



NORTHERN
COMMUNITY
LEGAL CENTRE

*Equal access to justice for all
in Melbourne's North West*



2016
annual report

Northern Community Legal Centre
ABN 50 570 314 348
Suites 214-215,
8-34 Gladstone Park Dr,
Gladstone Park, VIC 3043

Chairperson's Report



Welcome to the inaugural AGM of the Northern Community Legal Centre!

Many months in the planning, this year has been all about implementation and consolidation of the amalgamation of Broadmeadows Community Legal Service and Moreland Community Legal Centre.

And we did it! On behalf of the Board, can I acknowledge in the first instance the awesome staff of NCLC. They have really done a phenomenal job over the last year. We are looking forward to seeing NCLC develop over the next couple of years.

It has also been a year that has seen NCLC welcome a new CEO, Jenni Smith, and Legal Practice Manager, Bill Grimshaw. Both come with extensive experience, not to mention ideas and energy! They have really got off to a flying start.

2016 has also been a year that has seen the arrival of a second child for Menoz and Andrew. Congratulations once again from the Board.

Whilst it has been a challenging couple of years, I think it is safe to say on behalf of the Board just how excited we are about the future of NCLC. The Board participated recently in a strategic planning workshop that exposed us to the staff's ideas about the future direction of the centre.

Community legal centres operate, of course, in a challenging fiscal environment. However, the Board is buoyed by the work being done by Jenni, Bill and her team. NCLC will continue to be relevant and responsive, and maintain its position as a leader on legal and social issues facing the community in Melbourne's North West.

Chief Executive Officer's Report



I feel immensely excited and privileged to have been given the opportunity of leading NCLC in its formative years. Commencing the position of CEO in July 2016 it was immediately clear to me the immense amount of work that had been done by the newly formed committee of management and all the staff, in what must have been a demanding and confusing time of amalgamation. It was also very clear that there were exceptional opportunities to provide new frameworks for operation and direction for the new service.

NCLC encompasses some of the most disadvantaged suburbs in Melbourne and starting from this knowledge we have looked at how we can make our service more accessible to the most disadvantaged in our communities. Through the strategic planning work that we have done and work leading up to that we have now identified priority groups. Whilst NCLC will continue to make our service accessible to all the community, NCLC has prioritised groups of our community who have the least resources and ability to access legal assistance. We have identified the following community members who we will provide more holistic casework and flexible service delivery models to, they are:

PEOPLE EXPERIENCING OR AT RISK OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

Through the work of the Royal Commission into family violence and the work of many advocates that went before, it is acknowledged that the effect of family violence on our community is horrendous. Our catchments, and Hume City especially is recognized as having one of the highest rates of family violence in the Melbourne metropolitan area. NCLC and its predecessor, have a strong history of working with victims of family violence. NCLC will build on this significant work through the creation of innovative service responses to ensure the safety and wellbeing of women and children.

PEOPLE WHO ARE NEWLY ARRIVED OR REFUGEES

Newly arrived residents, refugees and asylum seekers face unique barriers to the Australian Legal system. They are also more vulnerable to exploitation and discrimination. Around 15% of our community speak a language other than English at home and have difficulty speaking English. NCLC understands that we need to provide better more flexible service delivery strategies to ensure that these community members can access their legal rights.

YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 25 AND UNDER

Young people (12-24) make up just under a fifth of our communities and there has been a rapid growth in the number of young people whose countries of birth are other than Australia. They as a group suffer high levels of family violence, homelessness and unemployment leading to high levels of young people in the criminal justice system. However, they have been underrepresented as users of our service. NCLC will have a range of programs to ensure that young people have timely access to legal education, advice and representation.

PEOPLE WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS

People afflicted with mental health challenges are more susceptible to issues of homelessness and social exclusion and more likely to have unresolved legal issues particularly infringements. NCLC will take initiatives to ensure that services are delivered in such a way that are comprehensible, flexible and compassionate and are in places that are the most accessible.

OLDER PEOPLE EXPERIENCING ABUSE

It is estimated that 5% of the population suffer from elder abuse, and in addition there is a growing awareness that people born overseas are likely to be more vulnerable because of language difficulties and cultural expectations. NCLC will focus on this particularly with settled communities where we are aware that this is an emerging issue.

We look forward to investigating and creating new programs in the next year that will further help our communities. We have over September and October done much work on strategic planning and look forward to settling our strategic plan. We have developed a clear vision of where we want to be and what our goals are which we refer to on the following page.

Our Aim

Equal access to justice for all in Melbourne's North West

Our Mission

NCLC provides legal services and community legal education to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in Melbourne's North West, and advocates for equal access to justice for all

Our Vision

The people of Melbourne's North West have access to justice and their rights are protected

Our Goals

Respectful

- Acting with integrity, inclusiveness and accountability

Innovative

- Finding creative and flexible solutions for our clients

Connected

- Working with our community to achieve shared goals

Passionate

- Caring and supportive

Outstanding

- Striving to deliver beyond expectations

Our Region

Hume Council

Attwood
Broadmeadows
Bulla
Campbellfield
Coolaroo
Clarkefield
Craigieburn
Dallas
Diggers Rest
Donnybrook

Gladstone Park
Goonawarra
Greenvale
Jacana
Kalkallo
Keilor
Konagaderra
Meadow Heights
Melbourne Airport
Mickleham

Oaklands Junction
Roxburgh Park
Somerton
Sunbury
Tullamarine
Upfield
Westmeadows
Yuroke

Moreland Council

Brunswick
Brunswick East
Brunswick West
Coburg
Coburg North

Fawkner
Fitzroy North
Glenroy
Gowanbrae
Hadfield

Oak Park
Pascoe Vale
Pascoe Vale South
Tullamarine

Mitchell Shire

Townships in the Mitchell Shire are:

Beveridge
Broadford
Kilmore
Puckapunyal
Pyalong

Seymour
Tallarook
Tooborac
Trawool
Upper Plenty

Wallan
Wandong
Heathcote Junction

Our Details

Northern Community Legal Centre Inc
Suites 214/215, 8-34 Gladstone Park Drive
Gladstone Park, Victoria 3043
Phone: (03) 9310 4376
Fax: (03) 9310 4473
Email: admin@northernclc.org.au
Website: www.northernclc.org.au

Our Hours

Gladstone Park Office

Suites 214/215, 8-34 Gladstone Park Drive
Gladstone Park, Victoria 3043
Monday – Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm
Night Service - Wednesday, 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Outreach Locations

