SCALES improves the quality of life in the community in terms of social justice and human rights, by providing fair and equal access to ethical and competent legal education, training, research, advice, referrals and advocacy.
Office Details:

Rockingham

o: Suite 3 St Nicholas Community Centre
   14 Council Avenue
   ROCKINGHAM WA 6168

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Office Hours:

9.00 am to 5.00 pm - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

9.00am to noon - Monday and Friday

Murdoch

o: Room 2.102 Law Building
   School of Law, Murdoch University
   South Street, MURDOCH WA 6150

p: 08 9360 2980  f: 08 9360 6996

SCALES Community Legal Centre acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land. We acknowledge that we work on Aboriginal land, traditionally the home of people of the Noongar nation. We pay deep respect to their elders past, present and future.

SCALES strongly supports constitutional recognition of the first Australians, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the removal of discrimination from Australia’s founding document.
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Vision, Mission and Values

We provide quality legal and community education services to the Rockingham and Kwinana community and play an instrumental role in the training of Murdoch University law students participating in our clinical legal education programme.

**Vision:**
A community where human rights are respected and people are able to assert those rights in a fair, affordable and accessible justice system.

**Values:**
- Respect
  For people and place
- Diversity
  Of people and communities
- Partnership
  Alone we can travel faster but together we can travel further
- Excellence
  A commitment to a quality service
- Integrity
  In all that we say and do

**Mission:**
SCALES will achieve its vision by:
Working in partnership with others to provide access to justice through holistic legal services including individual assistance, community education and systemic advocacy.
Providing opportunities for clinical legal education programmes that develop the skills and ethical practice of law students within a human rights framework.
Chair’s Report

Challenges
The Chair’s report last year reflected on tighter fiscal resourcing and yet the ever growing need for broad community education and advocacy. Unfortunately this year brings no changes with even more tightening of Commonwealth funding, again leaving little or no opportunity for SCALES to launch sorely needed community education programs and whilst yet not impinging on our ability to provide client services we have little or no leeway in the budget to absorb any extraordinary costs.

SCALES has been successful in its bid for the “Older Persons Peer Education Scheme” in partnership with the Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre. The Criminal Property Confiscation Grants Program requires matching funds and/or in kind services to match the program grant. We are seeking that funding and then will finalise the criteria so that we can launch into the five local government regions, ours being Kwinana and Rockingham.

Murdoch University
The unique partnership between SCALES and Murdoch University remains very robust and the value of this relationship is recognised by both parties. The opportunity for undergraduate law students to apply their skills albeit under strict supervision; to learn about case management and client interaction not only provides the students with invaluable practical skills and SCALES staff with the opportunity to exercise their supervisory and tutoring skills. Our community is also the winner. 2016 will see some changes to the current undergraduate program with participants in the program having already undertaken the unit Introduction to Legal Practice prior to coming to SCALES. Onwards and upwards I say.

Targets
The volunteer Committee of Management oversees the strategic direction of SCALES and our Managing Director (MD) and employees work hard on the operational activities. Over the last couple of years the MD has reviewed updated and developed policies covering the organisations’ governance, operational and statutory requirements, no mean feat and under some very adverse personal conditions, Gai has done a fantastic job.

I won’t go through the statistics of our performance as Gai will have included them later in the Report, suffice to say that we are busier than ever.

It’s wonderful to see nearly all targets followed by a big smiley face.

Acknowledgements
“It’s sort of how do you thank someone” The Staff, Volunteers, Management Committee and Students combine to
make SCALES what it is each reliant on the other for the success of the organisation. So of course my THANKS to each and every one of you. Over the year we have lost some of our committee members and some have indicated that due to work commitments they will not be continuing for the forthcoming year.

Many Thanks to Judith Parker who due to very seriously ill health could not continue. To Mieke Dixon a long serving member and to Josh Watts many thanks and don’t forget you are always welcome back.

To Helen for putting up with me and all the other committee members for your good advice and good humour.

Welcome to Kylie Hansen to the committee, she brings extensive governance and NGO experience. The staff as always have done a wonderful job, thank you and to Gai our hard working MD you are a marvel; Thank you!

Roz Davey
Managing Director’s Report

I get a surprise each time I am reminded that 2015 is our 18th year of operation. It certainly doesn’t feel that long but then I think of what we have achieved and it feels right.

People

I want to thank and congratulate each staff member for their energy and commitment to the service, our clients and the Law Clinic. We have a strong dedicated team of highly experienced and professional individuals who bring their knowledge and enthusiasm every day to do great work.

I am also very proud that many of the people who were involved in the development and early years of SCALES continue their association and support. As you will see in Anna’s report an alumni committee formed in early 2015 has already hosted events. Good on you and we look forward to attending these events and catching up.

Opportunities

As Roz has mentioned funding is becoming uncertain across government, we are continually on the watch for funding opportunities and while a number of funding submissions were lodged, only one has been successful so far.

Older Persons Peer Education Scheme (OPPES)

SCALES and the Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre (NSCLC) successfully joined together to obtain funding for OPPES through the Criminal Property Confiscation Grant Scheme.

The general objective of this two year pilot project is to increase the awareness to older Australians of the risks of Elder Abuse and provide them with information and strategies to prevent and reduce the incidence and severity of elder abuse.

The Pilot Project development will include a training package; employment of part time project officers, one north and one south; recruitment of an initial cohort of 20 volunteers for each of the five areas local government areas (100 volunteers in total), three in the northern suburbs (60) and two – Rockingham and Kwinana in the south (40). After initial recruitment and training processes, a final selection of five people for each area will be appointed as OPPES peer educators.

Outcomes will be a final Resource Toolkit that can be shared with other organisations to expand the project to other areas. The aim is that the five existing areas will continue to provide the services with the support of the two CLCs providing meeting opportunities and NSCLC OPRS providing updates to the resource toolkit.
Presentations by the peer educators will be offered conversationally with individuals, promoted at events and presented to seniors groups and organisations providing services to older people.

The existing NSCLC metropolitan wide Older People’s Rights Service (OPRS) will resource information updates and take referrals where elder abuse has been disclosed or identified by the peer educator.

NSCLC partners with Advocare and delivers the OPRS legal and social assistance service to older people experiencing or who are at risk of elder abuse. Sadly, this abuse is usually perpetrated by people of trust such as family members, friends or carers. More information can be found at their webpage.


The grant is conditional on the services attracting matching funding including in kind contributions and as you can imagine, we are working on meeting these grant requirements.

**Restructure of Clinical Legal Education**

The restructuring of the clinical legal education program is detailed in Anna’s report. What a great opportunity for increased number of students to have some clinical legal education training.

**Challenges**

Funding, funding, funding. The entire community sector faces challenges to income through savings requirements to government departments. There is a growing expectation that services must self-fund through social enterprise and diversify income beyond government funding. Already these cuts have impacted on community service funding such as the loss of metropolitan financial counselling services and in CLCs we have already faced cuts this year with SCALES losing $26,000 annually with further cuts to the CLC sector forecast for 2016 and then 2017/18. We are constantly looking for opportunities to broaden our funding base.

**Community Engagement**

The very successful June 2014 Rockingham, Kwinana, Mandurah Domestic and Family Violence Conference held at the Rockingham Campus of Murdoch University reunited many relationships with organisations and individuals and raised the profile of SCALES in the community.
As a follow up to the conference, SCALES hosted a full day workshop on Victim Awareness Training presented by staff and volunteers of angelhands Inc. The workshop was presented to over 20 local service providers including SCALES’ staff. More information on angelhands can be found at their website: http://www.angelhands.org.au/

We continue to work closely with the local women’s refuge the Lucy Saw Centre for the Prevention and Intervention of Domestic and Family Violence; South Coastal Women’s Health Service, local and broader domestic and family violence services, homelessness services and networks as well as many community and broader legal profession committees.

As part of his Office for Learning and Teaching National Teaching Fellowship, Professor Jeff Giddings came to Perth to provide training on supervision. SCALES hosted the event with a full day workshop open to community lawyers, a half day workshop with SCALES staff and a late afternoon session on getting the best out of supervision for students. As always, Jeff’s presentation was interesting and challenging.

The Community Legal Centres Association WA’s move to quarterly meetings gives our staff opportunities to catch up with other CLC workers as well as achieve CPD points. This has been a great innovation.

Danielle has been active in a number of homelessness committees and events in the area. Her interest and action in this area is important to the legal service. Tenancy WA has reinvigorated the Tenant Advocate’s network and both tenant advocates attend the regular meetings. The first Tenancy Matters conference was also well attended by our staff. I will finish my time as the final steering committee member of Tenancy WA at their AGM in October.

Our relationship with local aboriginal health service Babbingur Mia has led to two presentations by staff on tenancy issues to tenants and staff. Legal and health relationships are being encouraged as research has shown people are more likely to disclose legal issues with health providers than seek legal assistance.

