruments in nature whose carrying values is equivalent to fair value. Trade and other payables exclude amounts provided for annual leave which is not considered a financial instrument.

### Sensitivity Analysis:

#### *Interest rate risk*

The entity has performed a sensitivity analysis relating to its exposure to interest rate risk at balance date. This sensitivity analysis demonstrates the effect on current year results and equity which could result from a change in this risk.

As at 30 June 2010, the effect on profit and equity as a result of changes in the interest rate, with all other variables remaining constant, would be as follows:

	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>Change in profit</b>		
— Increase in interest rate by 2%	29,561	24,997
— Decrease in interest rate by 2%	(29,561)	(24,997)
<b>Change in equity</b>		
— Increase in interest rate by 2%	29,561	24,997
— Decrease in interest rate by 2%	(29,561)	(24,997)

This sensitivity analysis has been performed on the assumption that all other variables remain unchanged.

No sensitivity analysis has been performed for foreign exchange risk, as the entity is not exposed to fluctuations in foreign exchange.

### d. Industry and Geographical Segments

The economic entity operates predominantly in one industry and geographical segment being the provision of free legal services to women throughout New South Wales.

## NOTE 12 – ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### **New Accounting Standards for Application in Future Periods**

The AASB has issued new and amended accounting standards and interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods. The company has decided against early adoption of these standards. A discussion of those future requirements and their impact on the company follows:

- AASB 124: Related Party Disclosures (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2011).



This standard removes the requirement for government related entities to disclose details of all transactions with the government and other government-related entities and clarifies the definition of a related party to remove inconsistencies and simplify the structure of the standard. No changes are expected to materially affect the company.

- AASB 2009-4: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project [AASB 2 and AASB 138 and AASB Interpretations 9 & 16] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing from 1 July 2009) and AASB 2009-5: Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project [AASB 5, 8, 101, 107, 117, 118, 136 & 139] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing from 1 January 2010).

These standards detail numerous non-urgent but necessary changes to accounting standards arising from the IASB's annual improvements project. No changes are expected to materially affect the company.

- AASB 2009-8: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Group Cash-settled Share-based Payment Transactions [AASB 2] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2010).

These amendments clarify the accounting for group cash-settled share-based payment transactions in the separate or individual financial statements of the entity receiving the goods or services when the entity has no obligation to settle the share-based payment transaction. The amendments incorporate the requirements previously included in Interpretation 8 and Interpretation 11 and as a consequence these two Interpretations are superseded by the amendments. These amendments are not expected to impact the company.

- AASB 2009-9: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Additional Exemptions for First-time Adopters [AASB 1] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2010).

These amendments specify requirements for entities using the full cost method in place of retrospective application of Australian Accounting Standards for oil and gas assets and exempt entities with existing leasing contracts from reassessing the classification of those contracts in accordance with Interpretation 4 when the application of their previous accounting policies would have given the same outcome. These amendments are not expected to impact the company.

- AASB 2009-12: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASBs 5, 8, 108, 110, 112, 119, 133, 137, 139, 1023 & 1031 and Interpretations 2, 4, 16, 1039 & 1052] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2011).





### NOTE 12 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

This Standard makes a number of editorial amendments to a range of Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, including amendments to reflect changes made to the text of IFRSs by the IASB. The Standard also amends AASB 8 to require entities to exercise judgment in assessing whether a government and entities known to be under the control of that government are considered a single customer for the purposes of certain operating segment disclosures. The amendments are not expected to impact the company.

- AASB 2009-13: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Interpretation 19 [AASB 1] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 July 2010).

This Standard makes amendments to AASB 1 arising from the issue of Interpretation 19. The amendments allow a first-time adopter to apply the transitional provisions in Interpretation 19. This Interpretation is not expected to impact the company.

- AASB 2009-14: Amendments to Australian Interpretation - Prepayments of a Minimum Funding Requirement [AASB Interpretation 14] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2011).

This standard amends Interpretation 14 to address unintended consequences that can arise from the previous accounting requirements when an entity prepays future contributions into a defined benefit pension plan.

- AASB Interpretation 19: Extinguishing Financial Liabilities with Equity Instruments (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing from 1 July 2010).

This Interpretation deals with how a debtor would account for the extinguishment of a liability through the issue of equity instruments. The Interpretation states that the issue of equity should be treated as the consideration paid to extinguish the liability, and the equity instruments issued should be recognised at their fair value unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case they shall be measured at the fair value of the liability extinguished. The Interpretation deals with situations where either partial or full settlement of the liability has occurred.