Broadford

Broadford Community Centre
158 – 162 High Street, Broadford

Broadmeadows Court Intervention Order Support Service

Broadmeadows Magistrates' Court
Corner Dimboola Road and Pearcedale Parade
Broadmeadows

Coburg

Merri Community Health Centre
21 Victoria Street, Coburg

Craigieburn

Craigieburn Education and Community Centre
(located at Selwyn House)
20 Selwyn Avenue, Craigieburn

Family Relationship Centre

Building 1, Level 1
1100 Pascoe Vale Road
Broadmeadows

Sunbury

Sunbury Community Health Centre
12 – 28 Macedon Street, Sunbury

Our Committee of Management

Susanna Locke	Chairperson
Stacie Gull	Vice Chairperson
David Diviny	Secretary
Nicole Brooks	Treasurer
Joseph Burke	Committee Member
Nicole King	Committee Member
Kristina Kothrakis	Committee Member
Tony Macafee	Committee Member
Brooke McKail	Committee Member
John Rutherford	Committee Member
Natalie Sheard	Committee Member

We offer our thanks and best wishes to Committee members who have left us during the 2015-2016 period:

Helen Chetcuti (BCLS)
Vicki Heal (MCLC)
Kerry Kothrakis (BCLS)

Ashley McInnes (MCLC)
Carmel McMennemin (BCLS)
Maria Norris (BCLS)

Our Current Staff

Jenni Smith*	Chief Executive Officer
Bill Grimshaw*	Legal Practice Manager
Joanne Carlton	Senior Lawyer
Mehernaz Sadafi	Senior Lawyer
Marquita Nolan*	Family Violence Lawyer
Elizabeth Bitar*	Family Violence Lawyer
Christina Lynch*	Family Violence Lawyer
Lois Erickson	Community Lawyer
Craig Stabler	Community Lawyer
Lucas Rutten	Community Lawyer
Heather McLean	Community Development Manager
Flora Culpan	Family Violence Community Coordinator
Milka Jankovic	Administration Manager
Cristina Tine	Administration Officer
Belinda Vecchio	Administration Officer

We also offer our best wishes to staff who have left us during the 2015-2016 period:

Lynette Barratt
Maureen Burgoine
Neil Fisher
Wendy Gallagher

Lourdes Herber
Elise Joosten
Jane Penberthy
Anita Plesa

*staff that commenced after 1 July 2016

Our Volunteers

Thank you to the volunteers for their commitment to the Broadmeadows Community Legal Service, the Moreland Community Legal Centre and your ongoing commitment to our newly merged centre, the Northern Community Legal Centre.

Our volunteers assist in a wide variety of ways, including night service, assisting lawyers with client files during the day, working on special projects and various administrative tasks. Our volunteers are made up of law students, interested community members, lawyers from a range of different practices who come together with a range of expertise and knowledge to provide an extension of our service to the local community. Without these dedicated people, we would be unable to provide an extended service for our clients.

This year has also seen the commencement of Masters in Social Work students participating in events such as Week Without Violence, attending and assisting with the Family Violence program and assisting in various projects, including the Indian Community Project.

Lawyers

Lauren Bowden
Cem Cankat
Helen Chetcuti
Andre De Almeida
George Douglas
James Galanopoulos
Stacie Gull
David Halstead
Jess Hellsten
Jacqueline Lewis

Nicholas Midson
Yasemin Ozer
Andrew Sarraf
Melissa Scarfo
Rachael Szydlowski
James Spencer
Jason Themistoklis
Emma Wheatley

Paralegals

Hajirah Dalwai Al Wardighi
Erica Di Munzio
Jackson Dyer
Mazen El-Bouch
Liz Kefford
Mirac Menengic

Christopher Nicholson
Caroline Rubira
Junior Tavita
Ignatuis Zanetidis
Chris Zaki
Tom Zammit

Masters Students – Social Work

Jason Dineen
Tom Diprose Adams
Alison George
Hady Jones

Shova Lamsal
Kathlyn Poisson
Munashe Zishiri

Day Volunteers

Jasmine Boutsinis
Marianne Eyars
Harris Gilders
Canev Kizartici
Christina Kolovos
Angela Liantzakis
Adam Lopez
Jai Manoharan
Bridget Morales

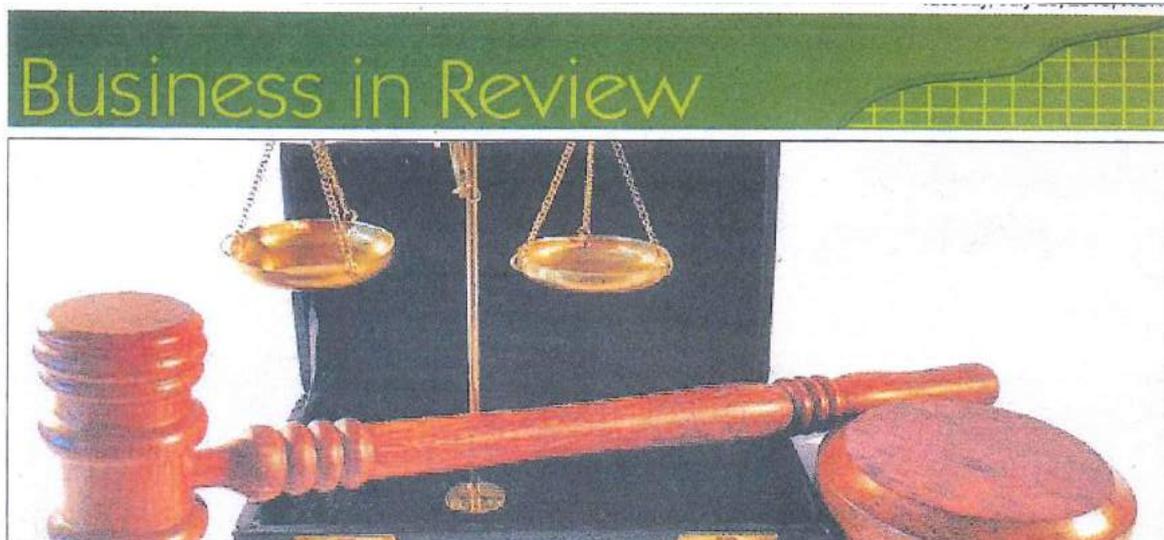
Carl Robertson
Gemma Ross-McGlynn
Pascal Roth
Kate Schomburgk
Keyorra Shrimpton
Lachlan Smith
Anoushka Tait
Flynn Tytherleigh
Lachlan Vandeloo

Year 10 Work Experience

Amilio Andreachio
Angus Turner

Emily Grey
Sanju Samarawickrama

The North Centre Review, 28 July 2015



Service here to lend a legal hand

BROADMEADOWS Community Legal Service offers clients assistance in a vast range of legal areas including family law, debts, traffic infringements, consumer complaints and wills and powers of attorney and guardianship.

