SCALES Community Legal Centre

Annual Report,
2007 - 2008
Vision:
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.

Values:
✧ People deserve to be treated with respect, dignity and consideration.
✧ Human rights include a right to legal information and legal education.
✧ Individual legal problems often reflect broad social difficulties.
✧ Communities should participate in and influence the work of community legal centres.

Mission:
SCALES seeks to:
✧ Develop the confidence, skills and ethics of law students through clinical legal education in a community-based environment.
✧ Facilitate access to justice for low income and disadvantaged members of the Southern Communities region.

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The **SCALES Team**

**Management Committee**

Tamara Cole  
Chairperson

Jerroldine Gilbert  
Deputy Chairperson and Community Representative

Dianne Henderson  
Treasurer (from March 2008)

Ronald Hassall  
Treasurer & Community Representative (retired October 2007)

Margaret Flower  
Secretary, coopted member

Michael Perrella  
Legal Practitioner

Jeremy Rigg  
Vice Chancellor’s Representative

Gabriël Moens  
Dean, Murdoch University Law School

Anna Copeland  
Acting Director – Legal

Gai Walker  
Acting Director – Admin

**Patrons**

Hon Kim Beazley MP  
Federal Member for Brand (retired November 2007)

Chris Shanahan SC  
Barrister

**Members**

Novela Aleksic  
Tamara Cole  
Anna Copeland

Alice Barter  
Margaret Flower  
Dianne Henderson

Jerroldine Gilbert  
Glynnes Rynn  
Michael Perrella

Rhonda Zelina  
Gai Walker

**Solicitors and Barristers Volunteers**

Chris Shanahan  
Richard Hooker  
Mary Anne Kenny

John Bochat

**Legal Volunteers**

Eric Fisher (Immigration)  
Rob Owens (Immigration)  
Sue Hillman (Archiving)

Peter Phillips (Advocacy and Tenancy)  
Rean du Toit (Immigration)

Basil van der Merwe

**Administration Volunteers**

Margaret Flower
### Lawyers Practice Manual Volunteers

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adam Halstead</td>
<td>David Stewart</td>
<td>Merinda Logie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Blackburn</td>
<td>Dr Hal Colebatch</td>
<td>Natasha Erlandson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Robson</td>
<td>Dr Kathryn Trees</td>
<td>Patrick Mugliston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Copeland</td>
<td>Fran Marsh</td>
<td>Paul Nichols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Gray</td>
<td>Greg Isolani</td>
<td>Paula Parentich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann-Margaret walsh</td>
<td>Jeremy Giles</td>
<td>Richard Hooker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bertus De Villiers</td>
<td>Joan Squelch</td>
<td>Rob Campbell Watt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Slattery</td>
<td>Lee Mather</td>
<td>Stephan Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colin James</td>
<td>Lee Vickers</td>
<td>Susan Fielding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colin Kaeser</td>
<td>Lisa Young</td>
<td>Tim Hammond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Edwards</td>
<td>Louanha Lloyd</td>
<td>Tim Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damien Norris</td>
<td>Margaret Jordan</td>
<td>Toni Emmanuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle J Davies</td>
<td>Mark Herron</td>
<td>Yvonne Henderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Garnsworthy</td>
<td>Martin Cuerden</td>
<td></td>
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<td>David Parry</td>
<td>Mary Anne Kenny</td>
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### Seminar Guest Presenters

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<tr>
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<td>Anne Greenshields</td>
<td>Legal Resources</td>
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<td>Catherine Eagle</td>
<td>Welfare Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glynes Rynn</td>
<td>Family Law and Domestic Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Jackson</td>
<td>Family Law Court</td>
<td>LAWA Duty Solicitor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerryn Lewis</td>
<td>Indigenous Issues, Domestic Violence &amp; Criminal Injuries Compensation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Anne Kenny</td>
<td>Thinking Legally</td>
<td>Murdoch Law School</td>
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Clinic Students

Semester Two 2007

Jiawa Liu Maria Tang Stephanie Ti
Alex Neylon Gabriel Tsen Kylie Weir
Nerida O’Brien Philip Hassett Barbara Nyein
Fiona Cohen Haley Allan Jorja Brady
Matthew Tze-wei Tsen

Advanced Clinic (Advocacy Students)

Ava Hadian Rebecca Tinelli

Summer 2007/2008

Anna Sinagra Eleanor Fonda Hayley Richardson
Laurentia McKessar Dion Bradshaw Emily Tan
Katherine Wake Svetlana Lane

Semester 1 2008

Amanda Wong Shaun Daniells Simon Hubbard
Tamar Kennedy Revathi Sandra Mohan Sarah Tyler
Sieu Cheng Vuong Watna Mori Katrine Smith
Matthew Berry Noosheen Maghami
Anna Copeland, Acting Director

Anna has continued in the role of Acting Director (Legal) managing all aspects of the clinical program.

Her professionalism and dedication to teaching human rights is well respected and was acknowledged by the Human Rights Law Resource Centre offering her a 4 month placement with them in early 2008. With approval of the secondment by the Management Committee and staff at SCALES, Anna and her family relocated to Melbourne in February for 4 months. Anna’s focus was on the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the International Human Rights framework.

Anna’s work this year included developing a two week intensive unit on Human Rights which will be offered twice each year in winter and summer. Mary Anne Kenny is assisting in the teaching of the unit.

Gai Walker, Acting Director and Coordinator

With 2007/2008 being the 10th year of SCALES service provision, Gai’s early focus was on ensuring celebrations took place. They did and she is very happy with the results.

In late 2007, Gai was approached to assist another service by Acting as Manager to the Kimberly Community Legal Service for 6 weeks while their Manager took extended sick leave.

This opportunity was also supported by the Management Committee and staff and Gai spent 6 weeks in Kununurra in March and April 2008. It was a very interesting experience.

The co Directorship as Acting Direct (Admin) continues with Gai managing all aspects of the administration and Human Resource management of the service. As part of her work she also participates in a number of committees including her roles as Joint WA rep to the NACLC, NACLC Treasurer, Executive Member CLCAWA, Chair Rockingham Lotteries House, Member of SMIFAS and DVLWN.

Amanda McGow, Principal Solicitor and Clinic Supervisor

Amanda took on the role of Principal Solicitor during Anna’s absence in early 2008 and is now officially the Principal Solicitor.

Amanda has spent a lot of time focussing on reviewing and revising the Supervision and Legal practice procedures to ensure that SCALES practices are appropriate to the student learning; SCALES legal practice and client services. Her work has led to the streamlining of work practices.

Clea Brierley, Clinic Supervisor

Clea started working at SCALES in July 2007 as a part time supervisor. Clea has had experience in family law (private practice) before tutoring at Murdoch Law School and lecturing and tutoring at UWA in family law.

Clea is now employed on a full time basis, with her time split between two positions, Clinic Supervisor and Family Law and Family and Domestic Violence Solicitor.

Glynes Rynn, FAAST Solicitor

Glynes continues her work with her usual good cheer, supporting her clients with great integrity and compassion.

In the past year Glynes has finalised the VRO Research Project with Dot Goulding as well as her day to day client duties and network and committee commitments. Much of Glynes’ work this year has been court appearances. There has been a noticeable increase in Court work over the past couple of years.

Sadly Glynes has confirmed her intention to retire in early 2009.
Kerryn Lewis, Domestic Violence Legal Worker
Kerryn’s work with victims of Family and Domestic Violence is very much appreciated by her clients with many thank you notes. Kerryn’s work will now be supervised by Clea in her new role as part time Family Law and Family and Domestic Violence solicitor.

Kerryn continues to present clinic seminars on Family and Domestic Violence and Indigenous Issues. She provides community legal education on Family and Domestic Violence, and has responsibility for the Family Court Family Law Information Forums presented in Rockingham.

Vanessa Moss, Migration Agent
Vanessa works part time at the Murdoch office of SCALES providing Migration services to our refugee and asylum seeker clients. Vanessa’s expertise in the field of refugee and asylum seeker law is highly respected. The UNHCR has requested (and paid for) Vanessa’s attendance at meetings to discuss issues faced by refugees in Melbourne.

Vanessa also works with Mary Anne Kenny on the Graduate Certificate in Migration Law.

Rhonda Zelina, Administration Officer
Rhonda has been at SCALES for over 10 years, she is the first voice or face people contact when approaching SCALES.

Her role has developed from one of admin volunteer to linchpin of SCALES client services. As well as dealing with most of the queries and calls that come into SCALES, Rhonda guides and assists clinic students in their development of administrative skills such as preparation of client documents; using office equipment and referral information.

Rhonda’s compassion provides a great example to staff and students on how to interact with respect and dignity with the myriad of people who approach SCALES for assistance.

Novela Aleksic, Finance Officer
Novela’s continued expertise in all things financial is a great asset to SCALES reputation with funders and service providers.

Her commitment to ensuring absolute accuracy of our financial policies and procedures shows in the positive Audit reports we receive each year.

Liz Ford, Admin Assistant
Liz worked at SCALES for one year; she worked closely with Gai, bringing policy and procedures up to date. Unfortunately for us, Liz was offered a position in a shop selling sewing machines and fabrics as a teacher. As this is her dream job, she took her leave from us in early December 2007.

Rhoda Mason, Coordinator, Lawyers Practice Manual WA
Rhoda’s excellent work on the Lawyers Practice Manual ended in June 2008 with her reluctant resignation.