While we are pretty hopeless about remembering to take photos, we have a few from the past year, including our staff Christmas lunch and Amanda Blake’s wedding.

Finally, my sincere thanks go to the Management Committee who oversee the strategic direction of the organisation, for their commitment to the service but also their support to me in my role.

Gai Walker
## SCALES’ People

### Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Since</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gai Walker</td>
<td>Managing Director</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda McGow</td>
<td>Principal Solicitor; Clinic Supervisor</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Copeland</td>
<td>Director, Clinical Legal Programmes; Solicitor; Clinic Supervisor</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clea Brierley</td>
<td>Solicitor; Clinic Supervisor</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracey Collier</td>
<td>Family Violence Solicitor</td>
<td>July 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsty Fentiman</td>
<td>Solicitor; Migration Agent; Lecturer - Introduction to Legal Practice</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Blake</td>
<td>Solicitor</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Notley</td>
<td>LPM WA Coordinator</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Healey</td>
<td>Tenant Advocate; Community Legal Education Worker</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novel Alekseic</td>
<td>Finance Officer</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Horn</td>
<td>Admin Officer</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carla Michan-Ranieri</td>
<td>Admin Assistant, Murdoch</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raelene Murphy</td>
<td>Admin Assistant, Rockingham</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Patron

Chris Shanahan SC

### Management Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chairperson</th>
<th>Committee Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roz Davey, Chairperson</td>
<td>Committee Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Jones, Deputy Chairperson</td>
<td>Margaret Flower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Watts, Treasurer</td>
<td>Mieke Dixon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Makeham, Secretary</td>
<td>Daniel Chan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kylie Hansen (joined June 2015)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Members

Daniel Chan  Eric Fisher  Gai Walker
Helen Makeham  Janine Freeman MLA  Joshua Watts
Justin Jones  Kylie Hansen  Margaret Flower
Mieke Dixon  Roger Cook MLA  Roz Davey

The Lucy Saw Centre for the Prevention and Intervention of Domestic and Family Violence

Jerroldine Gilbert  Life Member since 2009

Volunteers

Thank you to all our supporters who volunteer by holding roles including Management Committee members; Lawyers Practice Manual authors; pro bono lawyers; barristers and law firms; students past and present; and other individuals who all give of their valuable time and expertise to SCALES and through us to our clients. Thank you.

Legal, Migration and Pro Bono

Richard Hooker, John Toohey Chambers  Dominic McKenna
Mary Anne Kenny, Murdoch University  Justin Dorney, Holden Barlow
Simon Freitag, Albert Wolff Chambers  SHINE Lawyers

ASSeTS

Guest Seminar Presenters

Prof Rob Guthrie, Assessor, Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal, Magistrate, DotAG
Alice Hewitt, Murdoch University Law Librarian
Helen Porter, Chief Assessor, Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal

Pro Bono Interpreters

Saeed Sharihei  April Min Din
Gizem Atasoy  Carla Michan-Ranieri

Administration Volunteers

Margaret Flower
Lawyers Practice Manual Authors

Amanda Blackburn, DG Price and Company  Andrew Robson, Legal Aid WA
Anna Liscia, Liscia Legal  Basil Newnham, APJ Legal
Bertus Devilliers, State Administrative Tribunal
Christine Slattery, Legal Aid WA  Claire Rossi, Legal Aid WA
David Garnsworthy, Howard Chambers  Dr Hal Colebatch, UNSW
Dr Craig Edwards, Notre Dame University  Sandra Boulter
Jeff Rosales-Castaneda, Equal Opportunity Commission
Joe McGrath, Director of Public Prosecutions  John Prior, Francis Burt Chambers
Judge Parry, District Court WA  Dr Kathryn Trees, Murdoch University
Lee Vickers, Mental Health Law Centre  Natasha Erlandson, Legal Aid WA
Patrick Mugliston, Park Lane Chambers  Paul Nichols, Francis Burt Chambers
Prof Robert Guthrie, Curtin University  Sarah Hazell, Department of Commerce
Stephen Walker, Fremantle Chambers  Susan Fielding, Jackson MacDonald
Tim Kennedy, College of Law  Trevor McKenna, Worrall Legal
Toni Emmanuel, Employment Law Centre

Student Volunteers

Sara Parker  Jaime Lee O’Brien

SCALES Alumni Committee

Brett Waterhouse  Khalid Hersi
Najette Alaraibi  Nia Cardian
Nicola Gannon  Pasan Wijesuriya
Rhea Thomas
Legal Practice Report

“I want to tell everybody that family violence happens to everybody. No matter how nice your house is, how intelligent you are. It can happen to anyone, and everyone. This has been an 11-year battle. You do the best you can. You're a victim, and you're helpless”.

Rosie Batty, just hours after her 11 year old son, Luke, was killed by his father.

13 February 2014

Rosie’s comment in the aftermath of this tragedy caught enough of the general public’s attention to raise awareness of family violence in the general community.

Rosie has since commented on the role of CLCs in assisting people experiencing family violence:

“I learnt from my journey as Australian of the Year how important it is for governments to listen to community services like CLCs. They are experts at working with survivors like me to achieve genuine justice for women and children affected by family violence and they need to be properly funded to do this work.”

This year, SCALES assisted 195 women experiencing family violence across a range of legal areas including tenancy, family, criminal and criminal injuries compensation.

Family Law and Family Violence

These matters make up 65% of our work in the legal practice.

In the context of parenting order matters and despite the changes to the Family Law Act, family violence continues to be a vexed issue when before the Family Court.

Even though the Act requires the Court to give weight to protecting the children from family violence over a meaningful relationship with perpetrator (usually the father), there is still a focus in the Family Court of children having a relationship with both parents.

Legal Aid funding cuts meant that grants of aid in family law matters were strictly limited to direct risk to the child, even if the client (usually the mother) has experienced ongoing violence by the perpetrator.

We are not funded to represent in family law matters, creating limits on our assistance.

In this context, we have assisted clients with initiating applications raising the family and domestic violence at the outset. This helps unrepresented clients at the interim stages of the proceedings, and does not put them in a position to agree to matters that put themselves at risk and potentially the children. We successfully advocate with legal aid when aid is refused to help the client get a grant for representation in situations involving violence.
Client Case Study 1 - Domestic and Family Violence

Our client is from a CaLD background with a one year old child.

The client came to SCALES after her ex-husband and father of their one year old child punched her in the head then held her down on the floor. He repeatedly hit her about the face and punched her in the stomach and twisted her arm. The client said she literally “saw stars” from her head being repeatedly smashed into the tiled floor.

Our client sustained several physical injuries including a broken jaw, bruises, sprained wrist and cuts to her mouth and injuries to her ear.

She said she has been living with other party verbally abusing her for the entire relationship and eventually escalating into violence six months before they separated. He also controlled where she was allowed to go and what she spent her money on.

She was granted an interim VRO protecting her and the child and binding the other party. However, the perpetrator objected, despite being charged with aggravated assault occasioning bodily harm and also breaching the interim VRO by phoning client and texting her.

SCALES gave the client legal advice about her VRO application and referrals to Safe at Home and the South Coastal Women’s Health Service FAAST counsellor.

SCALES represented the client at the mention hearing and we were able to secure an interview room at the court which client could sit in rather than wait in the same waiting area as the other party and therefore not have to see him.

SCALES negotiated with the other party who was unrepresented. He eventually consented to a final VRO being made protecting both the client and the child. Client has a final VRO for two years from the date of the mention hearing.

Client did not want to stop other party from seeing the child altogether and wanted an arrangement where he could do supervised visits at a professional supervision agency. We assisted client with an application to Legal Aid for their lawyer assisted Alternative Dispute Resolution program.

Client was very grateful for the assistance.
Tenancy

Tenancy matters make up 26% of our work in the legal practice.

We provide a wide range of tenancy services in the community including advice and casework, advocacy, representation, the weekly TACS duty service at the Rockingham Magistrates Court, community education to tenants and community workers, homelessness committee participation and liaison with other tenancy support services.

Prevention of homelessness is key to ensuring individual and family wellbeing.

Client Case Study 2 - Tenancy

SCALES assisted a social housing tenant resist an application by the Department of Housing to evict her under the “disruptive behaviour management policy”. The basis of the application was complaints made by the neighbour of “noise”.

The noise arose during incidents of violence perpetrated against the tenant by her ex-partner and father of her child.

As part of the evidence, the Department played a recording made by the neighbour that captured the client being assaulted by her ex-partner. You could hear our client screaming and begging the perpetrator to stop because their young child was in the room.

The Court decided that even though there may have been interference to the neighbour as a result of the noise; termination was not justified in circumstances that the client was dealing with a violent ex-partner.

Traffic and Criminal Matters

We saw an increase from last year in clients wanting assistance with criminal and traffic matters. With the reduction in Legal Aid funding and the closing of the Fremantle office, we expect demand for this area to increase over the next year.