Currently situated in Gladstone Park at Shop 214 (Roof top) of the Gladstone Park Shopping Centre, the legal service now also provides an outreach service to the Mitchell Shire at Broadford Community Centre (158-162 High St Broadford) on Tuesdays from 10am to 2.45pm.

"We assist a wide variety of people, from young people with traffic offences to the elderly who require assistance with their wills and estates," Broadmeadows Community Legal Service representative Lois Erikson said.

"I was involved with assisting people with legal matters in a government funded capacity following the Black Saturday bushfires in 2009 and was situated in Broadford and realised there was a need for a community legal service. We have been fortunate enough to

gain state and federal funding for the program and can offer assistance with legal matters for those in the Mitchell Shire who may find it difficult to come to us in Gladstone Park."

Broadmeadows Community Legal Service does not usually represent clients in court, and if the matter is of a criminal nature will assist and refer to Legal Aid Victoria.

Opening hours for the Gladstone Park are from 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday and there is also a Wednesday evening availability from 6.15-8pm. Appointments are required.

While the service is free, a \$5 voluntary donation is requested if the client is able, to offset costs for documents etc and will and estate matters will only be handled for concession holders with a \$30 fee also applicable for each will or power of attorney due to the cost of preparation and witnessing of these documents.

"We meet a lot of interesting people and it

is great to know we are helping them at a time where otherwise they couldn't gain assistance and our outreach services certainly do that," Erikson said.

Contact Broadmeadows Community Legal Service on 9310 4376, or the website at www.communitylaw.org.au/broadmeadows for further details.

The Merged Legal Service

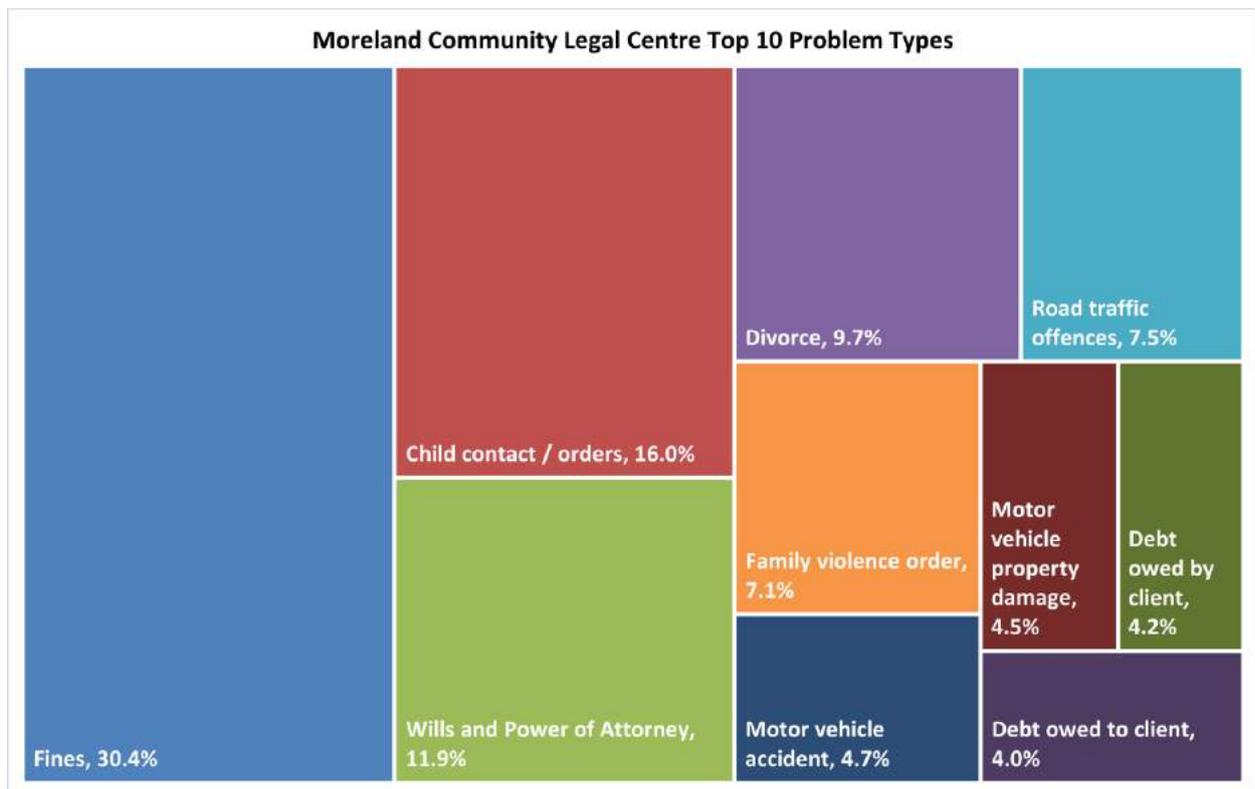
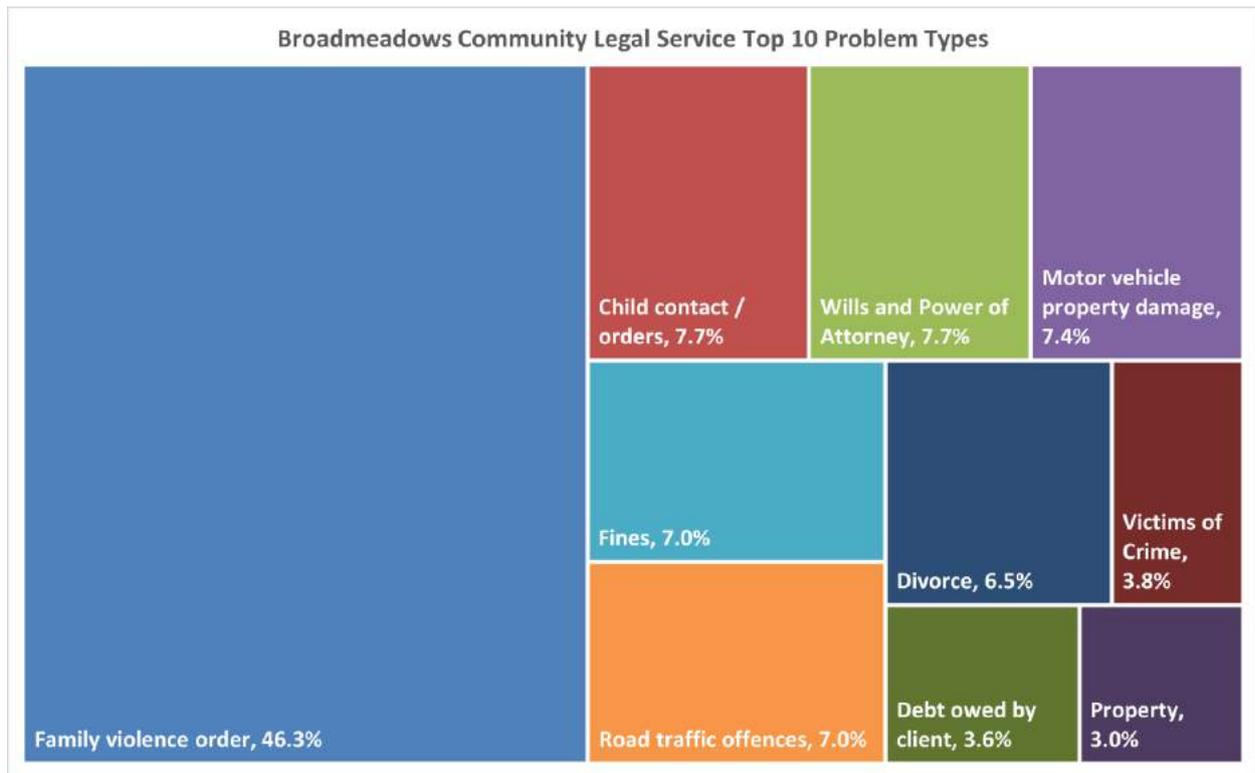
Broadmeadows Community Legal Service (BCLS) and Moreland Community Legal Centre (MCLC) amalgamated on 4 January 2016 to become Northern Community Legal Centre. Prior to the merger MCLC had their office in Brunswick and BCLC had their office in Gladstone Park. In January 2016 MCLC vacated the Brunswick site and moved to Gladstone Park office which had been expanded by the lease of the suite next door.