This Interpretation is not expected to impact the company.

The company does not anticipate early adoption of any of the above Australian Accounting Standards.

**NOTE 13 - MEMBERS' GUARANTEE**

The entity is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is an entity limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 30 June 2010 the number of members was 56.

**NOTE 14 - AUDITORS' REMUNERATION**

	2010 \$	2009 \$
Remuneration of the auditor for:		
- auditing or reviewing the financial report	7,330	7,260
- other services	7,330	7,150
	<u>14,660</u>	<u>14,410</u>

**NOTE 15 - KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONAL COMPENSATION**

Since the end of the previous year, no director of the company has received or become entitled to receive a benefit by reason of a contract made by the Company or a related corporation with the Director or with a firm of which she is a member, or with a Company in which she has a substantial financial interest. All Directors of the Company act in an honorary capacity.

**NOTE 16 - EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE DATE**

No significant events have occurred since the reporting date which would impact on the financial position of the Company as disclosed in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2010 and the results and cash flows of the Company for the year ended on that date.

**NOTE 17 - ENTITY DETAILS**

The entity was incorporated on 13 October 1982.

The registered office of the entity is:  
Level 2, 333 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000



**WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED**

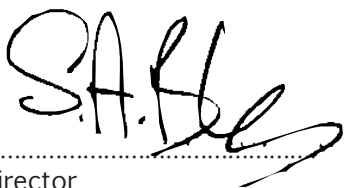
ABN 88 002 387 699

**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

**THE DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY DECLARE THAT:**

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 44 to 59, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*:
  - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards; and
  - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2010 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the entity.
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

  
.....  
Director  
.....  
Director

Dated this 13th day of October 2010



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

### Scope

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Women's Legal Resources Limited (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2010 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of recognised income and expenditure and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

#### *Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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 the *Corporations Act 2001*. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, provided to the directors of Women's Legal Resources Limited on 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2010, would be in the same terms if provided to the directors as at the date of this auditor's report.



## auditor's report

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WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### **WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED**

ABN 88 002 387 699

#### **Auditor's Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Women's Legal Resources Limited as of 30 June 2010, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and the Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations).

**MNSA PTY LTD  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

**MARK SCHILIRO**

**DIRECTOR**

**DATED THIS 13TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2010 AT SYDNEY**



**WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED**

ABN 88 002 387 699

**Women's Legal Resources Limited****STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010**

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Rental Income	86,300	86,300
Interest	20,921	22,228
Donation	100	300
Referral Fees	4,636	4,182
Other Income	4,520	14,944
Costs Recovered and Retained	46,891	50,940
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>163,368</b>	<b>178,894</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Related Expenses		
Salaries & Wages	69,952	102,564
Workers' Compensation Insurance	120	-
Staff Recruitment	26,876	-
	<b>96,948</b>	<b>102,564</b>
Service Expenses		
Directors' Meetings	1,252	20,241
	<b>1,252</b>	<b>20,241</b>
Other Operating Expenses		
Audit & Accountancy Fees	3,550	2,000
Legal & Filing Fees	580	601
Depreciation Expenses	9,979	7,376
Equipment / Asset Replacements	22,288	13,314
Rent	19,800	18,150
Bank Fees & Interest Expenses	1	377
Property Insurance	1,000	1,866
Property Repairs & Maintenance	-	5,159
Rates & Levies	7,970	7,246
	<b>65,168</b>	<b>56,089</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>163,368</b>	<b>178,894</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>