Her expertise at managing to entice new authors to the ever expanding number of chapters was impressive and her work has been extremely valuable in increasing the number of chapters we are able to publish in the Manual. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

Peter Phillips and Alice Barter, Tenant Advocates
Alice and Peter shared the position of 1 day per week Tenant Advocate. Alice finished her time at SCALES and moved on to commence her articles at the Department of Public Prosecutions in February. Peter was offered a job as Research Officer in the office of the then Leader of the Opposition in state parliament in July 2008. The work of these former students was valuable in the setting up of TACS.

It was great to have both Peter and Alice at the Awards ceremony for the Consumer Awards 2008 where SCALES won the Dick Fletcher Award for an organisation providing valuable services to consumers for the TACS service.
Chair’s Report

By Deputy Chair, Jerroldine Gilbert

I am very happy to be able to provide the Acting Chairpersons report this year. Having been with SCALES from the very beginning, it is a great pleasure 10 years on, to still be an active part of the service. The Chair, Tamara Cole is on extended leave in South America and is unable to be with us for this Annual General Meeting.

As it is every year, this has been a busy and eventful year. We started the year with an urgent need for new premises. Happily this has been resolved with our lovely new premises here at St Nicholas Community Centre. We began providing our services from here in the new year on Monday 7 January 2008.

I would like to congratulate the SCALES staff for their valuable work in the community. As you will all know, the staff, students and services of SCALES are highly regarded in the community and the legal profession. Our staff are regularly asked to speak on many and varied issues – community legal education to the local young mums group; attending an annual consultation by the UNHCR on refugee matters in Melbourne; community consultations on the newly developed Department for Communities and a presentation to the Laurel club on SCALES services are a few examples from this year.

The Management Committee are very pleased with the leadership roles taken by Anna Copeland and Gai Walker in the Co Directorship of the service. Anna and Gai have worked successfully together through some trying times in this last year, especially with the pressure of seeking new offices for SCALES.

The Committee took a leap of faith with the staff this past year; both Anna and Gai were invited to provide secondments to another service. Anna was invited by the Human Rights Law Resource Centre to work there for a 4 month period from March to the end of June 2008. Anna worked on Human Rights issues and gained invaluable experience during her secondment. Gai was asked by the Manager of the Kimberley Community Legal Service if it was possible for her to do a 6 week secondment in Kununurra while she went on extended sick leave. That centre’s funding required a Manager to be available at all times and the staff at KCLS were all quite new and inexperienced and unable to fulfil the responsibilities. Gai reported that she found the experience very affirming in relation to the quality and quantity of work SCALES is doing but also very educational as KCLS does most of its work away from the office in the form of outreach and community legal education, very different from SCALES’ focus on the student learning aspect of the clinic.

The committee’s confidence in the staff was justified with everything going smoothly during the 6 week period when both Gai and Anna were absent from the service. We would like to acknowledge the efforts of the entire staff in their support of this interim situation. The opportunities for both of them for professional development has proved very valuable for them as individuals and to SCALES. Special thanks to Amanda McGow for her willingness to step up as Principal Solicitor during Anna’s absence.

It has also been a year of acknowledgments for the Service with University, State and national awards being presented to SCALES. The Management Committee would like to congratulate the staff and students on their valuable work and commitment to the community of Kwinana and Rockingham and are very proud to acknowledge the affirmation by the Minister for Consumer Affairs with 2008 Western Australian Consumer Awards Richard (Dick) Fletcher Award acknowledging a Western Australian non government organisation making a significant and enduring contribution to the advancement of consumer protection in their community. This award was for the TACS service to Tenants appearing in the Rockingham Magistrates Court and included a framed certificate, a trophy and a cheque for $2,500. It was pleasing to be able to include Alice Barter and Peter Phillips in the celebration. Alice and Peter are both former clinic, advanced clinic students and part time tenant advocates and were very enthusiastic about the Tenant Advice
and Court Support Service. They supported Amanda McGow in the development of the model that we use today to provide these services.

Glynes Rynn, Gai Walker and Margaret Flower attend the official presentation of the Vice Chancellors Excellence in Learning Award at Murdoch University in May this year. A plaque for each member of the Clinic team was presented with a cheque for $1,000. We were notified of this award in 2007 which then led to SCALES being nominated for the Carrick Institute Awards. Anna, Glynes, Gai, Amanda and Gai attended the Western Australian awards ceremony in August at the Fremantle Maritime Museum to receive the National Learning Award. The staff received a trophy, certificate and a cheque for $10,000. Well done to the entire SCALES team.

SCALES has hosted a number of events in the past year, congratulations to Glynes Rynn and Dot Goulding on the completion of the Violence Restraining Order research project. The official launch in August last year attracted a great deal of interest with over 20 people attending including the new state Member for Peel, Paul Papalia. The report was sent to MPs; Magistrates; government departments; members of the legal profession; family violence advocates and many other members of the community.

New Family Violence Magistrate Brian Gluestein; Gary Gray MP, the new Federal Member for Brand and new Member for Peel all visited SCALES. In June this year Helen Muhling, Solicitor from the Mental Health Law Centre spoke to students and staff on issues faced by clients with mental health issues and involuntary hospitalisation. In keeping with our educational role, SCALES hosts high school work experience students who are interested in studying law.

In October last year, SCALES hosted a student from Christmas Island District High School for two days. Ty Ranger was part of a group of students from the school visiting Perth to participate in work experience and university and TAFE visits. Ty visited the Murdoch office on his first day and spent time with Anna talking about her work with Refugee and Asylum Seekers, on the second day he visited the Rockingham office and accompanied the clinic students in their work for the day. Any contact with clients was with the client’s approval for Ty to participate.

We also celebrated the opening of the new offices in the St Nicholas Community Centre in February with a Morning Tea. Representatives from the Law School; community, other tenants of both Lotteries House and St Nicholas Community Centre joined staff and students. The new Faculty Dean Chris Doepel and Law School Dean Gabriel Moens both attended as did the new Member for Peel, Paul Papalia.

I have left to last the highlight of the year. On 21 September 2008, a reunion of SCALES students, staff and supporters was held. Dean Gabriel Moens very generously acted as host for the event which was held in the lobby of the new Law School building. This generous support in the form of the venue and catering is very much appreciated. Work began a long time before the event with the gathering of contact details for former students who had attended the clinic over the past decade. Over 300 former students were located with invitations sent off via email, post and word of mouth. Apologies and good wishes were received from people working around the world. A notice board was set up for those who wanted to pass on messages to SCALES staff and students. It is an indication of the high esteem that SCALES staff are held in that over 100 former and present students attended, in all over 130 people attended including representatives from the from the Law School, the legal profession, past and present staff and management committee members. Justice Ralph Simmonds had accepted the invitation to speak at the Reunion but was held up at the last minute by a late returning jury. We must thank Barrister Chris Shanahan SC who stepped in at literally the last minute to speak. Chris gave a comprehensive history of the development of the SCALES concept including the relationship formed by the original volunteer organisation the Kwinana Evening Legal Service which I was involved in and the Murdoch University School of Law where Chris worked at the time. It was a very informative and entertaining presentation. The birthday cake was cut by the two most long standing staff members Gai Walker and Rhonda Zelina.
Well done to everyone who worked on this very successful event.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the work of the Management Committee during the year, these people volunteer their time to support SCALES services and it is very valuable work that they do, thanks to Tamara Cole, Michael Perrella, Margaret Flower, Jeremy Rigg, Ron Hassall and the student representatives from each semester.

Special thanks to Ron Hassall for his important work over many years, his support in the development of the financial systems and the smooth passage from cash to accrual accounting and the introduction of GST has been indispensable and very much appreciated by the staff and Management Committee. Ron did not renominate this year and we wish him and Lynda well in this next phase of their retirement.

I would like to welcome former student Alice Barter and Dianne Henderson who have both come on to the Committee during this year. Dianne has taken on the role of Treasurer. Finally, I congratulate the staff in their professionalism and commitment to the Murdoch University law student and Kwinana and Rockingham communities. They are very well respected in their fields of expertise, by funders and the three tiers of government and by both the community and other service providers. This was acknowledged by the Federal Attorney General earlier this year; when SCALES was provided with a one off grant of $118,000 which is the equivalent of a full year’s funding from the Federal government. SCALES is well placed to continue to provide services into the future.

Congratulations to everyone concerned for the excellent work in the 2007 and 2008 financial year.
I would like to thank and congratulate the staff at SCALES for their professionalism and excellent work in the past year.

It has once again been a busy and exciting year; we have had the usual exciting events and the extraordinary exciting events. In the Extraordinary category, you will have seen from the Chair’s Report that we have been the recipients of a number of Awards that have validated much of the work of SCALES. The Reunion in September, our official 10th birthday party, was a wonderful night; it was truly fantastic to see so many former clinic students and to hear what they are doing with their lives. We received many messages that we posted on a noticeboard for everyone to see. Our students are doing some very interesting things all over the world; we tracked them down in London, the Middle East, East Timor, Hanoi, Malaysia, Sydney, Melbourne and one was being evacuated to Miami, Florida from the Cayman Islands in preparation for Hurricane Dean!! Apart from two semesters we had at least one representative from each semester attend, former staff members Michael Hovane and Mary Anne Kenny came along as well as a number of staff from the Law School, former Management Committee members and supporters from the legal and local community.

New offices should have been part of the usual exciting events but moved into the extraordinary category after a surprise notice from the City of Rockingham to vacate. After a number of years of negotiating with the City of Rockingham, Lotteries House and Lotterywest for suitable premises within the building, it came as a surprise when we were asked to find alternate premises in early 2007. Liz Ford worked closely with me to try to locate suitable affordable premises. Thanks Liz, your lateral thinking and solid support is very much appreciated.