To ensure that all legal ethical obligations were met by the new service, a conflict check was run on all clients of the services which meant in practical terms transferring MCLC data onto the BCLS server and then staff checking all open files on both CLSIS (data) bases to establish if a conflict occurred. The impact of the amalgamation was minimal with only 3 clients who had current files opened with the legal services needing to be referred out to other community legal centres.

The merger of the two practices however had other impacts in the way each service had operated their legal practices. BCLS had been an appointment based service seeing relatively high numbers of clients and giving advice and referrals, whereas MCLC lawyers attended court hearings most days of the week and assisted in complex cases: in 2014/2015 MCLC provided 700 advices compared to BCLS of around 1000 (adjusting for family violence duty lawyer advices). Discussions were had about how to combine the best of both centres and several new procedures were put in place. Initially both Centres worked independently and continued as they had. Gradually the model for Northern CLC moved towards the appointment and referral with occasional court appearances. Meetings were held with all staff and the different ways of operating were slowly incorporated into Northern CLC.

The type of case work remained the same or similar with a focus on family law matters and wills and powers of attorney.





Outreach

Broadford

Broadford outreach commenced after the 2009 Black Saturday fires as bush fire legal help as a volunteer emergency service. It was then funded for 18 months to continue to give advice to clients affected by the bushfires. Due to need the Broadmeadows Legal Service applied for funds to provide a generalist outreach in the Broadford area, however it was two years before funding was approved. Clients attend with a wide variety of legal problems, with a growing area of attendance being for assistance dealing with family violence. The local community health organisation and the Mitchell shire have been involved with other support organisations in adopting new policies to support survivors of family violence, raising awareness in the community.

Family Relationship Centre

Northern Community Legal Centre (NCLC) has had a productive year with the Family Relationship Centre working together as stake holders. Each second week we provide legal information to clients attending the Family Relationship Centre as part of the information they receive during their intake session that explains the stages and development of children, how parents separating effect children's perceptions, and the child's feelings. NCLC also attends Lawyer Assisted Family Dispute Resolutions (LAFDR's) most weeks in conjunction with Moonee Valley Legal Services (MVLS) with each parent being represented by either NCLC or MVLS. LAFDR's are reserved for parents who cannot agree on parenting plans/orders but who are not so hostile that they cannot discuss the issues. In many instances, initially agreements are not reached because parents do not understand what is required of them under the Family Law Act. Both NCLC and MVLS spend time explaining to the parents their responsibilities to ensure they understand what is expected of them. These LAFDR's have resulted in approximately 95% of parents that attended to reach some type of agreement, and in many cases, final agreements.