SCALES is not funded to represent clients in court but we do extend our assistance to representation in particular circumstances.
Client Case Study 3 - Traffic Offence

One of these matters involved a young man whose mother was a long term client of SCALES for family and domestic violence issues. Staff at SCALES remembered her son and he came to SCALES because he was familiar with our service. The client was charged with Reckless Driving. The allegation was that the client did a “burnout” causing noise and smoke.

The client had started a business that required his driver’s licence and was working hard in difficult circumstances. A conviction on the reckless driving charge meant a mandatory loss of licence and problems with the business.

Negotiations with the police just prior to the hearing resulted in the withdrawal of the Reckless Driving and a substitution of a charge that did not carry a mandatory licence disqualification. The client was able to continue with his business and move forward with his life.

Client Case Study 4 - Criminal Charge

A female client with three young children was charged with Unlawful Wounding after she stabbed her ex-partner in the side while he was strangling her. We wrote submissions to the Prosecutor and the charge was withdrawn at the first appearance.

Not long after, the perpetrator returned to the client’s home (uninvited), broke into the house and caused thousands of dollars’ worth of damage.

Her real estate agent sent her the account for the cost to fix the damage.

We made submissions that the client did not cause or permit the damage, and all charges were withdrawn by the real estate agent.

The client no longer had a big tenancy debt over her head and was able to find safe accommodation to minimise the risk of the perpetrator returning.
Criminal Injuries Compensation

The level of assistance we provide in criminal injuries compensation matters depends very much on the complexity of the case, the vulnerability of the client and the availability of deferred fee services through private practitioners.

Respondent’s Information Session

It is recognised that dealing with the perpetrators of violence and abuse is part of the solution to stopping family violence.

SCALES plays our part in this every week when we present the Respondent’s Information Session at the Rockingham Magistrates Court.

The purpose of the session is to give respondents in VRO applications an opportunity to better understand the process, information about what the law relating to family and domestic violence, and options other than continuing to object to the order.

A satisfaction survey informs us of the demographics and the level of satisfaction of the participants. Numbers for the year included attendance by 167 people, this number is made up of 126 VRO Respondents; 40 support people and 1 legal representative.

The overall Respondent audience was made up of 78% male and 22% female with the most prominent age range for both males and females in the 21 to 40 years of age. Responses to the satisfaction survey showed a range of satisfaction with the RIS. The results were resoundingly positive.

<table>
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<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Overall satisfaction with Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very Satisfied</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satisfied</td>
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<td>Unsatisfied</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very Unsatisfied</td>
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Most Common Legal Practice Issues

Family Law

Family Law and Family Violence clients make up 65% of SCALES’ work with approximately two thirds reporting they have experienced domestic and family violence.

The most common issues include:
- Domestic and family violence
- Who a child lives with or spends time with
- Children’s matters (taking child overseas or interstate, child protection, child support, DNA testing, changing name)
- Divorce or separation
- Property – marriage, de facto, other

Criminal Law

Contrary to many people’s perception that criminal law matters are the bulk of CLC legal practice while at SCALES, less than 4% of clients are provided with legal services on the matters below.

The most common issues include:
- Road traffic and motor vehicle regulatory offences
- Theft and related offences
- Acts intended to cause injury
- Illicit drug offences

Civil Law

Civil Law is diverse with our main issues being tenancy (26% of total client numbers), immigration (5%), criminal injuries compensation, consumer and complaints against government services. Civil law clients account for just over one quarter SCALES’ work.

The most common issues include:
- Tenancy matters -termination by lessor; rent; bond; repairs; terminations by tenant or lessor, ending tenancy
- Criminal injuries compensation
- Immigration Refugee/Protection Visas
Service Statistics

From April 1997 to 30 June 2015, SCALES has provided legal services to 9,983 clients and hosted 835 law students.

In the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015, SCALES gave advice to 884 people in the form of one off advice, case work, negotiation, advocacy or representation.

Information and Referral Activities (No legal advice) 1,606

These are callers who were assisted with information and referrals where SCALES could not assist due to lack of resources, area of law or time frame needed.

Clients assisted 714

(New clients 444, Repeat clients 170; Existing Clients 100)

Advice (one off) Activities 884

Cases Open (open at period start) 109

Cases Open (opened in the period) 171

Cases Closed 189

- Minor cases closed (0-5 hrs) 71
- Medium cases closed (6-20 hrs) 67
- Major cases closed (20 hrs and over) 51

Cases Ongoing (still open) at 1 July 2015 91

Number of clients represented 106

Number of representations 169

(Note some clients were represented more than once on the same matter)

Law Clinic students 51

Practical Legal Training (PLT) students 5
Client Testimonials

For the staff, ... just a thank you for all your assistance.

It wasn’t an easy ride but with your help it made things a little easier.

Thank you!!  (Criminal Injuries Compensation)

Dear Clea,

We would like to take the opportunity to express our appreciation for your presentation here in Perth Family Relationship Centre.

Your presentation was interesting and very informative. Our staff members really enjoyed it. Should you have any further questions in relation to our service feel free to contact us.

On behalf of the Perth FRC, thank you again for a memorable presentation and we hope you will visit us again.

Regards, Mandy Drommer, Senior Manager – Family Dispute Resolution Services and Samantha Hughes, Community Development Officer

Dear Tracey

Subject: Violence Restraining Order – Thank you

I would like to express my sincere thanks for your help in obtaining the restraining order against my ex-husband last week.

This is the second time I have sought assistance from SCALES and both times I have felt very reassured with the professional and friendly manner in which the SCALES staff assisted me.

Without SCALES, I don’t know how I would have coped in this situation as it is particularly stressful not knowing the court system or having legal advice.

Tracey, I really appreciate that you met me on such short notice and with very limited time. You really took the weight off my shoulders and I felt very re-assured. We only met briefly before Court but you certainly made everything a lot easier to deal with. Thank you.
Law and Policy Reform

SCALES continues to make submissions on issues when possible.

Endorsements by SCALES and adding our name to campaign

- Refugee Council of Australia’s Call for an immediate moratorium on sending asylum seekers offshore
- WACOSS call to Commonwealth government to give more time to services who lost funding in the DSS funding round
- Refugee Council of Australia’s joint statement on AHRC Report NGO’s calling for legislative change to ensure that children are not subject to immigration detention in the future.
- UNHCR Annual Consultation, Canberra (by invitation).

Community Consultations

- Women’s Council consultation on domestic and family violence, women’s services and sexual assault
- Commissioner for Victims of Crime, Ms Jennifer Hoffman met with CLC representatives as part of the community for new integrated model for tackling family violence in the courts

Formal Submissions

- SCALES contributed to the Enhancing Family and Domestic Violence Laws Project 104 which led to the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia – Enhancing Family and Domestic Violence Laws: Final Report released in June 2013.

Following extensive discussions between SCALES staff, Amanda McGow spoke to report author Victoria Williams, we were pleased to a recommendation to extend the RIS state-wide.

RECOMMENDATION 29 [PAGE 101] Information sessions and advice for respondents to family and domestic violence protection orders That the Western Australian government investigate and consider options for providing information sessions and access to general legal advice to respondents to family and domestic violence protection order applications at all court locations across the state.

Domestic Violence Legal Workers' Network

About the Network
The DV Legal Workers Network (the Network) is a Network of legal and other professionals specialising in domestic and family violence, advocating for the rights of victims of family and domestic violence (FDV) through education, reform and capacity building.

Funding and coordination
The Network is funded by the State Attorney General’s Department and is coordinated by 4 community legal centres; Fremantle Community Legal Centre, Gosnells Community Legal Centre and SCALES community legal centre (who each employ a FDV solicitor through the funding received) and the Women’s Law Centre (who employ the Network Coordinator).

Collaborative support model
Recognising that FDV solicitors often work in isolation, the Network was developed as a collaborative support model. Regular meetings for caseworkers encourage a collegiate and collaborative approach to one’s work and ensure that solicitors are supported with opportunities for networking and collaborating, can explore and strategise ways to overcome individual casework issues, are able to collectively identify training needs, identify issues and trends within policy, law and procedure, to strategise for resolutions and reform, and to ensure the best outcomes for clients.

Resourcing the Network
The Network at large is also resourced with regular sector updates including memos, notices and reports regarding policy, law and procedural matters in relation to family and domestic violence as well as updates and overviews on training, education, programs, services and other sector-related news. This ensures that workers are informed and knowledgeable on key current issues and sharing information across agencies, and in turn, promotes better outcomes for clients.

Representation and consultation
Through the Women’s Law Centre, the Network is engaged in a number of Networks, Committees and Peak Body memberships. This allows the Network on the one hand to contribute its experience and voice to various Agendas representing victims’ rights and women’s equality, and on the other hand to have other voices
contribute to the work the Network undertakes.