Another extraordinary event this year has been the grant of an additional full year’s funding by the newly elected Federal Attorney General. This is a one off grant provided as part of a $10 million dollar one off payment to acknowledge the excellent work of CLCs and the need for additional money to ensure sustainability. This $118,000 grant is to be spent in the 2008/9 year.

And now to the ordinary exciting events.

In keeping with the view of the State and Federal governments as well as the NACLC and CLCAWA, SCALES views its business to be more than client work. The core work of SCALES includes Information, Referral, Advice, Minor Assistance, Advocacy, Casework, Representation, Community Legal Education, Policy and Law Reform. Staff are active on a number of different committees and networks which informs and includes Community Legal Education, Policy and Law Reform and other services. A list of these committees and networks is listed separately in the Annual Report.

Changes to staff this year include the departure of Liz Ford to the world of sewing machines and
teaching patchwork classes, an offer she couldn’t refuse; Gavin Douglas finished his contracted time with us and returned to commercial law and Rhoda Mason finished as Coordinator of the Lawyers Practice Manual in June 2008. Tenant Advocates Alice Barter and Peter Phillips also moved on to full time employment, Alice with articles at the DPP and Peter into a Research position with the Leader of the Opposition. We have welcomed Clea Brierley as a clinic supervisor, Clea started in July 2007 and works 3 days per week. Clea’s background in family law and her experience as a tutor at Murdoch helped her settle in quickly to the role of Clinic Supervisor. Clea also supports the family abuse team with their work.

SCALES continues to be one of the most stable of community legal centres with most staff of long standing and with a very small turnover. This is very important factor in our ability to be able to offer consistent services and serves as a reminder to me as a longstanding member of staff to ensure that policy and procedure is in place to address succession planning.

Heading into our second decade, SCALES is now more than a Law Clinic. Ongoing work on seeking funds to provide services has meant that funds can now be channelled into direct service delivery as well as providing services through the Law Clinic. Family and Domestic Violence services are provided directly to clients. As part of the succession planning for the Family Violence Solicitor, we have employed Clea for an additional two days per week to ensure continuity of services when Glynes retires. Clea will work closely with Kerryn and Glynes in the coming months to ensure the Family and Domestic Violence service is maintained during the change in personnel.

Through the Tenant Advice and Court Service (TACS) we employ another former clinic student, Matt Berry, as a part time tenant advocate.

In the coming year there will be two new part time positions of Community Education and Project Officers. These are both 12 month positions of 2 days each per week. One will be specifically Youth Law and the other position will be of a more general nature. This is a very exciting advancement for the service and I will be pursuing funding to make these positions ongoing.

Community Legal Education is currently shared amongst the existing staff and is mainly based on requests for presentations. Kerryn and Glynes do the Family and Domestic Violence presentations that include training, talks to groups and students. Glynes and Kerryn also participate in the clinic seminar series providing presentations on Family and Domestic Violence, Family Law and Indigenous Issues. Glynes has also spoken to Criminal Law students on family violence. Kerryn has also participated in the Cannington Division of GPs Reference Group that developed training for GPs on Family and Domestic Violence. This project has seen immediate improvements in referrals from GPs and greater understanding by GPs of the issues faces by victims of family violence.

This year we have also had information stalls at the Community Day at the Kwinana Hub Shopping Centre in October and ‘O’ day at Rockingham TAFE in February. We commenced monthly Community Workers contact lunches which are open to any worker who would like to network with other workers in the area. SCALES provides the venue which is the meeting room at St Nicholas Community Centre and tea and coffee.

While away from the office, staff have attended the Rockingham Magistrates Court and Children’s Court, Department of Housing and Works appeals, visited prisons and detention centres, women’s refuges, Refugee Review Tribunal hearings as well as conferences for CLCs in Brisbane, Clinical Legal Education at the Gold Coast, tenant workers in Perth, the launch of the Mandurah Family Relationship Centre and consultations for the new Department for Communities.

We have met with Ministers, other members of parliament, magistrates, provided and attended training, attended staff meetings, Law School meetings and retreats, Union campaign meetings for increased wages and community consultations.

Thanks to Amanda we now have a fresh new logo which we have used on our stationery to match our fresh new premises.

I would like to thank the Management Committee and staff for their support over the year, especially for their support about my
opportunity for a secondment to Kimberley CLS. This was a great opportunity for me and I learnt a lot from my time in Kununurra.

To Anna and Amanda, it is great to be working with you both and I look forward to this next year and all it promises to bring. I want to express my appreciation to the staff, especially the Admin Team, Rhonda, Novela and Margaret for their hard work, dedication and flexibility during this time of transition while we trial this new management organisation.

Management committee members Ron Hassall and Jerroldine Gilbert.

Former Clinic Student and SCALES Tenant Advocate, Matt Berry

Gai speaking at the 2008 Consumer Protection Awards, Kings Park
Director's Report (Clinical)

Anna Copeland

This year has seen many developments in the Clinical program at SCALES. Students continue to rate it as their ‘best experience at Law School’ but there are now more ‘streams’ in which they can immerse themselves.

Amanda McGow has successfully developed an advocacy stream—which continues to be popular with the students. This stream allows students to gain some “on their feet” experience in Tenancy Court and they have had some wonderful successes including avoiding or delaying evictions, reducing tenancy debts and assisting with bond recovery.

The immigration law stream continues to be available and many students have elected to work on immigration files within the general clinic over the last year. These students have also had some fantastic outcomes including the release of client’s from long term detention and obtaining permanent visas for a number of clients that have spent years in legal limbo (and poverty).

We have also introduced a new stream in human rights and as a result we have taken on some specifically human rights files; such as a case of a man who was tortured in the Congo, a woman who was evicted to homelessness and a young man who has had his parental rights taken from him by the a government department. The students are enjoying this work very much, and particularly benefit from the identification of human rights issue in all the work they do at SCALES.

Changes made to the legal procedures by the Principal Solicitor Amanda McGow has also benefited the clinical program; allowing for more time for reflection and discussion as a group.

Lawyers Practice Manual Western Australia

Rhoda Mason

In 2005 Thomson Lawbook Company and SCALES Legal Community Centre launched the Lawyers Practice Manual Western Australia. The LPMWA is designed as a general practice guide and it aims to assist new lawyers and experienced lawyers venturing into or returning to an unfamiliar area of practice. It is available as a loose-leaf service or Online.

There has been a substantial growth of chapters in the LPMWA service since its inception and this is due to the wonderful contribution by the authors.

In the past 12 months four (4) new chapters were published namely: “Acting for Aboriginal clients” by Dr Kathryn Trees; “Conducting proceedings in the State Administrative Tribunal of WA” by Mr David Parry and Mr Bertus de Villiers; “Social security offences” by Andrew Robson; and “Procedure on Indictment” by Danielle Davies and Amanda Blackburn.

Chapters continue to be reviewed and updated by their Western Australian contributors, including the chapter “Primary Dispute Resolution in Family Law” by Registrar Colin Kaeser; “Criminal prosecutions of young people” by Fran Marsh and “Criminal injuries compensation” by Annie Gray. The chapter on “Appearing before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal” was updated by Margaret Carstairs in early 2008.

As the content of the Manual grows so does the usefulness of the service that it provides for legal practitioners and students in Western Australia. It is important to acknowledge the authors who volunteer their time to write their excellent chapters and to thank them for their wonderful contribution. The project also depends on the support and work done by the Publishing editors at Thomson Lawbook Company and the support staff at SCALES. Thank you!

It has been a pleasure to be involved with this project for the last two and a half years and I wish it every success in the future. 8 July 2008
The FAAST programme continued to provide a coordinated and professional legal and counselling service to victims of family and domestic violence in the Rockingham/Kwinana/Peel area throughout 2007/2008.

The service provided includes legal advice and court representation as well as emotional and practical support through the counselling service. Services were also offered for children in that the counselling service offered group therapy/educational programmes for children who have been directly and indirectly affected by domestic and family violence.

Court support and representation for restraining orders increased this year with 34 mention hearings and 24 trial preparations. Of the latter 8 matters went to a final order hearing, 10 were resolved by way of consent or undertakings, 2 final orders were granted following non appearance by respondent and 4 applications were withdrawn.

Several applications for criminal injuries compensation (CIC) were made during the year or were in the final stages of preparation. Generally clients have been more than satisfied with their compensation awards. More focus has been made on lodging CIC applications for young children who have witnessed assaults on their parents.

We have the benefit of having a clinical psychologist who is experienced in working with children from abusive or dysfunctional families to provide psychological assessments and reports for these children.

Some family law issues were also covered mainly in the area of assisting in negotiating children’s issues with some assistance in preparing Family Court documents.

Community Legal Education

Two major events were part of the FAAST solicitor’s role this year. The first was an invitation from the Southern Districts Justice of the Peace Association to participate in their annual conference. Together with the local Family Violence Court Magistrate, his Honour, Brian Gluestein, we presented a mock application for an interim violence restraining order for an audience of about 60 delegates many of whom had not presided over such applications since the Restraining Order Act had been amended.

The second event was an invitation by the 5 O’s Project which comprises a group of Business and professional women who provide valuable seminars on a variety of topics and also support educational and other support programmes to disadvantaged people throughout the world.

This seminar related to many issues surrounding domestic violence from an address by her Honour, the deputy Chief Magistrate, Libby Woods on restraining orders to the role of women’s refuges. SCALES addressed many social issues faced by women in the first 48 hours following separation from a violent partner.

A further invitation was issued in April 2008 to address Emergency Department and Paediatric Ward staff from the Rockingham/Kwinana District Hospital on Restraining Order matters.