Hope St Youth

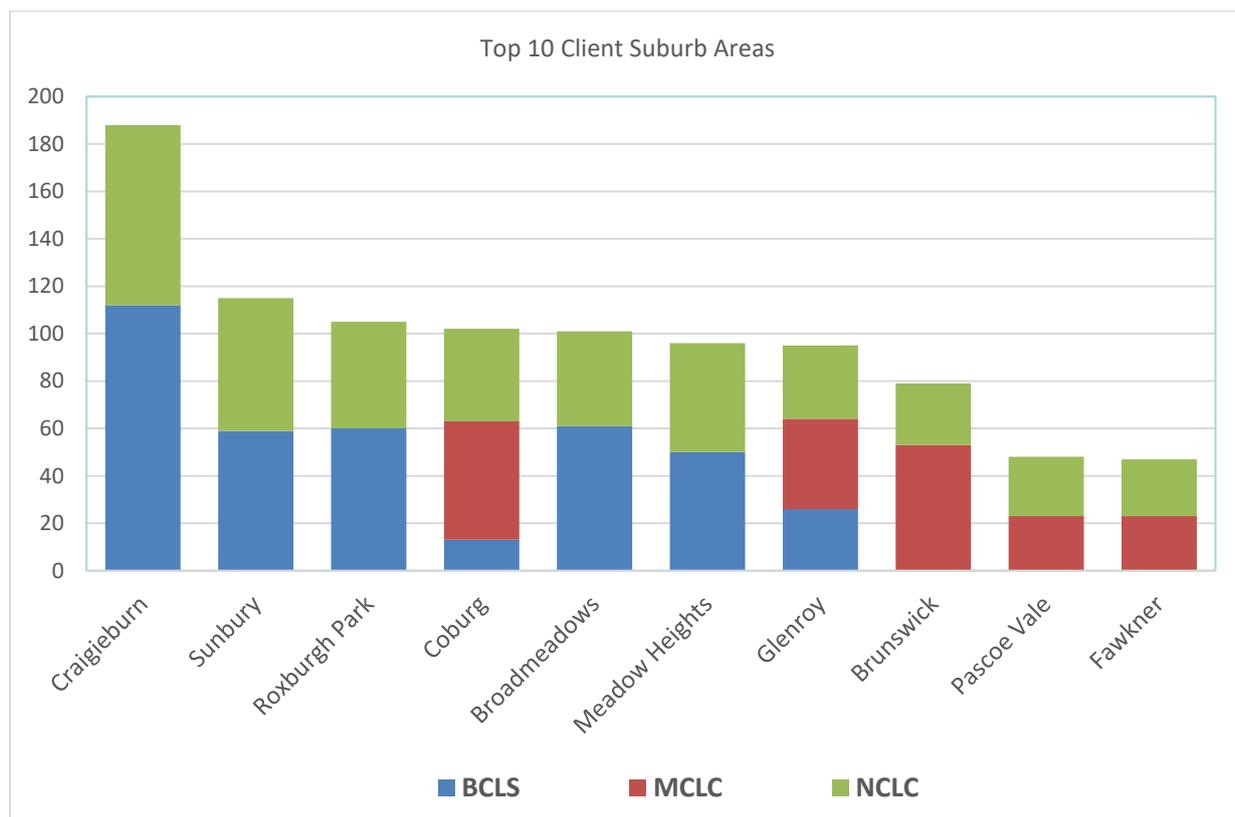
Our lawyers have been attending the Hope St youth refuge which is a residence in Brunswick West which provides short term housing and support for young people facing homelessness. This monthly outreach has been a continuation of a project commenced by Moreland CLC. Originally the purpose of the project was to conduct talks on a rotating set of topics (infringements, criminal law and dealing with police, family violence and the like). After one talk on family violence which had been poorly attended feedback was received that some of the young people had not attended because the topic of family violence was sensitive to them and not something they wanted to listen to. Since then Lucas has attended for an informal chat over dinner with the young people. This format is working much better and has resulted in several cases which we have taken on as priority clients.

Sunbury

Sunbury is located on the north-west growth corridor and has doubled in size over the past ten years. The Sunbury outreach service commenced in 1993 with the Broadmeadows Community Legal Service and has been running at the Sunbury Community Health Centre from the beginning. The service has assisted clients in areas such as family law, motor vehicle accidents, infringements and fencing matters.

Craigieburn

The purpose of an outreach service in Craigieburn is to provide legal assistance to disadvantaged communities in outer Melbourne suburbs. At the 2011 Census, Craigieburn had a population of 32,757, which is expected to double in the next 10 years. Craigieburn is part of the fast-growing northern corridor. Outreach is conducted at the Craigieburn Education and Community Centre,



Case Studies

Insurance Case Study

Ali was born with multiple disabilities. Because of his disabilities he was largely reliant on public transport to get to appointments and the like. In 2015 Ali was hit by a car when he was crossing the road having just got off a tram.

Ali was hospitalised for several weeks with a broken hip. When he was discharged, and returned home, he was met with a letter of demand from the insurance company for the owner of the vehicle that hit him, demanding he pay \$13,000 for the damage to the vehicle. Ali came to our service and our lawyer forcefully put Ali's circumstance to the insurer including that his only his source of income was the disability support pension. After obtaining evidence from Ali's doctor and from Centrelink our lawyer successfully negotiated with the insurance company to withdraw all demands on a final basis.

Motor Vehicle Accident Case Study

Aran is a young woman from an African country who recently arrived in Australia in 2014. She is an international student with limited English. She had a Motor Vehicle Accident in June 2015 and did not have insurance. She was not eligible for Centrelink benefits or a Health Care Card and worked part time to support herself.

Aran stated that she entered a roundabout and another vehicle collided with her. The day was dry and vision was clear. The Police attended and could not determine who caused the accident.

The other party held Aran liable for the Motor vehicle accident and continued to telephone and harass her to pay the outstanding amount of \$10,699.64.

Aran attended our office and we wrote to the Insurer on her behalf, however they continued to hold her responsible and demand payment.

We referred the matter to the Financial Ombudsman office who concluded our client was 100% liable for the damage. However, our lawyer continued to advocate for our client and after several months of negotiations, our lawyer was able to get the Insurer to discontinue recovery against our client under hardship grounds, even though our client earned a small wage and was not technically judgement proof.

Family Law Case Study

Elizabeth attended our office seeking assistance in relation to family law issues. She was a single mother of three young children and the entire family had been subjected to years of family violence by the father. Elizabeth had been assaulted on many occasions, some of these resulting in hospital admissions and nearly all with the children present. The father had also made threats to kill our client as well as her extended family.

At the time Elizabeth approached our office, the Father was in gaol for assault and weapons charges. Elizabeth was fearful because the Father was due to be released on parole. Elizabeth had a private family lawyer however she did not think they were appreciating the risk that she was facing and were not acting quickly enough.

Our Lawyer acted quickly filing applications in the family law courts seeking that there be no contact between the children and the father and advocating for Elizabeth at each hearing. Despite receiving threats from the Father, the legal centres' careful management of the case and strong advocacy led to the Federal Circuit Court determining that the Father posed a significant risk to the safety and wellbeing of the children. The court unequivocally determined Elizabeth should have sole parental responsibility for the children and the Father was not to have contact with them until they attained the age of 18 years.