Policy and law reform advocacy

One of the main ways the Network advocates for the rights of victims of FDV is by advocating for policy and legislative reform in areas likely to impact on the rights of people experiencing family and domestic violence. Our main focus on legal policy and law reform is in relation to family law, restraining orders, criminal injuries compensation, anti-discrimination, the State Prevention Strategy (FDV), the National Plan of Action to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children, the National Human Rights Action Plan and Human Rights Law. Accordingly, we undertake projects and monitor legislation in all of these areas and also in other areas as issues arise.

Some of our highlights from our work this year

Some of the highlights from the work we have undertaken this year include:

• Continuing to support CLC lawyers with networking and collaboration opportunities at the CLC Network Days of the “Quarterlies” the quarterly CPD training and networking event.

• Participation in the FDV NGO Roundtables which contribute to the governance mechanism of the State Family and Domestic Violence Prevention Strategy and it’s work plans

• Guest lecturing on law reform advocacy (particularly in relation to violence against women) for the Social and Welfare Law unit at Murdoch University for their law students

• Guest lecturing on violence against women and feminism for the Women’s Rights as Human Rights unit at Curtin University for their Master of Human Rights students

• Continued advocacy regarding the family violence court reforms and expected legislative amendments regarding restraining orders

• Promoting the GP Toolkit to capacity build GPs to deal with family and domestic violence- this included presenting a seminar at the WA Branch of the Australian Medical Association

• Training for Magenta (a service assisting sex workers) on responding to violence against women and navigating the legal landscape

We also continued our advocacy around the National Plan of Action to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children through our links with Women’s Legal Services Australia
Getting involved

If you are interested in finding out more about our policy and law reform work, are interested in contributing your views or client’s case studies or wish to be a member of the Network, please feel free to contact our centre.

On behalf of the Network, thank you to all people and organisations who contributed to the objectives of the Network this year. We sincerely appreciate your commitment to social justice and the promotion and protection of the rights of victims of FDV.

Heidi Guldbaek
Coordinator, DVLwN

FRC Legal Assistance Partnership Programme

Child disputes and family law

In recent years family law in Australia has shifted away from long and costly court battles between separating parents, towards encouraging parents to settle their disputes about the arrangements for their children, outside of Court. Underpinning the current family law system is the importance of promoting healthy family relationships, preventing conflict during separation, encouraging agreement rather than litigation and, where a child’s safety is not at risk, promoting the right of children to have meaningful relationships with both parents. This shift has partially been achieved by requiring disputing parties to attend compulsory family dispute resolution (FDR) before they are able to make an application to the Court for a parenting order. Generally (unless there is an issue of family violence/child abuse or urgency), applicants cannot file an application for a parenting order with the Court unless they have a certificate from a family dispute resolution practitioner confirming that FDR was unsuitable or an agreement was unable to be reached.

Partnering with Family Relationship Centres to provide collaborative service delivery

In December 2009 the Federal Attorney General announced funding arrangements for a 12 month Australia-wide pilot project for community legal centres (CLCs) and legal aid commissions to provide child focused early intervention legal services at Family Relationship Centres (FRCs) around Australia. FRCs provide family dispute resolution to separating parents, as well as a range of support
services to families at all stages. This change in policy was aimed at providing greater support to families in resolving their disputes and to help build a more integrated and collaborative family law system, whilst ensuring that the best interests of the child remain the primary focus of dispute resolution processes. The policy also had the intent to enable better partnerships between FRCs and legal professionals. Following this Pilot, funding for the FRC Legal Assistance Partnerships Program was allocated for a 3 year period from June 2010 - June 2013 and has now been extended to June 2015 with an additional extension until 2016.

Objectives of the Partnership Program

The Partnership Program objectives are to:

• assist clients to better understand their legal responsibilities and advise them in resolving their own disputes where possible;

• increase the FRC’s flexibility in how they provide services to separated parents;

• increase the likelihood that clients will be able to utilise legal assistance in the FRC in a timely, non-adversarial way; and

• help maximise client safety, as clients go through separation and divorce.

Operation of the FRC Legal Assistance Program in Western Australia

In Western Australia, a consortium of 13 CLCs practicing family law, in collaboration with the 7 FRCs have formed a child focused cooperative model of service delivery to collaboratively deliver non-adversarial, child focused family law services to the WA community, under the Program.

To achieve the objective, the model is inclusive of:

a) Resource Unit (hub)

The Women’s Law Centre of WA is the resource unit or “hub” for this model and facilitates networking and professional development of solicitors in the network. These hub services are managed by the program Coordinator.

b) Partnership community legal centres (spokes)

The participating CLCs or “spokes” are each partnered with a particular FRC to ensure that legal services are available to FRC clients, and delivered in partnership with FRCs in ways that enhance separating parent’s options and ability to resolve family law issues safely and in the children’s best interests. These services include the following and are negotiated individually between each partnership:

• Legal Advice appointments at FRCs;

• Legal advice by telephone, and at CLCs for FRC clients;
• Information sessions at FRCs;
• Information and referrals;
• Community legal education for FRC workers, and clients; and
• Consent orders for clients referred from FRCs, where appropriate.

The following CLCs are partnered with the respective FRCs:
• Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre ➔ Joondalup FRC
• Peel Community Legal Service ➔ Mandurah FRC
• Kimberley Community Legal Service and Pilbara Community Legal Service ➔ Broome FRC

• Geraldton Resource Centre ➔ Geraldton FRC
• Gosnells Community Legal Centre, Goldfields Community Legal Centre, Sussex Street Community Law Service ➔ Midland FRC
• Albany Community Legal Centre, Bunbury Community Legal Centre ➔ Bunbury FRC
• SCALES Community Legal Centre, Sussex Street Community Law Service, Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre, Fremantle Community Legal Centre, Women's Law Centre ➔ Perth FRC

Network activities over the 2014/2015 year

This year, some of the Networks activities included:
• Ongoing participation in the Steering Committee and Conference and Seminar sub-committees of the Family Law Pathways Network
• Organising a session through the Family Law Pathways Network about VROs, FDR and FCWA applications
• Facilitating and participating in FDV Networking and referral forum in conjunction with the Family Pathways Network
• Contributing to the development of a “Case law catch-up” that explored the practical implications of two VRO appeal cases
• Holding regular family law network meetings for lawyers to network, liaise, collaborate and support each other
• Contributing to the organisation and planning of the Annual Family Law Pathways Network Conference which was highly regarded with keynote speakers David Mandel and Cathy Boland We also developed a family law info session on children’s issues with the view to providing these sessions to clients at FRCs.
However, due to recent funding cuts it is unlikely that CLCs will be able to provide this additional service.

WLCWA would like to thank all CLCs and FRCs involved in the Partnership Program for their commitment to collaborative service delivery. We look forward to striving to continually improve our collaborative service delivery approaches to ensure the best outcomes for clients and their children.

Heidi Guldbaek
FRC Programme Coordinator
Clinical Legal Education Report

The development of Clinical Legal Education has continued this year picking up pace.

The Clinic has once again had a cracking year. We have continued to offer the three clinical units (General, Family and Human Rights) and student demand has continued to rise. This growing level of demand was a major motivation to restructure the program, along with the growing needs of the SCALES practice to have students with competencies that allowed them to really engage in the practice. The result has been a whole new structure for our undergraduate program which will be rolled out next year (see the outline below).

Another fabulous development this year has been adding Kirsty Fentiman to our team. While Kirsty has had a long affiliation with SCALES and the clinic it was with great pleasure that we were able to offer her an ongoing position in the clinic. While based at our Murdoch Office, she spends at least two days a week at the Rockingham office and has been a valuable addition to our supervision team.

In addition to our restructure of the undergraduate program, we continue to offer a small number of our alumni to return and undertake their practical legal placement within the Clinical programme.

This means that students can meet the practice requirements needed for admission into all Australian jurisdictions. This development has also enriched our undergraduate programme by providing more senior students to act as peer supports.

We are delighted to report that our first ‘batch’ of PLT have completed their hours and been admitted, these were Rosie Blakey-Scholes, Brett Waterhouse, Rhea Thomas and Nia Cardian.

I had the pleasure of moving Rhea and Nia’s admission myself. (photo)

Another major development this year has been the establishment of our Alumni group. Headed up by our PLT graduates alongside a growing number of past students this group has got off to a great start and we look forward to seeing what they achieve over the next year.
In addition, the CLE programme at Murdoch continues to be an active part of a national research project in Clinical Legal Education which saw the publication this year of the *Best Practices in Australian Legal Education* [http://law.monash.edu.au/about-us/legal/olt-project](http://law.monash.edu.au/about-us/legal/olt-project). This publication drew on a wide survey of existing clinical work and serves as a timely and useful guide for clinicians. The project which was undertaken by 6 Clinical legal Educators from across the country will culminate in the publication of a more discursive book later this year.