Committees & Networks

I have been involved in the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network throughout the year. This has been a valuable experience, not only to keep abreast of pending changes in restraining order law but, on a personal level, to have the opportunity to talk with colleagues about difficult case issues and share ideas.

I also attend the Family Court’s Frequent Users’ Committee meeting bi-monthly when possible. This provides information on the services available from the Legal Aid WA’s Court Support service and how this impacts on the needs of CLC clients.

I attended NACLC’s conference in Brisbane in September 2007. The theme related to “Justice in a Climate of Change – CLCs Looking to the Future”. There were many moving sessions in which delegates from neighbouring countries educated us on the struggles they have to
survive, including the risk of death in their endeavours to obtain justice for their people.

Special Conference speakers including Julian Burnside QC, Peter Norden SJ and Jackie Katona of the Lumbu Indigenous Community Foundation were among an inspiring group of keynote speakers and presenters.

The conference reflected on the impact climate changes have on the communities served by CLCs and the way these changes relate to and affect each other. The conference also celebrated the work CLCs undertake in their communities and explored how we adapt to changing climates in access to justice.

An morning tea was held in August 2007 to launch the Restraining Order Research Report which marked the culmination of over 5 years work by a number of people working to support people affected by Family and Domestic Violence.

There was a high level of interest in the community with reports being sent to the judiciary, police, government services, community services as well as community members and members of the legal profession. Over 20 people attended the Launch and morning tea including the new state government Member for Peel Paul Papalia MLA and representatives from the departments of Justice, Attorney General and Child Protection, Police, the Rockingham Family Violence Court and local service providers.

Glynes, Research fellow, Dr Dot Goulding and Gai Walker spoke of the research project. Special mention was made of the contribution by the victims of domestic violence telling their stories again.

The full report can be found at the SCALES website.

**Restraining Order Research**

**FAAST Services provided:**

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Domestic Violence Legal Worker Report

Kerryn Lewis

My main duties are to provide support to the Domestic Violence Solicitor on client matters. I provide court support, assistance obtaining client information, relaying Solicitor advice to clients, informing clients how to apply for restraining orders and what documents they need to have before coming to SCALES for advice. I also draft Legal Aid applications and Criminal Injuries Compensation applications.

Over the past year I have assisted clients with information on self representation when SCALES has been unable to provide representation whether due to location of the court matter or because we are at capacity and unable to undertake another trial.

I have attended court 46 times providing court support to clients for Variations, Mentions or for their Final Order hearings. On a few occasions, ex-clients attending court have approached us and we have provided them with moral support and often provided further legal advice to them.

Client Perspective

Clients express their gratitude in a variety of ways. Some send flowers and cards, some have sent letters of appreciation. Often they expressed their joy and relief to us after their court appearance, the fact that they have someone who is there for them and that without this service and support they could and would not have gone through with their actions to the end. They are very grateful and appreciative of the great service that we provide. Often it is many years since someone has sat with them, heard their story and been able to support them through difficult decisions to make changes to their lives.

Community Legal Education

While client work is a major component of my work, community legal education is also a very important part of my duties. Fortnightly Family Law Information Forums are presented, I also update the script and ensure it has been approved by the Family Court of Western Australia. Participants in these forums are provided with a Certificate of Attendance that they can use if they take further action

Each semester I present Family and Domestic Violence and Dealing with Indigenous Clients seminars to SCALES student. I provide an overview of the issues and barriers that clients may face in day to day life and how they should be dealt with as clients. For example, an Indigenous client may speak 4 or 5 languages but English may not be their main spoken language, many clients’ literacy is limited, this is an important factor when providing advice and writing to clients. I always receive extremely positive feedback from the students. It also gives the students confidence to approach me about client issues at the office as they have spoken to me at seminars.

I have also been to the Station Youth Centre and Waikiki Family Centre to speak with young mums about a number of issues including Family Law, Tenancy and Family Violence.

Community Activities

I participated in the Canning Division of General Practice DV Research Project Committee. The purpose of the project was to develop training on Family and Domestic Violence for Metropolitan General Practitioners. The Committee met 4 times, we surveyed our Family and Domestic Violence clients and provided those surveys to the Coordinator. Training to over 70 GPs in Fremantle was held in February 2008. Anecdotal evidence was extremely positive with 3 local services telling of the immediate and positive effect of the training. GPs are making contact for the first time and practices are more open to taking medical referrals from services.

Committees and Networks

This year I attended meetings of the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network, the Community Legal Education Workers Network, the South Metropolitan Integrated Family Abuse Service and have also worked closely with Gai on the monthly community workers contact lunches that are facilitated by SCALES and held in the St Nicholas Meeting Room.
Immigration Practice

We continue to assist clients with applications for protection. Since the beginning of 2008 we have not had any referrals of detention cases, this is because the Perth Detention Centre is undergoing refurbishment. We understand that new arrivals have been sent directly to the eastern states.

We have assisted a number of clients in the community who arrived lawfully, usually on visitor or student visas, and then sought protection. The majority of our clients have been successful in obtaining protection.

We have also assisted a number of unsuccessful applicants to seek judicial review. We are currently awaiting the decision of the Federal Magistrate in one case which was heard in January 2008. In another Federal Magistrates Court matter, the Minister for Immigration conceded the matter prior to hearing and it has been remitted to the Refugee Review Tribunal for its further consideration.

Barrister Richard Hooker has continued to provide us with his invaluable assistance in Federal Magistrates Court matters on a pro bono basis. We have had a number of clients who were unsuccessful at the Refugee Review Tribunal but who were granted visas following requests to the Minister of Immigration to exercise his public interest powers under section 417 of the Migration Act 1958.

In addition to our work in assisting clients to obtain protection visas we have assisted a handful of clients to sponsor their family members to Australia. We have been successful in having the young children of 2 of our refugee clients reunited with their parents. Family reunion is an important area of work and integral to the successful settlement of refugee clients.

Student Appearances

The student appearance program continues to give SCALES’ students the opportunity to attend court and Tribunals on behalf of clients. All student appearances are supervised and have the leave of the Court.

This is always an exciting experience for students to finally have the opportunity to put into practice all that they have been studying over the past few years about advocacy. It also often gives an insight into the anxiety clients and students alike feel at their first Court appearance.

There is no doubt it is a nerve-racking experience for our students but once they have successfully completed it their sense of confidence increases enormously. Many students say that their opportunity for an appearance was the highlight of their time at SCALES.

This year

✦ Students had the opportunity to appear in the Children’s Court on behalf of clients who had guilty pleas, to present pleas in mitigation on their clients’.

✦ With the commencement of TACS, students now have a weekly opportunity to appear for clients on both private and public tenancy matters in the Rockingham Magistrates Court.
**Student Perspectives**

The thing I value most about the SCALES experience is the ability to think from a practical point of view, I learnt to be flexible instead of just theoretical.

Having experienced SCALES, I am now of the opinion that this program should be made available and promoted to lower year law students. I feel that if I had the practical experience I had at SCALES in my second or third year I would have been able to handle law school much better.

I am so happy with what I have been able to learn at SCALES and the confidence it has given me.  

Jiawa Liu

In terms of lawyer experience, SCALES has been absolutely invaluable. It was very reflective of legal practice- I got to deal with real clients, manage their files, research their cases and give them real life legal advice.

SCALES has given me some valuable advocacy experience; I found the lecture held in the tenancy court especially useful.  

Maria Tang

I gained valuable insight into my role as a future lawyer. It made me more sure and certain that this is exactly the career path I would like to take.

Prior to SCALES I had absolutely no legal experience. I had all this legal knowledge that was just sitting there. I learnt to separate client issues from daily life.

I think SCALES is fantastic. The people at SCALES have truly made it one of the best experiences.  

Stephanie Ling

This course has re-affirmed my desire to work with the disadvantaged and has allowed me to experience a small portion of community based work.

This has been very rewarding and I would wholeheartedly recommend to other students.  

Matthew Berry

It was eye-opening and a great experience. It taught me to be more patient and you can’t make people return your call or attend their appointment. It also taught me that you can’t always help everyone and there is always more to the story than just a legal issue.

It was completely different to working at a large law firm or the courts and taught me a lot about how a community legal centre is run and I am glad to have experienced it.  

Nerida O’Brien

I have really enjoyed my time at SCALES and have found that I’ve learnt more in this semester than all my other units put together.

I haven’t really enjoyed my time at University as I didn’t go into law knowing that was what I wanted to do but I have found that dealing with clients at SCALES has allowed me to step back and look at the big picture and it reminds me of why I chose to study it in the first place.

The environment in the SCALES office is great and I have loved interacting with the staff and students in the office and have actually had a bit of fun too! Thank you.  

Tamar Kennedy

I have a much better understanding of the role lawyers play and feel that SCALES has equipped me for the real world so much more than any other unit.

SCALES has been an incredibly challenging, but rewarding and invaluable experience. It has given me a taste of what a community legal practice is like and the real issues involved in being a lawyer.  

Katrine Smith

SCALES was an extremely good learning experience. It opened my eyes to the kind of work that lawyers do in reality and helped me to focus on which area of law that I would like to practice in,

Through SCALES I have developed my research and writing skills and I can feel that my confidence as a Law student has grown.

It was the best experience for me as a law student and I would definitely recommend it to others.  

Noosheen Maghami
10th Birthday Celebrations

Ten Years of SCALES Clinical Legal Program at Murdoch University

At the end of September, SCALES Community Legal Centre and Murdoch University celebrated 10 years of clinical legal education by inviting back its alumni and friends for a wonderful celebration at the Murdoch South St. campus.

Over 100 previous students attended to celebrate the fantastic work done by SCALES and the enormous commitment of students and staff over the last 10 years. There was lots of catching-up as students quizzes each other about their legal practices, travels and reminiscence about their days down in Rockingham working at the SCALES practice.