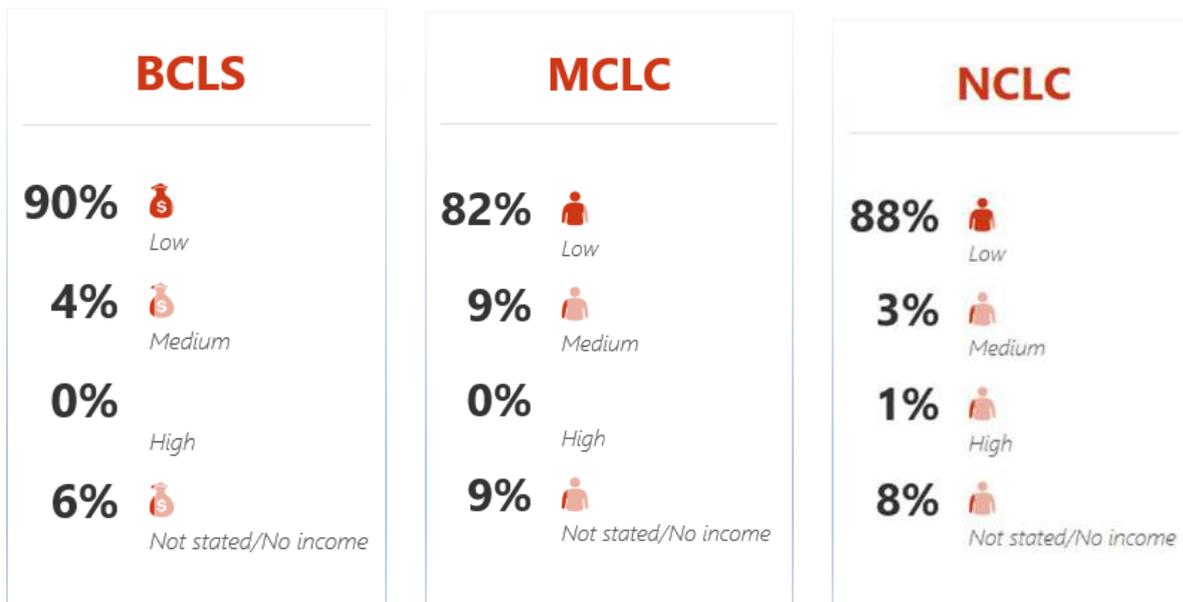


Debt Case Study

Tung is a young woman living in a share house. The household had decided that each member would be responsible for paying a utility bill. Tung was responsible for the gas bill, which she thought was paid and up to date. Unfortunately, the energy provider had credited his payment to the adjoining properties gas account, due to a very similar address. Tung attended our service, having tried for many months to resolve the matter herself, including sending photographs of the two gas meters and the adjoining premises to the provider.

Eventually, the energy provider accepted that the error had been theirs and stopped the debt collection process. However, they did not inform the credit rating agent of the resolution, claiming it was not their responsibility. Consequently, our client had a poor credit rating. The credit rating agency refused to accept Tung’s word that the debt was no longer owed, claiming that they could only act on direction from the energy provider. The Energy Ombudsman’s response to the client was that she no longer had a dispute with an energy provider, so they couldn’t assist.

We made simultaneous representations to both the energy provider and the credit rating agency, seeking that one or other take responsibility of clearing Tung’s credit rating, eventually succeeding after an exchange of a series of emails and letters.



Community Development Manager

In May 2016, the Northern Community Legal Centre appointed Heather McLean to the newly created role of Community Development (CD) Manager. Heather came to NCLC with extensive experience as a project manager in the education and the justice sector. Her most recent role was as family violence lawyer at the Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service.

The focus of the CD Manager's early work was to progress the Indian Women's Family Violence Project which had been delayed due to the merger of the Moreland Community Legal Centre and Broadmeadows Community Legal Service. This two-year project was made possible through funding from the Department of Justice.

The Indian Women's Family Violence Project developed from a growing appreciation that whilst the Indian community were the third largest migrant group in the City of Hume they were noticeably absent in accessing local family violence services. A 2015 Coronial Inquest highlighted the very significant barriers to accessing family violence services experienced by women in the Indian community.

In the period May to June 30, the CD Manager focused on consulting key stakeholders from the multicultural and family violence sectors and on developing a strong working relationship with the Oorja Foundation¹. With the assistance of Monash Masters of Social Work students research was undertaken into barriers to reporting family violence in the Indian Community. By the end of June, a project plan to deliver awareness raising sessions through presentations and creative forums was developed. These sessions are to be piloted throughout September and October 2016 and evaluated by December 2016. In addition, a strategy to deliver more culturally sensitive court assistance, casework and representation to women in the Indian community was developed. This project will continue throughout 2017 and will be fully evaluated on completion.

In addition to this role the CD Manager has worked to improve NCLC representation at prevention of violence, community safety and multicultural networks across Hume and Moreland.

¹ Oorja Foundation is a community based organisation which was formed in 2014 to respond to issues affecting the Indian migrant community in Melbourne (specifically the large proportion of Indian migrants residing in the Hume LGA).

The Foundation focuses on issues of domestic violence, inter-generational conflict, child safety, elder abuse and social isolation.

Family Violence Community Coordinator

The merging of the two community legal centres at the beginning of 2016 to create the Northern Community Legal Centre opened an opportunity to expand, explore and develop new areas of work for this Centre. As such the role of Family Violence Community Co-ordinator was established which recognised the increased demands of the Broadmeadows Family Violence Applicant Program (BFVAP) at the Broadmeadows Court, the role that the Court and NCLC have in community engagement projects and the continued facilitation of the Hume Family and Domestic Violence Network.

The coordinator spends the dominant amount of time at the Court co-ordinating the clients referred to the applicant duty lawyer; providing support and referrals pathways for the clients, liaising with the Family Violence Registrar and other support services. The role is significant in that it can take what happens in the court to inform community legal education and law reform. This had led to submissions, conducting forums, engagement with newly arrived communities and secondary school projects to help create awareness of the issue of family violence and the legal system. This year has been one of great change in staff for both the Broadmeadows Court and the Northern Community Legal Centre. I look forward to this partnership and work continuing in the coming years.