The developments and successes of this programme are only possible due to the wonderful and generous collaboration with SCALES Community Legal Centre. SCALES is a remarkable success story in itself; we are very lucky and grateful to be able to run our clinic within the SCALES’ practice.

**New clinic structure**

In 2016 a new elective unit, *Introduction to Legal Practice*, will be introduced to the undergraduate law program. All students interested in enrolling in one of the three clinic units will now be required to successfully complete the new unit. The unit will run in a blended mode and will involve online study in conjunction with weekly seminars. The University is introducing new technologies to enhance the student learning experience and we will be working with the Centre for Teaching and Learning to develop the online environment using some new innovative technologies.

The unit is designed to enhance the skills which are necessary for students to work successfully in the various legal clinics. Some of the skills to be covered include interviewing of clients, writing letters and affidavits and reflective practice.

As we are moving to the new structure, no legal clinics will run during Semester 1, 2016. From mid-2016 students who successfully complete the new unit will be considered for a place in one of the clinical units running in following semesters. The new structure should ensure that students coming in to the clinics have the necessary skills and competencies to work with clients in a positive and engaging way from early on in the semester. If students do not go on to complete a clinical unit, the new unit will equip them with some essential skills that will be useful for their future careers.

**Human Rights Clinic Report**

The Human Rights Clinic based on campus at Murdoch has had another very good and busy year, we have continued to work in the areas of Housing Rights, Coronial Inquests, Prison Conditions, Refugee and asylum law and many other areas. The decision last year to develop practice areas has paid off as staff and students have been able to develop an expertise in particular areas of human rights practice.
This expertise has been used for the benefit of our cases, but also in order to reach out to other practitioners, students and researchers. This has happened most tangibly in the establishment of our Human Rights in Context Seminar Series, which has seen a number of seminars, workshops and speakers discuss human rights issue that engage with our day to day practice. We have also developed further some of the collaborations we established last year including with SHINE lawyers, The Humanitarian Group (previously CASE for Refugees) and ASSeTS to name just a few.

These collaborations have benefited our students as they broaden the depth of practice experience the students are exposed to and model collaboration and multidisciplinary practice.

### Media Coverage on systemic issues: Clinical Programme (Murdoch)

We have engaged with the media on a number of human rights issues including.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 June 2015</td>
<td>Reportage online</td>
<td><strong>Interview about crowd funding for legal matters</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion of the new law funder campaign website and why SCALES decided to crowd fund through them. Considered the future of crowd funding in the legal space.</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 May 2015</td>
<td>ABC radio Drive time</td>
<td><strong>Interview about the Character Provisions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Barry Nichols discussed with Anna Copeland the meaning of the character provisions and whether they are reasonable</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 July 2014</td>
<td>Channel News Asia; News</td>
<td><strong>Interview regarding the Sri Lankans being held off shore</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion of the unprecedented steps taken by the Australian Government to keep a boat of Sri Lankans in Australian vessels with a view to returning them.</td>
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Anna Copeland  
Director  
Clinical Programs

Kirsty Fentiman  
Lecturer  
Clinical Legal Education
SCALES Alumni Committee

The SCALES Alumni Committee was established in March 2015 by a few SCALES’ alumni under the guidance of Anna Copeland to formalise and strengthen the network of SCALES alumni, reconnect current and former students, organise events and generally assist in raising awareness for the work done by SCALES.

The current alumni committee members are: Najette Alaraibi, Nia Cardian, Nicola Gannon, Khalid Hersi, Rhea Thomas, Brett Waterhouse, and Pasan Wijesuriya.

The committee is always open to hearing from SCALES alumni who are looking to assist in organising future events. Any person who has ideas to contribute is also encouraged to contact the committee. Please send an email to scalesalumni@gmail.com for any queries or information.

Alumni Committee with Anna and guests

L-R (rear) Khalid Hersi, Rhea Thomas, Nia Cardian, Nicola Gannon; L- R (centre) Najette Alaraibi, Pasan Wijesuriya, Brett Waterhouse, L-R (Front) Anna Copeland and the amazing guest speakers Joan Wanyama, the Venerable Pragga Nanda Sraman who are former clients of SCALES and Rabia Siddique humanitarian, speaker and author
Law Clinic Students

Semester 2 2014

L390 General
Alexander Huber
Ebinezer Assibey-Bonsu
Elita Petrelis
James Illich
Kathleen Breese
Michael Stulic
Sara Parker
Sarah Bailey
Sarah Bates
Sarah Bevan
Sarah Ward
Victoria Stanley

L385 Family
Alexandra Alecu
Krysten Russo-Battagliolo
Lisa Kitchen
Vanessa Pullella

L385 Human Rights
Amrit Kaur
Christian Duplock
Dannia Menon
Joelle Lee
Lisa van Toor
Michael Fitzpatrick
Nayu Hosokawa
Reem Al-Bahadri
Robert Chasland
Vaness Kiuna

Human Rights Interns
Brett Waterhouse
Nia Cardian
Rhea Thomas
Rosie Blakey-Scholes
Staff and students having lunch with CIC Assessor Professor Rob Guthrie and Chief Assessor Helen Porter after their Criminal Injuries Compensation presentation to students.
Student Gallery

Semester Two 2014 Thursday Group

Semester Two 2014 Tuesday Group
Semester Two 2014 Wednesday Family Group

 Semester One 2015 Thursday Group

 Semester One 2015 Tuesday Group
Semester One 2015 Wednesday Family Group

Semester One 2015 Human Rights Thursday Group

Semester One 2015 Tuesday Human Rights Group
Student Testimonials

... The legal skills that I have developed through SCALES have given me much more confidence in my skills and my ability to use those skills to assist people.

Clea and Amanda are incredible. I have learned so much from both of them, they are super lawyers! They are inspiring and have taught me so much about the lawyer I want to be. I am privileged and grateful that my legal career began with two top lawyers at SCALES.

And ... this unit should be a core unit!!!

Sara Parker, General, S2, 2014

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work in social justice as it gave me an insight into what type of lawyer I would like to become.

Vanessa Kiuna, Human Rights, S2 2014

It is a must-do unit and is one of the main reasons why the Murdoch Law School stands out from other Law Schools. I would also like to thank Anna for being a great supervisor who was always strict but fair...

Michael Fitzpatrick, Human Rights, S2 2014

SCALES was a fantastic experience where I learned a great deal, far more than any other legal experience I had to date.

Mathias Morgan, General, S1 2015

I learnt so much from working with the clients and solicitors on real cases. I appreciated the feedback and the challenges from the solicitors and learned a great deal from them. I consider it a privilege to have had the opportunity to learn in a practical environment and am grateful for every experience that came with it.

Jaime O’Brien, Family, S1 2015

I believe that a practical component should be an essential prerequisite to the completion of a law degree. Clea and Amanda are extremely knowledgeable and approachable and they are both an asset to the SCALES experience

Cayli Bloch, General, S1 2015

I learnt far more than I thought and believe I received a much broader learning experience as SCALES touched on so many areas. It has been an amazing experience.

Clementine Kohler, General, S1 2015
I have improved my writing, research, and communication skills more than I did in any other subject. Without a doubt, this is the best and most interesting unit I’ve enrolled in at Murdoch.

_Hesham Mahdi, General, S1 2015_

SCALES has been the highlight of my Law degree. At the beginning of this semester I really thought that I did not have ‘what it takes’ to be a lawyer. I underestimated myself and what I was capable of. I am so thankful for this opportunity.

SCALES has been a great experience overall. Honestly. I would 100% recommend this unit to other students.

_Michael Dias, Human Rights, S1 2015_

I have absolutely loved my times at SCALES and appreciate the inspiration that Clea and Amanda have given me to practice law. I hope to be back at SCALES one day in the near future.

_Kathleen Breese, Family, S1 2015_

I am really proud and satisfied that I was able to be part of such a wonderful experience. I have learnt so much during my time at the Clinic and I will be forever grateful. Thank you Kirsty and Anna for being such wonderful mentors, I really appreciate all of your kindness, help and guidance throughout the semester.

_Gabrielle Vuleta, Human Rights, S1 2015_

This experience provided a supportive environment to learn about myself as a lawyer, my strengths and weakness and the work I enjoy doing. The work was emotionally and legally challenging, this made the work very interesting and also allowed me to put my skills to the test and have a practical experience of learning whilst doing.

_Michelle Trainer, Human Rights, S1 2015_
Community Legal Education

Community legal education (CLE) provides information to the community in many forms and formats including fact sheets, brochures, video, art, music and theatre as well as in personal presentations. We do our best to provide information within our limited resources. Sadly interpretive dance is beyond our resources at this point.

I have separated the Respondent’s Information Session into a separate article as I feel it is an important project with the potential for far reaching effect for the community.

The scope of CLE at SCALES is personal presentations to groups, facilitating others to present to local workers and attending events where we can raise our profile in the community. Much of this work is prepared and coordinated by Danielle Healey.