Previous Directors Michael Howane and Mary Anne Kenny were there and re-affirmed their support for the program, Ms Kenny saying,

"The fact that SCALES can attract such enthusiastic support from the alumni is an affirmation of the profound impact that the clinical experience had in their legal education. I am pleased to speak to so many ex-SCALES graduates who are now working for organisations that work directly on social justice issues or who are enthusiastic proponents for the pro bono programs in the larger commercial firms."

The Dean, Gabriel Moens, began proceedings by welcoming everyone and outlining the achievements of SCALES over the last 10 years which, of course, in the words of the Dean, are many and ongoing.

Unfortunately the scheduled guest speaker Justice Ralph Simmonds was unable to attend due to court business; however, SCALES Patron, Chris Shanahan SC ably jumped in to say a few words about SCALES. This was particularly fitting as SCALES was the brainchild of Mr Shanahan and could not have got started without his tireless support. The current chairperson Tamara Cole then responded with a vote of thanks after which attention turned to the birthday cake!

Students reflected on their SCALES experience describing it as,


SCALES re-ignited my passion for law and social justice issues and I am grateful for the opportunity to take part — Perrie Robbins 2003.

My favourite unit at university — Janni Sangu 2002."

Most of all they expressed appreciation of the friendships they had formed with other students and staff during their time at SCALES, friendships they have now taken into their professional lives.

The SCALES Community Legal Centre was established by Murdoch University in partnership with the local community in 1997. Since then it has provided legal advice, information and representation to low income people living in the Kwinana and Rockingham areas as well as offering invaluable clinical experience to law students who are able to step into the shoes of a practitioner under supervision from centre staff.

In the 10 years it has been open, SCALES has had over 470 students through its doors and attracted a number of accolades for its innovative approach:

- It was nominated for Western Australian Family and Children's Services Community Services Award for services to women and children in recognition of its role in assisting domestic violence clients.
- It won the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission's National Award for Human Rights (Law Category) in 2002.
- It won a High Commendation in the Premiers' Awards for Excellence in Public Sector Management (Social and Community Development Category) in 2002.
- Most recently it has won both a Vice Chancellor's Citation for Enhanced Learning from Murdoch and a National Citation from the Curtin Institute for Sustained excellence in providing an experiential learning environment which engages students in a lifelong commitment to social justice.

SCALES provides a vital community legal service in the Rockingham-Kwinana areas, and prepares law students for real-life legal practice through its unique and internationally recognised clinical legal education programs.

This celebration demonstrated once again the enormous contribution that SCALES has made not only to the clients and the community but to the students. These students have gone out into diverse areas of practice but they have not forgotten the impact their time at SCALES has had on them as both practitioners and people.
Messages from the Reunion

Sam and Rachel and Flo would like to say that we loved our experience at SCALES, it will not be forgotten. I’ve often boasted about our superior knowledge and friendships that we have made with staff and colleagues. All our love for the future.

Very happy to be here, and obviously still happy to be at SCALES given I’m still hanging around the office 3 semesters after I was supposed to leave! This clinic has been the single best experience of my time at law school. Thank you (but no hugs)

Peter Phillips

Fantastic to catch up with students from 2003 year. SCALES reignited my passion for law and social justice issues and I am grateful for the opportunity to take part.

Penny Robbins

Thank you for the eye opening experiences and connections that will really last. Here’s to another great 10 years.

Samantha

To the beautiful people of SCALES! Thanks for organising this wonderful reunion and thanks for all you taught me – I use it everyday and think of you all!

Congrats on 10 years of amazing work- what would Murdoch be without you!!

Love Helen Loreck

Fantastic to be catching up with the old “crew”! I hold vry fond memories of my tiem at SCALES and so happy to see you guys prospering.

Michael Perrella

It was wonderful catching up with everyone tonight. It brought back so many memories from my favourite unit at University! Thankyou!!

Naomi Sang

Dear SCALES, congratulations on your 10 years of service. Very pleased to be a part of it. Thanks for all your help and encouragement. Keep up all the great work.

Kim Axford

Unfortunately I won’t be able to attend in September because I am in Canberra until November. I’m working at the UNHCR (Legal Protection Intern) in case anyone asks - there’s no money in it but the work is very good. I’m building on all the great training/experience I got at SCALES, it really has been very useful (yes I know it sounds like I’m sucking up but I’m serious!).

Anyway let me know how it goes, I’d love to see some photos etc.

Nick Duff

Thankyou for the invitation but I will not be able to attend. It was a great unit that I really enjoyed doing and it is a real point of difference for Murdoch over other law schools in Australia.

Fiona Walsh

I would have loved to come to SCALES 10th Anniversary but I am working at VLA in Melbourne and will not be able to attend.

I learnt so much at SCALES, I considered it to be an integral unit in my law degree. I would love to see it as a core unit.

SCALES is an intense environment which enabled me to forge permanent friendships with extra special people.

Further, SCALES was a baptism of fire into the realm of practical law - a journey I am glad I did not miss.

I will send this email onto How and Kevin. How is a Solicitor in NSW and Kevin is in Malaysia.

Have a wonderful celebration… Cheers

Lois Van Geloven

SCALES Victoria branch – Lois Van Geloven, Sara da Motta and Briony Horrocks, RPs at VLA.

Thank you for the invitation to the 10 Year Anniversary Reunion on 21st September. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend. Congratulations to all the SCALES staff for 10 years of community service which has assisted so many.

I am very grateful for the experience I had in the Summer Semester 02/03 and the skills I learned from my time at SCALES have served me well.

Enjoy the celebration! Kind regards,

Michaela Speering
Student Gallery
Client Case Studies

SCALES has achieved some very good outcomes for our clients over the past year; here are just a few examples.

This restraining order matter involved a frail and sick 73 year old woman, our client, and her son-in-law which went to trial. An application for the use of the CCTV facilities was made but the magistrate elected to hear the application in a small courtroom with the respondent present and his consent sought.

A letter of request for CCTV was handed up to the magistrate in his chambers before court sat due to the client’s ill-health and her obvious fear of the respondent. Fortunately the respondent made no objection and the client was able to give her evidence from a safe area. To top it all, she was successful in her application.

This client attended SCALES for assistance with a Criminal Injuries Compensation claim. She had been threatened and assaulted by her daughter’s partner. Our client was experiencing severe panic attacks, was constantly in tears and no longer comfortable leaving her home. Her experience was also having a negative effect on her new relationship.

We assisted the client with her compensation claim and facilitated appointments with a Psychologist for a supporting psychological report. We arranged for these appointments to be held at SCALES offices to lessen the distress to our client.

While initially hesitant in attending the appointments as it meant leaving the safety of her house, talking about the incident and providing a thorough life history, with our encouragement, the client did attend her appointments. It was quite difficult for her to make her way to our office and to discuss the matter not only with me but with the Clinical Psychologist. After attending the appointment with the Psychologist and obtaining the coping mechanisms, the client began to undertake counselling from a local service provider that allowed her to deal with her issues. The client became more confident in venturing out of her home; she began to attend the motor racing events again, something that she had not been able to do as she had been frightened that she would run into the person who had assaulted her.

The client’s personality completely changed and she began to take interest in her appearance as well as feeling confident to attend her hairdresser again. She started going out to cafés and eating out and meeting up with friends again and feeling freer in herself.

The Criminal Injuries Compensation application was successful and the payment included funds to undertake further counselling sessions. When we passed the payment on to our client, it was amazing to see the difference in the client’s demeanour from the first time that she attended our office.

While our client was very happy with the payment, she told us that the application was not about money at all, but about what she had been through. She felt that had been recognised and that she was valued as a human being. For her the money had come at the perfect time and she was able to go on a holiday with her new husband for the honeymoon that she could now enjoy.
Client Perspectives

SCALES receives a steady flow of expressions of appreciation from clients. Flowers, chocolates and thank you messages, cards and letters are received regularly.

Dear Anna
I would like to take this time to thank SCALES for their time and help through letters and legal advice.
I could not afford a private lawyer and had received a letter from my ex partner's lawyer in Darwin asking for contact with our son. Due to my ex partner having arrest warrants in WA and a history of DV I did not want my son leaving the state for contact. I believed he would not return my son, as I have had to get a recovery order in the past.
SCALES assisted by writing a letter to Mark's lawyer although there was no reply and it did not go any further SCALES provided me with legal assistance and advice. SCALES always notified me what was happening either by appointments or phone. I also felt the girls I dealt with were very approachable and I could phone them any time for advice or to arrange an appointment.
SCALES not only helped me with legal assistance but they were very understanding with my situation. I cannot thank you enough for your support and help, as it was a very stressful time for me.

August 2007

To all the staff at SCALES with heartfelt thanks for your support and help in obtaining a passport for my daughter. We really appreciated all you did for us.

August 2007

Dear Amanda
I would like to thank all the staff at SCALES involved in the process we went through to obtain a passport for my daughter. Throughout the 18 Months I dealt with the SCALES office your staff were always very helpful and efficient and I am truly grateful for the assistance you gave me. I know that without it, my daughter would still not have a passport.
I cannot praise SCALES highly enough and will continue to recommend your services. Please find enclosed a $20.00 donation.
I should be delighted to be contacted by your office in the future should you require any further feedback from me.

August 2007

To the Director, Dear Sir / Madam,
I am writing to say thank you for the recent help and support I received from the team at SCALES, when I requested their assistance in relation to the violence restraining order against my estranged husband.
I would like you to pass on my thanks to both Glynnes and Kerryn, who gave me advice, moral support and encouragement during a most stressful time in my life.
Although I hope that I will never again need to call on SCALES’ assistance, I will confidently direct others in need to use your excellent services.