# income statement

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

## Women's Legal Resources Centre

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	2010	2009
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grants		
Legal Aid Commission - Commonwealth	369,345	361,394
Legal Aid Commission - State	303,610	296,436
Legal Aid Commission - FRC	27,692	-
Less: Unspent Fund - FRC	(16,436)	-
Office For Women NSW - ROFR One Off	135,000	-
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>819,211</b>	<b>657,830</b>
Interest Received	22,652	26,137
Fees and Contributions Received	86,072	80,060
Cost Recovered and Retained	2,973	8,356
Sale of Books and Publications	487	2,787
Law Reform - WLSA	-	18,212
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>112,184</b>	<b>135,552</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>931,395</b>	<b>793,382</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Related Expenses		
Salaries & Wages	730,586	620,788
Superannuation	61,448	52,947
Workers' Compensation Insurance	6,651	5,562
Staff Conferences, Training and Development	12,289	12,372
Staff Recruitment	2,047	361
	<b>813,021</b>	<b>692,030</b>
Service Expenses		
Client Disbursements	2,840	5,600
Committee Expenses	1,742	1,055
Communication (Telephone & Internet)	15,916	15,191
Community Education & Travel	14,121	15,368
Service Promotion & Other Expenses	2,167	1,772
Reaching Out for Rights	16,913	-
	<b>53,699</b>	<b>38,986</b>
Other Operating Expenses		
Audit & Accountancy Fees	6,000	6,000
Bank Charges	467	426
Computer Running Costs	3,906	3,453
Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	2,319	2,158
Insurance	4,503	4,774
Library Resources & Subscriptions	8,984	5,906
Office Amenities	1,756	2,972
Office Maintenance	5,973	5,474
Postage & Freight	2,130	3,038
Printing & Stationery	5,835	5,890
Rent & Accommodation	20,000	20,000
Utilities	2,802	2,275
	<b>64,675</b>	<b>62,366</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>931,395</b>	<b>793,383</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Indigenous Women's Program****STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010**

	2010	2009
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grants		
Legal Aid Commission	282,399	276,320
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>282,399</b>	<b>276,320</b>
Interest Received	7,406	7,882
Cost Recovered and Retained	3,155	4,140
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>10,561</b>	<b>12,022</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>292,960</b>	<b>288,342</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Related Expenses		
Salaries and Wages	184,915	182,690
Superannuation	16,682	16,051
Workers' Compensation Insurance	1,809	1,747
Staff Conferences, Training and Development	4,000	4,298
Staff Recruitment	784	142
	<b>208,190</b>	<b>204,928</b>
Service Expenses		
Client Disbursements	1,690	616
Committee Expenses	512	263
Communication (Telephone & Internet)	4,700	6,568
Community Education & Travel	13,735	10,818
AWCN Expenses	8,213	7,795
Management Fees	25,000	25,000
Service Promotion & Other Expenses	1,619	2,581
	<b>55,469</b>	<b>53,641</b>
Other Operating Expenses		
Audit & Accountancy Fees	2,000	2,000
Bank Charges	236	207
Computer Running Costs	2,011	2,008
Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	1,591	1,021
Insurance	1,532	1,876
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	2,647	2,302
Office Amenities	775	1,107
Office Maintenance	2,517	2,553
Postage & Freight	937	1,224
Printing & Stationery	3,527	4,061
Rent & Accommodation	10,400	10,400
Utilities	1,128	1,014
	<b>29,301</b>	<b>29,773</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>292,960</b>	<b>288,342</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>



## income statement

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### Outreach Program

#### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	2010	2009
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grants		
Legal Aid Commission	184,319	180,351
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>184,319</b>	<b>180,351</b>
Interest Received	6,666	5,095
Cost Recovered and Retained	644	-
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>7,310</b>	<b>5,095</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>191,629</b>	<b>185,446</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Related Expenses		
Salaries and Wages	128,449	127,012
Superannuation	11,032	10,629
Workers' Compensation Insurance	1,166	1,120
Staff Conferences, Training and Development	3,115	3,139
Staff Recruitment	201	90
	<b>143,963</b>	<b>141,990</b>
Service Expenses		
Client Disbursements	1,942	2,535
Committee Expenses	436	255
Communication (Telephone & Internet)	3,448	3,052
Community Education & Travel	7,510	6,658
Management Fees	11,000	11,000
Service Promotion & Other Expenses	866	392
	<b>25,202</b>	<b>23,892</b>
Other Operating Expenses		
Audit & Accountancy fees	2,250	1,800
Bank Charges	219	195
Computer Running Costs	2,231	1,460
Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	1,339	298
Insurance	1,625	1,194
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	2,340	2,317
Office Amenities	412	597
Office Maintenance	2,002	1,872
Postage & Freight	658	651
Printing & Stationery	2,018	2,072
Rent & Accommodation	6,500	6,500
Utilities	870	608
	<b>22,464</b>	<b>19,564</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>191,629</b>	<b>185,446</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Domestic Violence Advocacy Service****STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010**