Presentations on SCALES, community legal centres and/or legal matters

- Babbingur Mia workshop on bond issues to tenants
- Babbingur Mia workshop on eviction and assisting clients going to court to workers
- Hosted angelhands Victim Awareness Training for 20 community workers
- Presentation to legal studies, social and welfare law unit on DV
- Presentation on SCALES and CLCs to CD students Murdoch campus
- Presentation to solicitors and FRC workers in the FRC CLC network
- Tenancy workshop for tenancy and accommodation providers
- Presentation to Soroptimists Rockingham
- CPD Presentation to Perth FRC and DVLWN network

Information stalls at community events

- Rockingham Community Fair
- Murdoch Open Day
- Rockingham Seniors and Carers Expo
- Perth Law Careers Fair
Lawyers Practice Manual Western Australia

The Lawyers Practice Manual WA (LPMWA) is a collaboration between SCALES and Thomson Reuters, providing chapters in specialised areas of law, written in practical and accessible terms.

My role as Coordinator is to ensure the LPMWA maintains its usefulness and currency. This includes monitoring legislative and policy changes; liaison with authors for updates and sourcing new authors for chapters where an author has retired or a new chapter is commissioned. I also liaise with Thomson Reuters about scheduling chapter publication and discussion regarding potential new chapters.

The LPMWA has been supporting the legal profession since 2005. Thanks to every author who write and review chapters. I am very pleased to report that we have quadrupled the number of chapters reviewed this financial year.

Our sincere thanks are extended to authors of chapters written this year.

Dr Kathryn Trees, Murdoch University - 1.5 Working with Aboriginal Clients. Dr Trees’ expertise in dealing with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People informs lawyers on appropriate ways to support ATSI clients dealing with the justice system.

Anna Liscia, Liscia Legal - 1.6 Practice Management. Anna, thanks for ensuring this chapter was ready to be published as soon as the significant amendments to practicing certificates were enacted on 1 April.

Andrew Robson, Legal Aid WA - 3.8 Pleas in mitigation, 3.9 Driving offences and 3.11 Social security fraud: Andrew wrote three chapters this year and other chapters in previous years, we appreciate his generous contribution of time and expertise.

Natasha Erlandson, Legal Aid WA - 3.10 Stealing from a retail store. Natasha wrote this chapter and we appreciate her continued support.

Trevor McKenna, Worrall Legal - 5.2 Primary dispute resolution in family law. Trevor is another longstanding supporter of the LPMWA. In addition to his existing chapters, Trevor has offered to write two new family law chapters. We would like to congratulate him on his recent promotion to the head of family law at Worrall Law.

Susan Fielding SC, Jackson MacDonald - 13.1 Drafting a Will. Susan has authored this chapter since 2011. Congratulations on being awarded the 2015 WLWA Woman Lawyer of the Year. We wish you a long and happy retirement and all the very best for the future.
Current Reviews

Thanks to our hardworking authors who are conducting updates and reviews.

David Garnsworthy, Howard Chambers - 1.2 Professional Ethics and 1.3 Cost Complaints and Discipline

Patrick Mugliston, Park Lane Chambers – 1.4 Acting for Clients with HIV AIDS; 3.3 Bail Applications

Patrick Mugliston and Paul Nichols, Francis Burt Chambers - 3.4 Drug Offences and the Drug Court

Patrick Mugliston and Dr Hal Colbatch, - 3.5 Appeals to the Supreme Court and 3.6 Preparation and Conduct of Matters in the Magistrate’s Court

Joe McGrath, Director of Public Prosecutions – 3.7 Acting for a Client in Coroner’s Court

Amanda Blackburn, DG Price and Company - 3.12 Procedures on Indictment

Stephen Walker, Fremantle Chambers – 4.1 Child Protection Orders

Dr Craig Edwards, Notre Dame University - 9.2 Guardianship, Administration and Substitute Decision Makers

Basil Newnham, APJ Legal – 19.2 Technology

New Chapters

In order to ensure the LPMWA is current additional chapters are being developed for publication in the coming year.

Trevor McKenna is working on two new family law chapters – on Property Law and on Document Management. This will mean the Manual covers the key areas of family law: children, property, dispute resolution, child support including forms and processes.

Previous Contributions

Thanks to the authors listed below for their contributions to the LPMWA and we wish them well for the future.

Judge Parry – District Court

Bertus Devilliers – State Administrative Tribunal

Tim Kennedy – College of Law

Toni Emmanuel – Employment Law Centre

Sandra Boulter

Susan Fielding

Welcome to our New Authors

The base of authors and areas of law being published in the LPMWA continues to expand. We welcome the following practitioners who have joined the LPMWA team this year:

Prof Robert Guthrie, Curtin Graduate School of Business – 3.1 Criminal Injuries

Claire Rossi, Legal Aid WA – 4.2 Criminal Prosecutions of Young People

Sarah Hazell, Department of Commerce – 8.1 Incorporation of Community Groups

Jeff Rosales-Castanada, Equal Opportunity Commission – 10.2 Antidiscrimination (WA)
Thomson Reuters Visit

In December 2014 I had the pleasure to meet with the Commissioning Editor Karolyn Liu and Senior Commissioning Editor Alison McLennan at the Sydney Thomson Reuters office, we discussed development and enhancing content for the Manual in Western Australia.

Thomson Reuters maintain strong support for the Manual in WA.

Subscribers include Universities, law libraries as well as individual subscribers. The Manual is available both in hard copy and the more popular electronic format.

Thomson Reuters gives our authors an ex-Gratia electronic subscription as an acknowledgement of the time and commitment given by the authors to the Manual. CPD points are also not available.

It is my privilege to be the WA Co-ordinator for this most worthwhile publication, and my thanks go to the team at SCALES and Thomson-Reuters for their support and ongoing encouragement.

Anna Notley
Coordinator LPMWA
Committees and Networks

Staff members participate in the following committees and networks:

- CLCAWA Legal Practice and Profession Indemnity Committee
- Clinical Legal Education Network Australia
- Community Legal Education Workers Network WA
- Domestic Violence Legal Workers and Coordinators Networks (DVLWN)
- Family Abuse and Advocacy Support Team (FAAST)
- Family Law Network, CLCAWA
- Family Law Network, CLCAWA
- Human Rights Teachers Network
- Lawyers Practice Manual WA Editorial Committee
- Legal Centres Refugee Network
- Mandurah Family Relationships Centre Consortium
- National Human Rights Network
- Rockingham Family Violence Court Operational Committee
- Rockingham/Kwinana Family and Domestic Violence Action Group
- Rockingham/Kwinana Homeless Interagency Group
- School of Law Research Committee
- South West Metropolitan Regional Working Group on Homelessness
- St Nicholas Community Centre Management Committee
- Tenancy WA Board of Management
- VRO Sub-Group, Rockingham Family Violence Court
- WA CLCs Family Relationships Centre Consortium
- WA Tenancy Networks – Managers and Tenant Advocates
Memberships

- Community Legal Centres Association WA
- Family Law Practitioners Association
- Law Society of Western Australia
- Migration Agent Regulation Authority (MARA)
- Migration Institute of Australia
- National Association of Community Legal Centres
- Refugee Council of Australia
- Shelter WA
- Tenancy WA
- WA Council of Social Services (WACOSS)
- Women’s Council for Family and Domestic Violence Services (WA)
Access and Equity

SCALES is committed to equality and justice.

We recognise that there are barriers to access to justice for specific groups including Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, People with disabilities, People from non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB) and culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CaLD), People from non-Anglo Saxon Celtic backgrounds, Young people, Older people, Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Transgender and Intersex people, People living in poverty and People living with HIV and AIDS, Refugees and asylum seekers.

We strive to create a society where all members of society can participate fully and have their contributions recognised. SCALES’ role is the provision of legal services to vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the community and training to clinical legal education to students. We work towards the removal of barriers in both these areas and towards a fully inclusive and participatory society. To achieve this, our organisation has to be both accessible and equitable.

SCALES strives to provide an accessible service, with particular reference to the following:

**Physical surroundings:**
- Accessible by public transport (bus stop 100 metres from building).
- Access for people with disabilities (wide doorways, ground floor, disabled parking within 10 metres, play area, toys and activities for children etc).
- Interview rooms with enough room to accommodate wheel chairs, prams and support people to attend interviews.
- Environment with artwork, posters, information for people from diverse backgrounds.

**Service attributes**
- Flexible free client centred service including the option for telephone advice in appropriate circumstances.
- Friendly, welcoming atmosphere at reception.
- Appropriately qualified Interpreters are provided free for all clients who need them where available including Auslan and other languages.

