SCALES Community Legal Centre

Federal Attorney General, the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, the Hon Gary Gray MP with Semester 2 2012 staff and students

Annual Report

2012 - 2013
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9.00am to noon - Monday and Friday

Murdoch

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   South Street, MURDOCH WA 6150
t: 08 9360 6572 f: 08 9360 6996

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

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

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

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

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

a time of consolidation and strategic development

I find it amazing that another year has passed so rapidly. The last twelve months has surely been a time of consolidation and strategic development for SCALES. It is a tribute to the staff and volunteers of SCALES that, during this passage of time, SCALES has moved forward positively and seamlessly.

Implementation of Strategic planning and service development

The Strategic Plan was developed in partnership with Kalico Consulting. The process enabled SCALES’ staff and the Committee of Management to affirm the importance of our organisation. Together we were able to assert our shared understanding of our organisation’s vision, mission and key values. The Strategic Plan 2013-2016 serves as a driver for the organisation setting our focus on the future and providing a framework with which to implement 5 key directions. These directions can be summarised as:

1. Promoting community awareness of legal rights and responsibilities along with SCALES’ services;
2. Identification and management of community legal needs;
3. Commitment to continuing clinical legal education and development of our partnership with Murdoch University;
4. Strive for continuing service excellence; and
5. Maintain the services resource based to ensure that services are sustainable.

The Strategic Plan also operates as a platform for our Operational Plan that sets out the what, how, who and when of our key driving objectives. I look forward to seeing how these strategies progress and develop SCALES as vital and integral community resource.

Murdoch University

One of SCALES’ key stakeholders is Murdoch University. Through their ongoing financial and practical support SCALES continues to provide exemplary applied law clinics. This partnership offers a reciprocal benefit for our organisation. We gain from the stability of funding for experienced (and passionate) legal academics while providing an exemplary clinical law setting for selected students. Feedback from Murdoch law students consistently acknowledges the invaluable skills and broader knowledge obtained through participating in the program.

Tenant Advice Line

Western Australia

It is a credit to SCALES, and in particular to Gai, that we were able to play an integral role in ensuring that this important service was maintained. The advocacy and networks that Gai was able to mobilise at relatively short notice provided the cornerstone on which to rebuild the service and in doing so support the
community.

Acknowledgements

Congratulations to Gai on her permanent appointment as the Managing Director of SCALES. I also note that our Treasurer is greatly assisted by the work that Novela provides in preparing and maintaining the key financial databases and reports.

From the governance perspective the SCALES’ volunteer Committee of Management there has been very stable (membership wise).

My sincere thanks to all members who have provided their assistance over this period.

In particular I acknowledge the work of the SCALES’ executive. To Mieke Dixon, our Secretary, I extend my appreciation to her for her commitment and diligence even when interstate and to our intrepid Treasurer, Darryn Hall for his support and timely advice.

Finally, thank you to all the staff and volunteers of SCALES for another productive and innovative 12 months.

Helen Makeham
Chairperson

SCALES’ Strategic Planning at Murdoch, this photo depicts the historical order of involvement with SCALES.

Earliest involvement, left to most recent right: Judith Parker, Helen Makeham, Gai Walker, Rhonda Horn, Anna Copeland, Margaret Flower, Nicola Gannon, Mieke Dixon, Novela Aleksic, Amanda McGow, Danielle Healey, Justin Jones, Darryn Hall, Roz Davey.
The SCALES’ Team

Patron
Chris Shanahan SC

Management Committee
Helen Makeham Chairperson
Fred Reibeling Deputy Chairperson
Darryn Hall Treasurer
Mieke Dixon Secretary
Margaret Flower Committee Member
Justin Jones Committee Member
Roz Davey Committee Member
Judith Parker Committee Member

Members
Mieke Dixon Fred Reibeling Margaret Flower
Nicola Gannon Darryn Hall Justin Jones
Judith Parker Roz Davey Helen Makeham
Gai Walker Anna Copeland
Jerroldine Gilbert Life Member 2009