February 2008

To our Glynnes
Just a little hello and thankyou for you from us. You really are a special little person to us all. Please always stay in touch as we’ll always have you in our hearts and minds! You’re our very own little angel.

July 2007

To our Glynes

February 2008
To Haley
Your kindness meant so much, thank you! Thank you for all your help with helping us in getting child migration. We appreciate everything you did for us. Thank you so much.
November 2007

I wish to take this opportunity to not only thank all at SCALES and a very big thanks and a very special mention to Kerryn and Glynes in their helpfulness and support in their assistance in relation to my obtaining a restraining order.
Their professionalism and empathy received from staff at SCALES was much appreciated, particularly at this difficult time in my life with the recent sad loss of my dear partner and trying to attend to certain matters amongst trying to cope with my grief has been taking it's toll! Again thank you all at SCALES!!
I was referred to SCALES by the tenants advisory Service in late 2007 as I was having many problems with my rental home and with the owners/ property manager. I couldn’t seem to get through to them regarding repairs to my home, and I didn’t know what to do to get through to them. I was being given the run around in a big way, and was extremely confused and frustrated, and quite upset as well.
I found SCALES extremely helpful I dealt with legal assistant Rebecca and Ms Amanda McGow and got excellent advice and practical help. I also got some ‘real world” advice about what it is like being a tenant in these times, what I could (and should) expect as I’d been renting privately for 7 years and this was my first experience with the negative side of the rental experience.
I am remaining in my tenancy until the lease expires at the end of June 2008, and am going to assess whether to remain there further to this expiration date nearer the time. If the rental market was not so difficult and cut-throat there would be no question in my mind – I would leave this house and find a better one as soon as I could. My property manager is as slow to move on anything as she always was, and despite writing and phoning them on a regular basis nothing much seems to get done. But there are such limited options around that I might not have much choice, and all I can try to do is negotiate the best deal for myself.

This is where SCALES is so important and helpful for people like me who don’t have a lot of power in this market, and why all the staff deserve a huge amount of thanks for trying to make the system less one-sided and for making tenants like myself feel that I am not alone in this situation with little power to make things better form myself. I did all the ‘right things, sent letters to my property manager, quoted the Residential Tenancies Act etc but sometimes you need to talk to someone face to face and get specific advice. This is the most helpful and empowering, and this is what I got from SCALES. It’s definitely a service I would think of accessing in the future if I need to, and I’m very happy and thankful with the help I’ve already been given.
February 2008

Dear Vanessa
I hope you know how much I appreciate all the help and advice you have given me. Thank you for everything and will not forget you. In regardless of me staying in Australia or going back to Sudan I only have gratitude to you for all your efforts.
If I remain in Australia I will keep in touch thank you again.
April 2008

Dear Glynes,
Thank you sincerely for your help in providing sound legal advice and representation in my court proceedings, at a time which was stressful and bewildering, you and your law student, Dion were most helpful and I thank you both for a favourable outcome sincerely.
April 2008

Dear Clea and Rev
Thank you for providing fast and efficient advice and assistance regarding recent family law matters, which resulted in a grant of aid for representation through Legal Aid.
Your time and effort in drafting letters to the relevant parties and preparing my application for Legal Aid is very much appreciated.
I will recommend SCALES services to anyone in similar circumstances.
June 2008
Dear Glynnes and the rest of the team at SCALES,

Firstly I would like to apologise for taking so long to say thank you for all you have done for me. Life has been so busy and I have been planning to write this letter for a good few months but something has always come up.

You’re Compassion, understanding, wisdom and strength were my rock while I was going through the court process of seeking a violence restraining order against my ex-husband for myself and two children.

In my personal situation I had not seen my ex-husband for quite some time as he was in prison. Without the support of SCALES I truly believe I would not have been able to face my ex-husband in court. The whole idea was absolutely overwhelming and had me totally petrified. I went from my first court appearance trembling in my boots and being very teary to the last court hearing smiling, laughing and holding my head high feeling relaxed and full of confidence.

The relief of the professional knowledge of the law standing by my side was such a reassurance. One of my biggest fears is speaking in public any day of the week. I knew my voice would tremble if I had to speak in court and my ex-husband would have heard the fear in my voice which was the last thing I wanted. Thanks to SCALES I only ever had to say about 5 words and on that occasion my ex-husband was not in the court room.

Thank you so very much. SCALES was such a blessing and helped me through a really mentally and emotionally draining time in my life. Without the dedicated support commitment, professionalism and understanding of SCALES I don’t believe I would have had the great out come of finalised violence restraining orders to protect myself and my children.

I would also like to say an extra big thank you to Glynnes as she was my biggest support and strength through this whole process. During the process of seeking these restraining orders something that you can never imagine affecting your family happened to my family. It was one of the most horrendous, heart wrenching things I have ever had to deal with in all my life and believe me I have had my fair share of pain.

Glynnes offered her ear, her support and understanding and was able to put me onto the right people to get the help and support I needed.

Glynnes you are one in a million and you are definitely worth your weight in gold. I think you are just great.

Thank you all so very very much
PS (everything is going well and have had no trouble at all)

The Two students Sarah and Tam

Sorry I have taken so long to drop in with chocolate!

Thank you for helping prepare the affidavit for court over a frustrating and drawn out ordeal with a difficult landlord.

We appreciate your time and were happy with the outcome. It was helpful to be prepared and gave us confidence. We felt relaxed going into court and enjoyed spending some time together, during the day, outside our normally busy schedules.

All the best for your studies and exams, and thank you for providing a free service for those who would otherwise be lost in the system.

Interestingly our nemesis is quite accustomed to trips to the court, he had only been there the week before for another case with different tenants. May 2008

Dear Mary Anne

You have helped my brother and sister family to migrate to Australia as refugee visa status. They arrived in May 2008, and all of them are happy and so excited to start the new life in Australia. Thank you so much four your time and help. You have helped my family to reunite and also give new life for them. Without help I am not sure when they can migrate to the third country.

SCALES also helped me and my mother as an asylum seeker visa several years ago. I could only say thank you but SCALES gives us new life in Australia. What SCALES has done for my family is grateful thing for us and I couldn’t express the word. We are greatly appreciate and happy for the service provided by SCALES.

Thanks again for all your help.
June 2008
Volunteer and Pro Bono Work

SCALES continues to have a host of people who give their time and efforts to work within the Centre.

Margaret Flower continues to assist with administration duties. Her resourcefulness is enormously useful as is her ability to step in as relief Admin on occasions. Margaret continues to maintain the loose leaf manuals in the library which is a great assistance to the service.

Richard Hooker continues to generously give his time and applying his extensive skills to the representation of our clients in Federal Court on Immigration matters and more recently on criminal matters.

More recently we have welcomed Basil van der Merwe who has been applying his vast experience from both Australia and South Africa to the issue of homeless particularly with regard to the shadow report to the United Nations on the Covenant for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Sue Hillman has continued her work at SCALES developing an archiving and file destruction system and assessing files to be kept or destroyed after 7 years. Sue’s work was excellent and enabled us to get started on a huge job that would otherwise have not been done due to time constraints. Amanda has supervised Sue’s work.

We are also in debt to the people who have given their time through volunteering for SCALES; some by writing chapters for the Lawyer’s Practice Manual others through direct client work and still other by simply offering support and advice when it is needed. To all of you SCALES says a very big thank you!

Community Legal Education

SCALES continues its commitment to Community Legal Education with a number of projects undertaken in the 2006/2007 financial year. Presentation of Family Law Information Forums, participation in training for service providers, presentations to schools and other groups have kept the staff busy.

Community Events
Gai attended the Kwinana Hub Shopping Centre Community Day in October 2007; ‘O’ day at the Rockingham TAFE College in January 2008 and Murdoch University Community Development students in October 2007, all were on Community Legal Centres and SCALES.

Presentations
Glynes and Rockingham Family Violence Court Magistrate Brian Gluestein provided a presentation on Family and Domestic Violence to the Justices of the Peace conference in September 2007. She also spoke to a group of nurses at the local district hospital about issues on Family and Domestic Violence.
Kerryn spoke to young mums groups on Tenancy, Family Law and Family Violence.

Family Law Information Forums
Family Law Information Forums are held fortnightly and are accredited by the Family Court of WA.

Conferences
Amanda, Glynes, Gai attended the NACLC Conference in Brisbane in early September 2007. The theme was Justice in a Climate of Change: CLCs looking to the future.

The Annual Clinical Legal Education Conference hosted by Griffith University was held on the Sunshine Coast in late September 2007. Anna, Clea and Gai attended the very successful conference with over 35 Australian delegates and over 10 international delegates. We will host the national and international conference in July 2009.
Volunteer Basil van der Merwe attended the Perth Homelessness conference in October 2007 with theme Still No Room in the Boom.
Community Activities

All staff have been involved over the past year in many and various committees, community events and presentations. We are regularly asked to participate and present on the work we do at SCALES.

**NACLC and CLCAWA**

Gai Walker continues her participation at both state and federal levels of the CLC sector as member of the Executive Committee of the Community Legal Centre Association of Western Australia (CLCAWA) and as joint state representative and Treasure to the National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC).

Gai regularly participates in telephone link ups for NACLC and the RRR network as well as attending face to face NACLC meetings in Sydney on a quarterly basis and monthly meetings of the Executive Committee and General Meetings of the CLCAWA in Perth. National issues are all highly relevant to SCALES have including Pro Bono, 3 year funding contracts, WA CLC Review, State Funding Program, CLSP Review, Pre Budget submissions to both state and federal governments, staffing of the Association office, interpreter access and costs as well as state conference and strategic planning at both state and national levels.