**Attitudinal**
- Respectful service to diverse cultures including religion, young people, indigenous people, people from NESB, same sex and transgender people
- A commitment to access and equity underpins all operations of SCALES.
- SCALES’ staff, students and volunteers must operate within SCALES’ access and equity policies.
Income

Funding is a cause of concern for community organisations. SCALES is no different. This year we lost $27,000 in Commonwealth funds commencing 1 July 2015. Some centres where the Commonwealth is their main funder were hit harder than SCALES with some centres losing up to $100,000. This year’s Commonwealth budget informed that there will be a further large cut in funds in the 2017/2018 financial year, up to 30% cuts in some cases.

Diversification of funding sources and social enterprise are common discussions at CLC meetings. While we are in a better position than some CLCs we are not complacent and continually seek opportunities for further and stable funding.

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<tr>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<td>Murdoch University, School of Law</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>Clinical Legal Education</td>
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<td>CCLSP</td>
<td>$217,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomson Reuters</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Lawyer’s Practice Manual WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lotterywest</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>Balance of grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>$9,500</td>
<td>Interest, rebates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL OPERATING INCOME** $865,500

In Kind Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murdoch University</td>
<td>$33,500</td>
<td>IT Support, EAP, training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Law, Murdoch University</td>
<td>$165,500</td>
<td>Salary 1 FTE Senior Lecturer and part time Admin position</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL IN KIND** $199,000

**TOTAL OPERATING INCOME AND IN KIND** $1,064,500

CCLSP  Commonwealth Community Legal Services Programme
CLSP WA  Community Legal Services Programme Western Australia
DCPFS  Department for Child Protection and Family Support
DoC  Department of Commerce
DVLWN  Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network
Treasurer’s Report

Statement of Operations


This deficit in the current year, as following on from a surplus in the 2014 year, is largely reflective of the continued reduction in government grants received by SCALES, an experience shared by government supported not-for-profit legal centres as a whole. A further reduction in operating revenue occurred through the discontinuance of tenancy advice services contract during the year.

Despite this, SCALES maintains a healthy balance sheet, largely through further drives for costs control.

Statement of Financial Position

The continued operating surpluses has ensured that the balance sheet remains strong; net current assets of $236,604 and total net assets of $269,132.

As set out in Note 4(a), cash and cash equivalents includes $200,657 of short-term deposits. These funds have been set aside from the cash at hand to settle any long-term employment liabilities as and when they arise. Employee entitlements continue to grow each period as SCALES retains the large majority of staff members and their entitlements continue to accumulate.

They have been measured in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, which requires estimates by management of the likelihood of settlement of present entitlements as well as adjustments in recognition of the time value of money.

As set out in Note 7, there was no capital additions during the year. Depreciation for the year is $15,068, reducing the written down value of property, plant and equipment from $46,596 in 2014 to $32,528 in the current year.

Treasurer’s Statement

In my role of Treasurer, I am extremely grateful for the continuing assistance I receive from all staff and Management Committee Members, in particular Managing Director Gai Walker and Finance Officer Novela Aleksic.

During the year, I have seen a continued abundance of enthusiasm for the continued advancement of SCALES, by both staff and the Management Committee members, especially in the uncertain funding environment.

I continue to look forward to seeing the benefits derived by the community from the valuable services provided by SCALES.

Joshua Watts
Auditor's Report

Thompson Hughes & Co
Certified Practising Accountants

4 Paxton Way
Port Kennedy
WA 6172
PO Box 8118
Wanneroo
WA 6069

Telephone: 08 9524 6666
Fax: 08 9524 6666
Email: mailbox@thompsonhughes.com.au

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY
LEGAL AND EDUCATION SERVICE INC


We have audited the accompanying financial report as set out on pages 1 to 10, being a special purpose financial report, of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. (the association) for the year ended 30 June 2015.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Association Incorporation Act Western Australia and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also include designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is the 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 report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. 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 report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation 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 entity'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.
The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee’s financial reporting obligations under the Associations Incorporation Act Western Australia. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

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 Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Auditor’s Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. as at 30 June 2014 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the Associations Incorporation Act Western Australia.

THOMPSON HUGHES & CO

ALAN THOMPSON
27 July 2015
Auditor's Certification

Southern Communities Advocacy Legal & Education Service Inc
Year ended 30 June 2015

I hereby certify that:

a) I am not a principal, member, shareholder, officer, employee or accountant of the Organisation or of a related body corporate as defined in section 9 of the Corporations Act 2001;

b) In my opinion, the attached financial statements which comprise a Balance Sheet (Statement of Financial Position), a Statement of Operations (Statement of Comprehensive Income), a Statement of Changes in Equity, a Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements of the above mentioned Organisation ("the Organisation") for the stated Financial Year are:
   i) Based on proper accounts and present fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and
   ii) In accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement --- -----, a copy of which has been made available to me, in relation to the provision of community legal services.

c) The Statement of Comprehensive Income is provided in respect of Funds for all Funding Categories.

d) The audit opinion to which this certification refers is unqualified.

e) In my opinion there is no conflict of interest between myself and the Organisation or its Management Committee.

Signed: _____________________________________________

Alan Thompson
Registered Company Auditor No 13797

Thompson Hughes & Co
27 July 2015
## Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ending 30 June 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating revenues</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,064,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(1,081,934)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating surplus/(deficit) before net finance benefit/(costs)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(17,428)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance income</td>
<td></td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(4,428)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening balance of accumulated surplus</td>
<td></td>
<td>273,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing balance of accumulated surplus</td>
<td></td>
<td>269,152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current assets</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>380,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other receivables</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3,596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>398,432</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-current assets</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant &amp; equipment</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>37,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total non-current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>32,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>431,960</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current liabilities</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other payables</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20,443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee entitlements</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>134,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>152,828</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-current liabilities</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total non-current liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>152,828</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>299,132</td>
<td>273,581</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equity</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated surplus</td>
<td></td>
<td>273,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current year surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(4,428)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Equity</td>
<td></td>
<td>299,132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.
Unit 3, 14 Council Avenue
ROCKINGHAM  WA 6168
ABN 57 402 785 795

Statement of Changes In Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Accumulated Surplus</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 June 2013</td>
<td>268,879</td>
<td>268,879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating surplus(deficit)</td>
<td>14,681</td>
<td>14,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 June 2014</td>
<td>273,560</td>
<td>273,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating surplus</td>
<td>(4,428)</td>
<td>(4,428)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 June 2015</td>
<td>269,132</td>
<td>269,132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.
Unit 3, 14 Council Avenue
ROCKINGHAM WA 6168
ABN 57 402 765 794

Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ending 30 June 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts from funders, donations and government grants (GST Inc)</td>
<td>663,471</td>
<td>1,073,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments to suppliers and employee (GST Inc)</td>
<td>(877,549)</td>
<td>(1,065,218)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>12,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Cash used in Operating Activities</td>
<td>(1,078)</td>
<td>20,845</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(1,460)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash used in Investing Activities</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(1,460)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Increase in Cash

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Increase in Cash</td>
<td>(1,078)</td>
<td>19,185</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash at beginning of financial year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash at beginning of financial year</td>
<td>382,041</td>
<td>(362,856)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash at end of the financial year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash at end of the financial year</td>
<td>380,963</td>
<td>382,041</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.
Unit 3, 14 Council Avenue
ROCKINGHAM WA 6168
ABN 57 492 785 795

Notes to and forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 30th June 2015

NOTE 1 - Statement of Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of preparation and statement of compliance

This special purpose financial report is prepared in order to provide financial statements which
satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1987 to prepare accounts. The Management Committee
has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity as defined in Statement of Accounting
Concepts 1 - "Definition of the Reporting Entity" and therefore, there is no requirement to apply accounting concepts
or standards in the preparation and presentation of these statements, none have been adopted
intentionally.

The statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1987.
The statements are prepared on an accrual basis, whereby items are brought to account using the concept of
matching expenditure with revenue. They are based on historical cost values except where specifically stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, in that the Association will continue to meet its commitments and can therefore continue normal operating activities which includes the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of operations.

In arriving at this position the Management Committee have considered the following pertinent matters: the level of ongoing financial support from Murdoch University, state and federal governments and other external contributing bodies will be achieved and as such believe the going concern basis to be appropriate.

Where possible, but without jeopardising the true and fair view of the financial position and performance to which
the financial statements are prepared to reflect, the report complies with applicable Australian Accounting Standards
and other mandatory professional reporting requirements (including exposure Group Interpretations) unless otherwise stated
below. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this financial report, as described below, are, in the opinion
of the directors, appropriate to meet the needs of its users.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

The requirements of Accounting Standards and other financial reporting requirements in Australia do not have mandatory applicability because the Association is not a "reporting entity" and it is a not-for-profit organisation not governed by the Corporations Act 2001. Accordingly, the management committee have prepared the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other financial reporting requirements in Australia with the following exceptions:

AASB 7 - Financial Instruments: Disclosures
AASB 112 - Income Taxes
AASB 124 - Related Party Disclosures
AASB 132 - Financial Instruments: Presentation
AASB 1004 - Contributions

(b) Foreign currencies

Translation of foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are converted to Australian dollars at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction.