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grants		
Legal Aid Commission - State	409,763	400,120
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>409,763</b>	<b>400,120</b>
Interest Received	10,369	11,035
Cost Recovered and Retained	307	360
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>10,676</b>	<b>11,395</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>420,439</b>	<b>411,515</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Related Expenses		
Salaries and Wages	324,259	312,513
Superannuation	27,266	27,426
Workers' Compensation Insurance	3,027	2,982
Staff Conferences, Training and Development	5,732	6,085
Staff Recruitment	660	1,218
	<b>360,944</b>	<b>350,224</b>
Service Expenses		
Client Disbursements	908	929
Committee Expenses	446	341
Communication (Telephone & Internet)	6,971	8,156
Community Education & Travel	8,473	9,330
Service Promotion and Other Expenses	1,061	896
	<b>17,859</b>	<b>19,652</b>
Other Operating Expenses		
Audit & Accountancy fees	4,175	3,500
Bank Charges	351	328
Computer Running Costs	3,518	2,429
Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	2,663	2,918
Insurance	2,298	2,728
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	4,799	4,119
Office Amenities	910	1,516
Office Maintenance	3,036	3,121
Postage & Freight	1,046	2,027
Printing & Stationery	4,443	4,457
Rent & Accommodation	13,000	13,000
Utilities	1,397	1,496
	<b>41,636</b>	<b>41,639</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>420,439</b>	<b>411,515</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>





## income statement

WOMEN'S LEGAL SERVICES NSW

### Walgett Family Violence Prevention Legal Service

#### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	2010	2009
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Attorney General's Funds		
Operational	583,263	542,840
Capital	49,937	-
Less: Unspent Funds	-	(28,629)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>633,200</b>	<b>514,211</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Related Expenses		
Salaries and Wages	353,748	283,648
Superannuation	31,271	25,628
Workers' Compensation Insurance	3,779	2,959
Staff Conferences, Training and Development	5,000	4,733
Staff Recruitment	1,287	941
	395,085	317,909
Service expenses		
Client Disbursements	2,152	4,847
Committee / Meeting Expenses	1,771	2,159
Consultants / debriefing	2,433	3,875
Communication (Telephone & Internet)	7,075	6,215
Management Fees	25,536	22,569
Service Promotion	39,642	1,433
Travel & Accommodation	45,555	45,810
Motor Vehicle	4,314	4,977
CLE Project	17,309	51,825
	145,787	143,710
Other Operating Expenses		
Bank Charges	326	298
Auditing & Accounting Fees	2,400	1,500
Computer Running Costs	4,058	2,948
Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	1,409	4,509
Insurance	3,964	3,410
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	4,836	6,781
Office Amenities	760	1,955
Office Maintenance	5,281	7,318
Postage, Courier & Freight	1,651	976
Printing & Stationery	6,298	4,876
Rent & Accommodation	15,600	15,600
Utilities	3,297	2,421
Capital Expenditure	42,448	-
	92,328	52,592
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>633,200</b>	<b>514,211</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Bourke / Brewarrina Family Violence Prevention Legal Service****STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010**

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Attorney General's Funds		
Operational	511,499	448,300
Capital Funding	44,361	-
Less: Unspent Funds	-	(42,204)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>555,860</b>	<b>406,096</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Related Expenses		
Salaries and Wages	310,441	230,894
Superannuation	27,582	20,764
Workers' Compensation Insurance	3,179	2,542
Staff Conferences, Training and Development	4,854	4,488
Staff Recruitment	929	3,184
	<b>346,985</b>	<b>261,872</b>
Service Expenses		
Client Disbursements	2,047	4,933
Consultants / Debriefing	2,860	3,654
Committee Expenses	454	1,077
Communication (Telephone & Internet)	7,155	6,362
Management Fees	22,119	21,490
Service Promotion	5,914	2,022
Travel & Accommodation	47,461	49,195
Motor Vehicle	8,524	7,148
	<b>96,534</b>	<b>95,881</b>
Other Operating Expenses		
Bank Charges	317	293
Computer Running Costs	3,375	851
Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	22,398	1,328
Insurance	2,798	3,069
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	4,592	5,789
Office Amenities	716	2,526
Office Maintenance	4,013	5,239
Postage, Courier & Freight	1,097	1,143
Printing & Stationery	6,569	4,826
Rent & Accommodation	20,800	20,800
Utilities	3,228	2,479
Capital Expenditure	42,438	-
	<b>112,341</b>	<b>48,343</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>555,860</b>	<b>406,096</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>