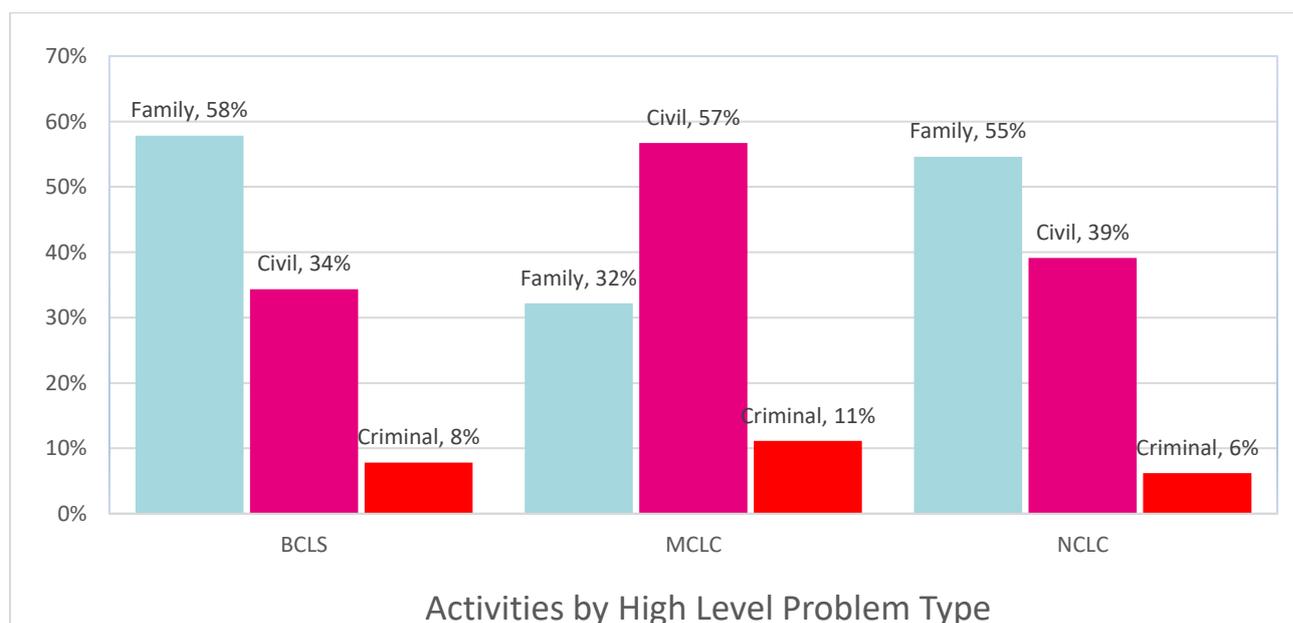
The Hume Family and Domestic Violence Network meets monthly and is made up of 25 organisations in the Hume area. The Network is auspiced by Northern CLC and my role as facilitator has linked me in with many local workers and it is the shared experiences of our clients that determines the work the Network undertakes for the year. Week Without Violence has been an annual event since 1999 and the Network is committed to this regional event working with Women's Health in the North to run activities in Hume. This year Heather McLean, NCLC Community Development Manager has become involved in the Moreland Family Violence Network and supported activities in our Moreland catchment.



This year also saw the roll out of ‘Love Bites’ for year 10 students in secondary colleges throughout Victoria. This program which provides students education sessions on family violence and sexual assault to explore and think about behaviours in relationships and what a respectful relationship should look like. Given the work that Broadmeadows CLS had done in the past at Roxburgh College, it was important to take this opportunity to continue our work through this program. I completed the training and facilitated a session at Craigieburn Secondary College. The program aims to run in a number of schools in the North and will be an invaluable opportunity for our Centre to establish ongoing collaboration with schools in other legal matters of relevance to young people.



I must take this opportunity to acknowledge my colleague Anita Plesa who has resigned from NCLC, and thank her for her ongoing support and commitment to the programme as the Family Violence Lawyer for the last 8 years. The Broadmeadows Court has played an integral role in working with our Centre and thanks must be extended to Magistrate Southey, Magistrate Keogh, Rick Roberts, Lisa Grey, Megan Generutti and Hayley Kieran for their support of BFVAP.



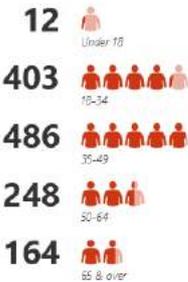
Statistics and Demographics

As a result of the merger, the statistics on the following pages contain a breakdown of all three centres' statistics. The dates that the statistics relate to are as follows:

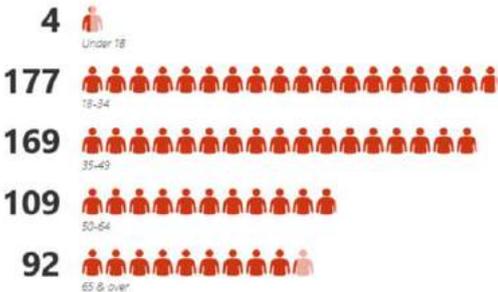
- Broadmeadows Community Legal Service Inc | July 2015 – 31 December 2015
- Moreland Community Legal Centre Inc | July 2015 – 31 December 2015
- Northern Community Legal Service Inc | January 2016 – 30 June 2016

Age Group of Clients

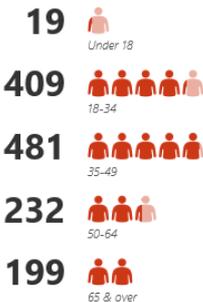
BROADMEADOWS LEGAL SERVICE



MORELAND LEGAL CENTRE

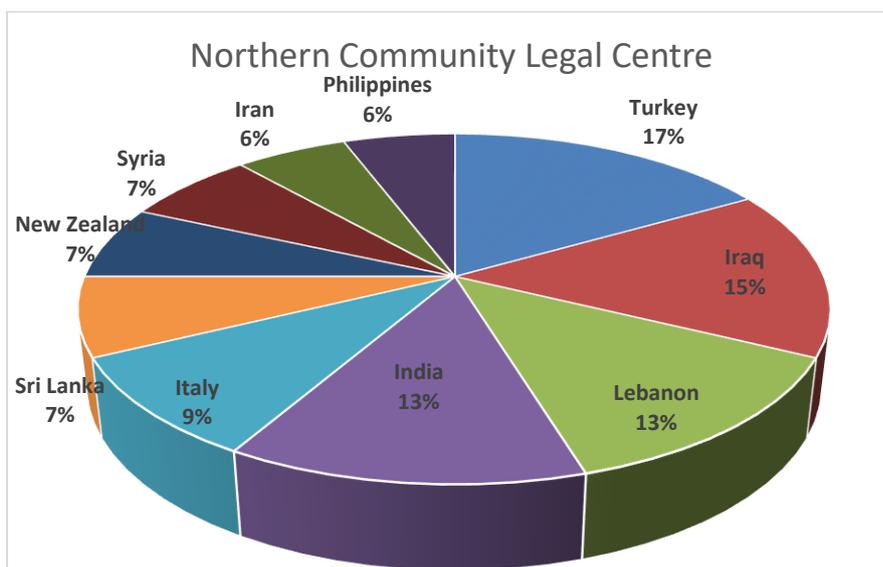
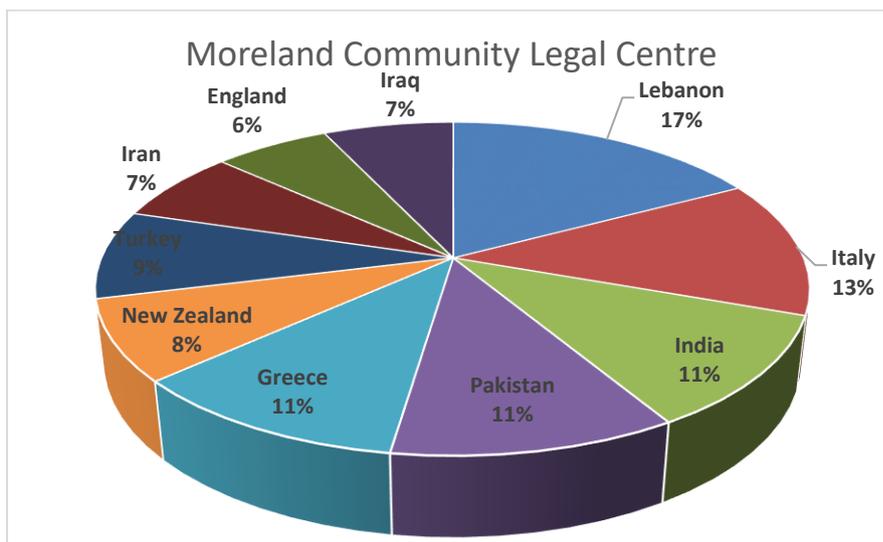
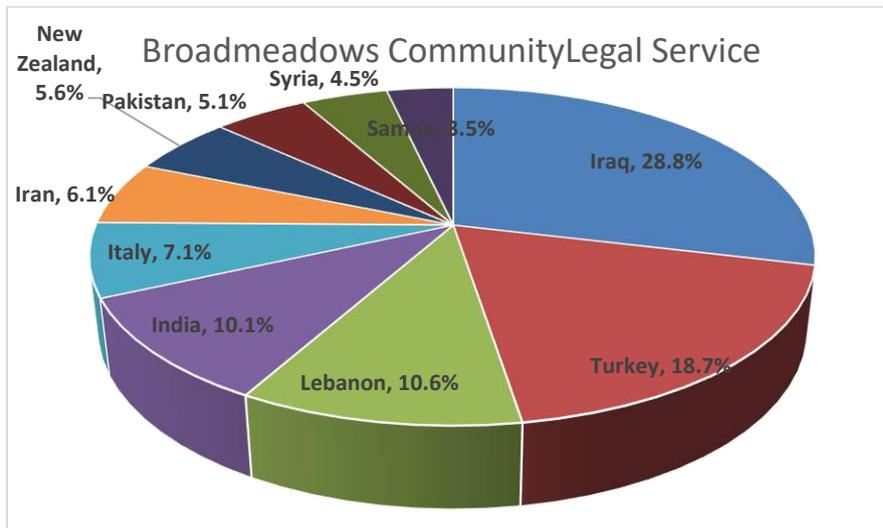