As a responsibility under the NACLC negotiated Professional Indemnity Insurance scheme Amanda on behalf of SCALES undertook the cross check of Youth Legal Service, while we were checked by the Peel Community Legal Service.

**Other CLCs**

SCALES staff continue to work closely with Gosnells, Fremantle and Women’s Law Centres on the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network.

A very valuable network encouraging legal workers to discuss common issues and being able to work on law and policy reform on concerns relating to Police, Courts and other departments.

Preparing for the changes to the Family Law system has taken a lot of time this year. The commencement of Family Relationships Centres has also meant attendance at meetings for staff. The sector continues to be the primary source of professional development opportunities for staff.

**Domestic Violence**

SCALES provides extensive services in Family and Domestic Violence to people in the Kwinana and Rockingham areas by direct casework, community education and committee and network participation.

The South Metropolitan Integrated Family Violence Advocacy Service (SMIFAS) is the Regional Coordinated Response (RCR) for the Kwinana Rockingham Region. With the lack of support for a co-located service for Family and Domestic Violence in this area, the SMIFAS committee has reviewed its priorities and has been working closely with the Armadale Domestic Violence Intervention Project which has very generously been mentoring a case management model for identified high risk families. Case management will not be voluntary as the Stronger Families project, but will address on a combined services approach to develop safe outcomes for the family. Statistics at ADVIP are very positive and local services are keen to proceed with case management. This will be a 3 tiered approach, with a ‘Management Committee’ of SMIFAS partners meeting monthly, a fortnightly Case Management Committee and a wider stakeholder committee that will meet quarterly. SCALES is actively involved at all 3 levels of this committee.

**Young People**

SCALES is a member of the Kwinana Rockingham Action for Today’s Youth (KRAFTY), a collaborative committee of providers of services to young people; SCALES is also a member of the Youth Affairs Council of WA (YACWA). With the success of an application to the Public Purposes Trust for funds to employ a 2 day per week Community Legal Education worker, we look forward to being able to report more integrated and comprehensive community activities next year.
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 and Transgender people, People living in poverty and People living with HIV and AIDS.

We strive to create a society where all members of the society can participate fully and have their contributions recognised. SCALES' role is the provision of legal services to disadvantaged members of the community and legal education to students. We are working to remove barriers in both these areas and work 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:

1 Physical surroundings
   1.1 accessible by public transport (bus stop 100 metres from building)
   1.2 access for people with disabilities (wide door ways, ground floor, disabled parking within 10 metres, play area, toys and activities for children etc)
   1.3 Interview rooms with enough room to accommodate wheel chairs, prams, support people to attend interviews.
   1.4 Environment with artwork, posters, information for people from diverse backgrounds.

2 Service attributes
   2.1 Flexible free client centred service including the option for telephone advice in appropriate circumstances
   2.2 Friendly, welcoming atmosphere at reception
   2.3 Interpreters made available to clients for Auslan as well as other languages at no cost.
   2.4 Appropriately qualified Interpreters are guaranteed for all clients who need them

3 Attitudinal
   3.1 Respectful service to diverse cultures including religion, young people, indigenous people, people from non English speaking backgrounds, same sex and transgender people

A commitment to access and equity will underpin all operations of SCALES.

SCALES staff, students and volunteers must operate within the Access and Equity policies of the Murdoch University. These can be found at http://www.murdoch.edu.au/index/policies/
**Funding**

SCALES has been successful in attracting funding from a number of sources over the years. In the 2007/2008 financial year funding was received from the following sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth CLSP</td>
<td>$124,445</td>
<td>Clinical Legal Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP</td>
<td>$37,307</td>
<td>FAAST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIAC</td>
<td>$95,364</td>
<td>IAAAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoCEP</td>
<td>$46,800</td>
<td>Tenancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murdoch University</td>
<td>$103,635</td>
<td>Acting Director position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPT</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
<td>Youth Law Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA CLSP</td>
<td>$102,314</td>
<td>DVLW Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Generated Income</td>
<td>$65,872</td>
<td>Donations, Lawyers Practice Manual, Bank Interest, committee sitting fees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CLSP** – Community Legal Services Program  
**DCP** – Department for Child Protection  
**DIAC** – Department of Immigration and Citizenship  
**DoCEP** – Department of Consumer and Employment Protection  
**DVLW** – Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network  
**FAAST** – Family Abuse and Advocacy Support Team  
**IAAAS** – Immigration Advice and Application Assistance Scheme  
**PPT** – Public Purposes Trust Fund
Committees and Networks

SCALES staff participated in the following committees and networks:

- Canning Division of GPs DV Research Project Reference Group
- Clinical Legal Education (CLED) Network Australia
- Community Legal Centre Association (CLCAWA) Legal Practice and Profession Indemnity Committee
- Community Legal Centre Association WA (CLCAWA) Executive
- Country Lawyers Project
- Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network (DVLWN)
- Family Abuse and Advocacy Support Team (FAAST)
- Family Court Reference Group
- Family Law Network
- Family Violence Court Project Advisory Group
- Local Service Units (Tenancy Network)
- LPMWA Editorial Committee
- Mandurah Family Relationships Centre Consortium
- Migration Agents Registration Authority
- National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC) Management Committee
- National Children’s and Youth Law Centre (NCYLC)
- Rockingham Court Users Group
- Rockingham Community Facilities Committee
- Rockingham Lotteries House Management Committee
- SCALES VRO Research
- South Metropolitan Integrated Family Abuse Service SMIFAS
- WA and National Rural Regional and Remote (RRR) network

SCALES is a member of the following organisations:

- CLCAWA
- Law Society of Western Australia
- Migration Institute of Australia
- NACLC
- Refugee Council of Australia
- Shelter WA
- Tenants Advice Service WA Inc.
- WA Council of Social Services (WACOSS)
- Women’s Council for Family and Domestic Violence Services (WA)
- Women’s Law Centre
- Youth Affairs Council of WA (YACWA)
Client Statistics

In the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, SCALES gave advice to 709 people, 593 receiving one off face to face advice and the balance receiving additional assistance in the way of case work, negotiation, advocacy or representation.

Number of clients assisted 709
(New clients 482; Repeat clients 124; Existing Clients 103)
Number of Information and Referral Activities 828
Number of Advice (one off) Activities 593
Total Number of Clients Assisted (Information, Advice and Casework) 1771

Number of Cases Ongoing (open) at 1 July 2007 107
Number of Cases Opened 243
Number of Cases Closed 231
Number of Cases Ongoing (open) at 30 June 2008 119
Number of Matters where client was represented 111

Top Ten Problem Types
(These include Information and Referral, Advice and Casework)
The number in brackets shows the % of total legal issues. That is 20.1% of SCALES work is providing advice on who a child lives with or spends time with.

Family Law
Who a child lives with or spends time with (20.1%)
Family or domestic violence (12.8%)
Property in marriage (6%)
Divorce (4.4%)
Property de facto
Property other
Child support agreement S128 application
Separation

Civil Law
Injuries compensation (3.2%)
Tenancy matters -termination by lessor; rent; bond; repairs; other (24.1%)
Immigration Refugee/Protection Visa-Onshore (2.5%)
Other civil legal system or process

Other civil violence/restraining orders
Injuries assaults

Criminal Law
Road traffic and motor vehicle regulatory offences (3.4%)
Theft and related offences
Property damage and environmental offences
Acts intended to cause injury
Unlawful entry with intent burglary break/enter Sexual assault and related offences
Dangerous/neg acts endanger persons/abduct/offence Illicit drug offences major
Deception and related offences Illicit drug offences minor
Statement of Operations

The Statement of Operations for the year 2007/2008 show an operating surplus of $8,523.59. (Last Year $55,188.76) before the depreciation charge of $6,081.17 (Last Year $13,633.99).

The budgeted surplus for the year was set at $3,345.00 before depreciation, so this was an excellent result and congratulations to the management team for holding expenses close to budget and obtaining additional funding through the year.

Statement of Financial Position

The Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2008 shows Total Assets of $305,886.78 (Last Year $265,420.19)

Cash, at Bank and on Term Deposit (refer Note 4a) were $248,531.17 (Last Year $172,569.04)

Non Current Assets (refer Note 7) were $163,881.09 (Last Year $170,313.81) less accumulated depreciation of $154,979.97 (Last Year ($160,934.52)

Total Liabilities of $122,900.26 (Last Year (84,876.09) include the provisions for Employee Entitlements of $94,005.51 (Last Year $59,488.38) (refer Notes 8 & 11)

Net Current Assets (Current Assets $ 296,985.66 less Current Liabilities $75,219.10) of $221,766.56 (Last Year $203,487.44) means that SCALES can meet all its liabilities and is in a good position to continue to provide services and training in the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ron Hassall for his first rate work in the past, he has left the organisation in an excellent state of affairs. I have every confidence in Novela Aleksic’s skills and look forward to working closely with Novela and Gai in the coming years.