Amounts payable to and by the Association that are outstanding at the balance date and are denominated in foreign currencies have been converted to
Australian dollars using rates of exchange ruling at the end of the financial year.

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at bank, and short term deposits readily convertible to cash.
(d) Trade and other receivables
Trade receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less any provision for doubtful debts. A provision for doubtful debts is made when there is objective evidence that the Association will not be able to collect the debts. Bad debts are written off when identified.

(e) Property, plant and equipment
Plant and equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Such cost includes the cost of replacing parts that are eligible for capitalisation when the cost of replacing parts is incurred. Similarly, when each major repair is performed, its cost is recognised in the carrying amount of the plant and equipment as a replacement only if it is eligible for capitalisation.

Depreciation is provided on a straight line and diminishing balance basis on all property, plant and equipment, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to allocate the cost or value less estimated residual value at the end of the useful lives of the assets against revenue over their estimated useful lives.

Impairment
The carrying values of plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

For an asset that does not generate largely independent cash inflows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

If any such indication exists and where the carrying values exceed the estimated recoverable amount, the assets or cash-generating units are written down to their recoverable amount.

The recoverable amount of plant and equipment is the greater of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

De-recognition and disposal
An item of property, plant and equipment is de-recognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

Any gain or loss arising on de-recognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in profit or loss in the year the asset is de-recognised.

(f) Revenue recognition
Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Association and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised.

Contributions
Contribution revenue is recognised when the entity obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution unless it is attached to the fulfillment of a service program in which it is recognised on a matching basis with respect to the stage of completion of the program.

Rendering of services
Revenue from services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion. Stage of completion is measured by reference to labour hours incurred to date as a percentage of total estimated labour hours for each contract.

Where the contract outcome cannot be measured reliably, revenue is recognised only to the extent of the expenses recognised that are recoverable.
(f) Revenue recognition (continued)

Interest
Revenue is recognised as the interest accrues using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the relevant period using the effective interest rate, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

Government grants
Government grants are recognised at their fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attaching conditions will be complied with.

When the grant relates to an expense item, it is recognised as income over the periods necessary to match the grant on a systematic basis to the costs that it is intended to compensate.

(g) Employee benefits

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave.

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave and any other employee benefits expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. All other employee benefit liabilities are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. In determining the present value of future cash outflows, the market yield as at the reporting date on national government bonds, which have terms to maturity approximating the terms of the related liability, are used.

(h) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are carried at amortised costs and represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Association prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid and arise when the Association becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of these goods and services.

(i) Leases

The determination of whether an arrangement is or contains a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement and requires an assessment of whether the substance of the arrangement is dependent on the use of a specific asset or assets and the arrangement conveys a right to use the asset.

Association as a lessee

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Lease incentives are recognised in the income statement as an integral part of the total lease expense.

(j) Income tax

Income Taxes

Under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 (as amended) the Association is exempt from income tax.
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.
Unit 3, 54 Council Avenue
ROCKINGHAM WA 6168
ABN 57 402 785 785

Notes to and forming part of the accounts (continued)

(i) Income tax (continued)
Other taxes
Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- where the GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the taxation authority, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item as applicable, and
- receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of trade and other receivables in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingent liabilities are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note 2 - INCOME</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>801,447</td>
<td>1,054,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services received in kind</td>
<td>158,044</td>
<td>158,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>2,574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other grants</td>
<td>3,979</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,064,506</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,280,337</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note 3 - OPERATING EXPENSES</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; administration</td>
<td>120,371</td>
<td>126,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation expense</td>
<td>14,068</td>
<td>25,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; wages</td>
<td>942,494</td>
<td>1,105,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,081,634</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,257,837</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 4 - RECONCILIATION OF CASH

a) Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Petty Cash float</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank</td>
<td>170,264</td>
<td>203,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration Aid Fund</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short term deposits</td>
<td>200,567</td>
<td>177,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>386,063</td>
<td>380,541</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b) Reconciliation of Net Cash used in Operating Activities to Operating Results

- Operating result
  **add/(deduct) non-cash items:**
  - Depreciation
    14,098 25,388
  - Changes in assets and liabilities
    - (Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables
      (2,091) 12,469
    - (Increase)/decrease in other assets
      181 2,099
    - Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables
      (12,022) (39,450)
    - Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements
      3,714 (8,159)
  - **Net cash provided by Operating Activities**
    - (1,078) 8,898

Note 5 - TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trade debtors</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>1,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other receivables</td>
<td>3,250</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,556</td>
<td>1,787</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 6 - OTHER ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>7,680</td>
<td>7,741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7,310</td>
<td>7,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>14,990</td>
<td>15,052</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 7 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WDV At 30 June 2014</td>
<td>Additions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>11,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furn.</td>
<td>25,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>5,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Plots</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>46,056</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less Disposal</td>
<td>Cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 30 June 2015</td>
<td>At 30 June 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furn.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Plots</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 7 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (continued)

for the year ended 30th June 2014

2014

$  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WDV</th>
<th>Additions</th>
<th>Depreciation</th>
<th>WDV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>15,640</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fum.</td>
<td>38,650</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>18,695</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>13,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fitout</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>73,325</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,090</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,386</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WDV</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Acc. Dep't</th>
<th>WDV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>At 30 June 2014</td>
<td>30,947</td>
<td>11,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fum.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>35,439</td>
<td>29,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>6,010</td>
<td>48,395</td>
<td>5,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fitout</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>804</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,010</strong></td>
<td><strong>157,931</strong></td>
<td><strong>111,335</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 8 - TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable (incl GST)</td>
<td>27,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts</td>
<td>849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>28,912</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 9 - EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual leave as at 30/6/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/(decrease) in provisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual leave as at 30/6/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long service leave as at 30/6/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases/(decrease) in provisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long service leave as at 30/6/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Employment Entitlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 10 - AUDITOR REMUNERATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audit fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 11 - GOODS & SERVICES RECEIVED IN KIND

In-kind contribution from Murdoch University School of Law for the year ended 30 June 2015 was $198,944 (2014 $198,944) comprising: Senior Lecturer wages of $168,045; Admin wages of $7,209 (2014- $165,644) and $33,500 (2014- $33,500) IT support and EAP. A second Law Clinic supervisory position is provided by funding to SCALES and is noted as income in this report.

Note 12 - CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no known contingent liabilities at balance date.

Note 13 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

No significant events have occurred after balance date which would materially affect either the Association's operations or results of those operations.
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.
Unit 3,14 Council Avenue
ROCKINGHAM WA 6168
ABN 67 402 768 765

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S DECLARATION

The Management Committee have determined that the Association is not a reporting entity. They have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The Management Committee of the Association declares that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 11
   a) Comply with accounting standards as detailed in Note 1 to the financial statements and the Associations Incorporation Act 1987; and
   b) give a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

2. In the Management Committee's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts when they become due and payable on the basis as set out in Note 1 (a).

This statement is made in accordance with the Resolution of the Management Committee.

[Signatures]

Joshua Watts
Treasurer

[Signature]

Managing Director

Page 11
Recollections of the Year

While we are pretty hopeless about remembering to take photos, we have a few from the past year, including our staff Christmas lunch and Amanda Blake’s wedding.

Professor Jeff Giddings visit to provide training was very successful, post training lunch in Applecross was also quite nice.
Law School Dean Jurgen Brohmer with Murdoch staff visiting to discuss potential move to the Rockingham campus.

Professor Rob Guthrie with Clea Brierley after the CIC presentation to Rockingham students.

SCALES Safety Officers, Novela Aleksic and Rhonda Horn after training.
Staff Christmas lunch 2014

Staff photo in our finest at Amanda Blake’s wedding
Sponsors, Supporters, Partners

SCALES’ Management Committee and Staff would once again like to thank the following organisations for their generous support and partnerships throughout the year and look forward to continuing these associations into the future.

ASSeTS

Child Protection and Family Support, WA Department for Commerce, WA Department of
Community Legal Centres Association Western Australia
Community Legal Services Programme, Commonwealth
Community Legal Services Programme, Western Australia
Criminal Property Confiscation Grants Scheme
Fremantle Community Legal Centre
Gosnells Community Legal Centre
Law Society of Western Australia Public Purposes Trust Fund
Lotterywest
Lucy Saw Centre for the Prevention and Intervention of Domestic and Family Violence Service
Murdoch University
Murdoch University IT Services
Murdoch University School of Law
National Association of Community Legal Centres
Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre
Perth Family Relationships Centre
Rockingham Magistrate’s Court
SHINE Lawyers
South Coastal Women’s Health Services
Tenancy WA
Thomson Reuters
Women’s Law Centre