NORTHERN LEGAL CENTRE



Top 10 Countries of Birth

Please note these statistics exclude Australia



Centre Summary Report

	Northern Legal Centre	Broadmeadows Legal Service	Moreland Legal Centre
Total Number of Clients	1271	1200	559
New Clients	729	690	330
Repeat Clients	257	250	87
Existing Clients	285	260	142
Total Advice Activities	545	569	334
Total Cases Open	985	1045	320
Open at Start	288	266	153
Open in Period	697	779	167
Open at End	397	288	76
Total Cases Closed	588	757	244
Minor Cases	436	737	110
Medium Cases	32	17	108
Major Cases	3	3	26
Closed Cases with court representation	267	343	65

Acknowledgements

Attorney-General's Department
 Broadford Living and Learning Centre
 Broadmeadows Magistrates' Court
 Craigieburn Education and Community Centre (Selwyn House)
 Department of Justice and Regulation Victoria
 Family Relationship Centre (Broadmeadows)
 Freehills Lawyers
 Merri Community Health Centre
 Mitchell Shire
 Monash University
 Moreland City Council
 Sunbury Community Health Centre
 Victoria Legal Aid

Finance Report

Northern Community Legal Centre Inc
ABN 50 570 314 348
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the period ended 30 June 2016

	2016
	\$
Income	
Grants Received - VLA Commonwealth	288,415
Grants Received - VLA State	586,246
Grants Received - Other (State)	115,033
Grants Received - DOJ	75,137
Grant Received - Amalgamation	174,865
Service Fees & Grants	25,893
Donations Received	8,457
Interest received	5,721
Loss on scrapping PP & E	(8,061)
Total income	1,271,705
Expenses	
Accountancy	1,112
Audit fees	4,900
Bank Fees And Charges	4
Bookkeeping	3,482
Computer support	5,840
Cleaning	5,685
Depreciation - other	15,564
Electricity	5,552
General supplies	8,475
Holiday pay	(21,669)
Insurance	6,303
Internet & Website	976
Library, Resources Subscriptions	12,708
Long service leave	(48,142)
Minor equipment	1,500
Payroll Fees	1,927
Postage & couriers	3,392
Premises - Other outgoings	7,368
Printing, Copying & Design	2,667
Programming & Planning	2,082
Rates & land taxes	1,145

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For the period ended 30 June 2016

	2016 \$
Relocation expenses	5,190
Rent	107,431
Repairs & maintenance	5,392
Salaries	806,260
Redundancies	94,663
Salary Sacrifice - Staff	12,654
Security	772
SMS Charges	369
Stationery	8,361
Staff recruitment	2,501
Staff On Costs	1,247
Staff Training & Development	11,853
Staff Allowances	3,084
Superannuation	66,039
Telephone	15,788
Travelling expenses	12,730
Workcover	3,087
Total expenses	1,178,292
Surplus from ordinary activities before income tax	93,413
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities	-
Net surplus attributable to the association	93,413
Total changes in equity of the association	93,413
Opening retained surplus	-
Net surplus attributable to the association	93,413
Closing retained surplus	93,413

ASSUR

Audit & Assurance

Chartered Accountants
Registered Company Auditors

Director:
A.R Ager CA, BEc
Registered Company Auditor
Registered SMSF Auditor

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Authorised Audit Company
No. 453122

Northern Community Legal Centre Inc

ABN 50 570 314 348

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Northern Community Legal Centre Inc (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Committee, Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Certificate by Members of the Committee for the financial period ended 30 June 2016.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of Northern Community Legal Centre Inc is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also includes such internal control as the committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Northern Community Legal Centre Inc as at 30 June 2016 and its financial performance for the period then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.



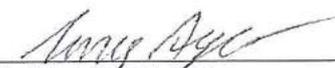
Northern Community Legal Centre Inc
ABN 50 570 314 348
Independent Auditor's Report to the Members

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Northern Community Legal Centre Inc to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Signed on: 11th NOVEMBER, 2016

ASSUR PTY LTD
ASSUR PTY LTD
Authorised Auditor Company Number: 453122
Chartered Accountants



Anthony Robert Ager
Director - Audit & Assurance
Chartered Accountant

The Northern Community Legal Centre Inc would like to thank
Alison George from Creative Girl
for the design of the cover of our Annual Report.