Dianne Henderson
Treasurer
SCALES Management Committee
INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY
LEGAL AND EDUCATION SERVICE INC

Scope

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2008 as set out on pages 1 to 5. The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the Associations Incorporations Act (Western Australia) and the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporations 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 member, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements the financial position of the Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. as at 30 June 2008 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

THOMPSON HUGHES & CO

ALAN THOMPSON
18 August 2008
Auditor's Certification

Southern Communities Advocacy Legal & Education Service Inc
Year ended 30 June 2008

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 Financial Performance, a Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements of the above mentioned Organisation ("the Organisation") for the stated Financial Year are:
   • Based on proper accounts and present fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and
   • 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 Financial Performance 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
16 August 2008
STATEMENT of OPERATIONS (PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT)
for the period 1st July 2007 to 30th June 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Aid Income</td>
<td>226,759.00</td>
<td>221,232.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>363,107.50</td>
<td>340,451.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service generating Income</td>
<td>65,872.63</td>
<td>27,721.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating revenues</td>
<td>655,739.13</td>
<td>589,405.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation - Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>6,081.17</td>
<td>13,633.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total operating expenses</td>
<td>653,296.71</td>
<td>547,850.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td>2,442.42</td>
<td>41,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on Disposal of F / A</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit) after abnormalities</td>
<td>2,442.42</td>
<td>41,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening balance of accumulated surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td>180,544.10</td>
<td>138,989.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing balance of accumulated surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td>182,986.52</td>
<td>180,544.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.

**Unit 3, 14 Council Avenue**  
**ROCKINGHAM  WA 6168**  
**ABN 57 402 785 794**

**BALANCE SHEET**

as at 30th. June 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>248,531.17</td>
<td>172,569.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>5 31,487.92</td>
<td>77,927.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>6 9,831.57</td>
<td>5,519.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7,135.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td>296,985.66</td>
<td>256,040.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>7 163,881.09</td>
<td>170,313.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Accrued depreciation</td>
<td>(154,979.97)</td>
<td>(160,934.52)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total non-current assets</strong></td>
<td>8,901.12</td>
<td>9,379.29</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>305,886.78</td>
<td>265,420.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>9 26,815.36</td>
<td>23,152.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>10 2,079.39</td>
<td>2,234.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Entitlements</td>
<td>8 46,324.35</td>
<td>27,165.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
<td>75,219.10</td>
<td>52,553.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-current liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Entitlements - LSL</td>
<td>11 47,681.16</td>
<td>32,322.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total non-current liabilities</strong></td>
<td>47,681.16</td>
<td>32,322.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td>122,900.26</td>
<td>84,876.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>182,986.52</td>
<td>180,544.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Retained earnings</td>
<td>180,544.10</td>
<td>138,989.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Year Earnings</td>
<td>$2,442.42</td>
<td>$41,554.77</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td>182,986.52</td>
<td>180,544.10</td>
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</table>
Statement of Cash Flows for the financial year ended 30th June 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inflows / (Outflows)</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Payments</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments to Employees</td>
<td>(241,839.88)</td>
<td>(184,504.56)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suppliers</td>
<td>(382,385.27)</td>
<td>(400,560.85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>(624,225.15)</td>
<td>(585,065.41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Receipts</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding received</td>
<td>569,552.88</td>
<td>486,439.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership and Affiliation Fees received</td>
<td>180.00</td>
<td>290.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund of Client disbursements</td>
<td>294.00</td>
<td>2,181.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>262.35</td>
<td>244.52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other receipts</td>
<td>65,136.28</td>
<td>20,162.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GST Collected</td>
<td>64,024.27</td>
<td>57,451.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>699,449.78</td>
<td>566,768.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cash used (used/provided) in Operating Activities</strong></td>
<td>75,224.63</td>
<td>-18,296.57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Cash Flows from Investing Activities** |          |          |
| Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment | (5,603.00) | (3,399.89) |
| Interest received on Term deposit          | 6,340.50  | 4,843.65  |
| **Net cash (used/provided) from Investing Activities** | 737.50  | 1,443.76  |

| **Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash** |          |          |
| Cash at beginning of financial year       | 172,569.04 | 189,421.85 |
| **Cash at end of the financial year**    | $248,531.17 | $172,569.04 |
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.
Unit 3, 14 Council Avenue
ROCKINGHAM WA 6168
ABN 57 402 785 795

Notes to and forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 30th June 2008

NOTE 1 - Statement of Accounting Policies

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order
to provide accounts which satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1987
to prepare accounts. The 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, as 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 historic costs and do not take into account changing money
values or except where specifically stated, the current values of non-current assets.

The following specific policies which are consistent the previous period unless otherwise
stated, have been applied in the preparation of these statements.

a) FIXED ASSETS
   The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated over their useful
   lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

b) EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
   Provision is made in respect of the association’s liability for holiday pay
   and long service leave at balance date.

Note 2 - INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>639,884.97</td>
<td>561,683.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>180.18</td>
<td>809.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>9,333.48</td>
<td>27,721.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>- 6,340.50</td>
<td>4,843.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>643,058.13</strong></td>
<td><strong>585,370.65</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 3 - OPERATING EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Administration</td>
<td>116,751.44</td>
<td>100,646.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>530,464.10</td>
<td>433,570.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>647,215.54</td>
<td>534,216.29</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></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BankWest account</td>
<td>122,917.37</td>
<td>80,009.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petty Cash float</td>
<td>300.00</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/West Term Deposit - Emp. Entitl's</td>
<td>95,313.80</td>
<td>92,259.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/West Term Deposit - Emp. Entitl's 2</td>
<td>30,000.00</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>248,531.17</td>
<td>172,569.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Result</td>
<td>2,770.92</td>
<td>41,554.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>6,081.17</td>
<td>13,633.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets Purchased</td>
<td>(5,603.00)</td>
<td>(3,399.89)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(increase)/ decrease in Debtors</td>
<td>42,127.37</td>
<td>(75,997.65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>increase / (decrease) in Creditors</td>
<td>3,507.04</td>
<td>(692.73)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>increase / (decrease) in Provisions</td>
<td>34,517.13</td>
<td>8,048.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>increase / (decrease) other-Bond</td>
<td>(7,110.00)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>76,290.63</td>
<td>16,852.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 5 - RECEIVABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trade debtors</td>
<td>20,313.62</td>
<td>70,224.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bankwest - Interest on Term Deposit</td>
<td>4,171.61</td>
<td>885.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade debtors-general</td>
<td>7,002.69</td>
<td>6,818.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31,487.92</td>
<td>77,927.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 6 - PREPAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insurance-Directors' &amp; Officers</td>
<td>455.79</td>
<td>334.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Practice Certificate</td>
<td>4,750.00</td>
<td>3,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership 2006/07</td>
<td>708.18</td>
<td>782.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>852.76</td>
<td>602.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Travel</td>
<td>3,064.84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>9,831.57</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,519.24</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 7 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Acc. Dep'n &amp; Loss</th>
<th>Depreciation</th>
<th>wdv</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>13,829.00</td>
<td>11,518.00</td>
<td>2,039.00</td>
<td>2,311.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furn.</td>
<td>14,685.39</td>
<td>14,685.39</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elect Eq. Computer Eq.</td>
<td>57,102.93</td>
<td>50,512.81</td>
<td>4,042.17</td>
<td>6,590.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Stock</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fitout</td>
<td>78,263.77</td>
<td>78,263.77</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>163,881.09</strong></td>
<td><strong>154,979.97</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,081.17</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,901.12</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 8 - EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS for HOLIDAY PAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Pay provision as at 30/06/07</td>
<td>27,165.75</td>
<td>28,596.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment to provision 2007/2008</td>
<td>19,158.60</td>
<td>(1,430.56)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Pay provision as at 30/06/087</td>
<td>46,324.35</td>
<td>27,165.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 9 - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Tax Office - PAYG</td>
<td>6,498.59</td>
<td>3,522.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Tax Office - GST</td>
<td>18,863.32</td>
<td>17,536.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBP due</td>
<td>1,453.45</td>
<td>2,094.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>26,815.36</strong></td>
<td><strong>23,152.37</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 10 - ACCRUED EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>135.51</td>
<td>419.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>710.34</td>
<td>663.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs Maintenance</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>440.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>240.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photocopyer Maintenance</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>48.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia Post</td>
<td>42.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers Comp. Insurance</td>
<td>29.09</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation -Cork Ireland</td>
<td>1,162.45</td>
<td>41.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>382.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,079.39</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,234.75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 11 - EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS for LONG SERVICE LEAVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long Service Leave provision 30/06/05</td>
<td>32,322.63</td>
<td>22,843.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer LSL accrual - Anna Copeland</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment to provision 2005/2006</td>
<td>15,358.53</td>
<td>9,479.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>47,681.16</strong></td>
<td><strong>32,322.63</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 12 - RESOURCES PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE

During the year ended 30 June 2008, Murdoch University provided two (2) of their staff to perform the duties of Supervisors at SCALES at an estimated cost of $186936
Sponsors, Supporters and Partners

The Management Committee and Staff of Southern Communities Advocacy, Legal and Education Service Inc. (SCALES) would once again like to thank the following organisations for their generous support throughout the 2007/8 year and look forward to continuing these associations in the future.

✧ Child Protection, *WA Department for*
✧ City of Rockingham
✧ Community Legal Services Program, *Commonwealth*
✧ Community Legal Services Program, *Western Australia*
✧ Consumer & Employment Protection, *WA Department of*
✧ Fremantle Community Legal Centre
✧ Gosnells Community Legal Centre
✧ Immigration & Citizenship, *Federal Department of*
✧ IT Services, Murdoch University
✧ Law Society of Western Australia Public Purposes Trust Fund, *The*
✧ Lotterywest
✧ Mallesons Stephens Jacques
✧ Mandurah Family Relationships Centre
✧ Salvation Army Genesis Centre, Northbridge
✧ School of Law, Murdoch University
✧ South Coastal Women’s Health Services
✧ South Metropolitan Integrated Family Abuse Service
✧ Thomson Lawbook Co
✧ Women’s Law Centre