Tenant Advice Line Western Australia
Aoning LI Tenancy Solicitor
Tenant Advice Line Tenant Advocates
Tom Nolan Pam Howatson
Danika Adair Suzanne Murphy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Since</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gai Walker</td>
<td>Managing Director</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda McGow</td>
<td>Principal Solicitor, Clinic Supervisor</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Copeland</td>
<td>Director, Clinical Legal Programs, Solicitor, Clinic Supervisor, Migration Agent</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clea Brierley</td>
<td>Solicitor, Clinic Supervisor, Family Law Specialist</td>
<td>2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alice Barter</td>
<td>Family Violence Solicitor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Clark</td>
<td>Domestic and Family Violence Solicitor</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judith Quinlivan</td>
<td>Law Clinic Supervisor, (part time locum)</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kirsty Fentiman</td>
<td>Migration Agent (locum)</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>Marion Huntly</td>
<td>LPM WA Coordinator</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Blake</td>
<td>Tenant Advocate and Law Graduate</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Healey</td>
<td>Tenant Advocate</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<td>Novela Aleksic</td>
<td>Finance Officer</td>
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<td>Rhonda Horn</td>
<td>Admin Officer</td>
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<td>Ben Shipp</td>
<td>Admin Assistant, Murdoch</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<td>Raeleene Murphy</td>
<td>Admin Assistant</td>
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<td>Christine Patton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tegan Hill</td>
<td>Admin Assistant</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alice Barter resigned March 2013</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mary Clark Domestic and Family Violence Solicitor 2013</td>
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<td>Novela Aleksic Finance Officer 2002</td>
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<td>Ben Shipp Admin Assistant, Murdoch 2013</td>
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<td>Raeleene Murphy Admin Assistant 2013</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christine Patton Admin Assistant short term contract 2013</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tegan Hill Admin Assistant short term contract 2013</td>
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Volunteers

SCALES benefits from diverse range of volunteers, from our Management Committee, Lawyers Practice Manual authors and law firms to students past and present and other individuals giving their valuable time and expertise to the service and its clients.

Legal, Migration and Pro Bono
Richard Hooker
George Newhouse
Charandev Singh
Jade Roberts
Chris Shanahan
Rean du Toit
Mary Anne Kenny
King Wood Mallesons
Ashurst
Herbert Smith Freehills
Cliff Warner, Principal Prosecutor, Department of Transport
Dr Rob Guthrie, Criminal Injuries Assessor, Magistrate, Department of Attorney General

Seminar Presenters
Anne Greenshields, Murdoch University
Law Librarian
Anna Copeland
Amanda McGow
Clea Brierley
Rhonda Horn

Administration
Volunteers
Margaret Flower
Gemma McGow
Student Volunteers
Veronica Burns
Hannah Lucas

Lawyers Practice Manual Authors
Sandra Boulter
Nicholas D’Adamo
Bertus de Villiers
Toni Emmanuel
Natasha Erlandson
Susan Fielding
Annie Gray
Jessica Karasinski
Tim Kennedy
Rebecca McAuley
Basil Newnham
Judge David Parry
Chris Wark
Vale Margaret Duff

Our friend and former Management Committee member passed away on 25 August 2012 after a brave fight against cancer. Margaret was a caring committed campaigner for social justice and will long be remembered for the difference she made.

MARGARET Duff, electorate officer and fighter for rights of the disabled, has died after a long illness at age 67.

Margaret Anne Duff (nee Conway) was born in 1944, the eldest of four children and attended John Curtin High School.

During the 1970s, her strong beliefs in fairness, equity and a sense of justice were ignited when the Tressillian Centre for disabled children in Nedlands was closed.

Margaret Duff the activist was born, and her battle to ensure people with disabilities were treated as human beings and their rights seen as a priority came to the fore in the campaign to keep Tressillian open.

Her life as an electorate officer began with the election of South-West MLC Beryl Jones, who set up an office in Pinjarra in 1986.

Ms Jones was replaced by John Cowdell, who set up in Mandurah Terrace.

The Mandurah Terrace office was essentially a local drop-in centre for every disadvantaged group or individual. It was also the campaign headquarters for any local, State or Federal election campaign, and Mrs Duff was the dispenser of emergency relief for people in crisis.

She was Mr Cowdell’s electorate officer for 12 years, retiring briefly from the State scene to work for then Brand MHR Kim Beazley.

In late December 2006, Mrs Duff was drafted into the Peel by-election campaign and was instrumental in ensuring Paul Papalia’s campaign to win Peel was successful in 2007.

Mandurah MLA David Templeman, who gave the eulogy before more than 350 people in Fremantle last Thursday, said Mrs Duff could hold her own with anyone.

“She was a firm believer and advocate in making sure we lifted our game, particularly in terms of women’s interests and representation,” he said.

The Labor Party, of which she had been a member for 40 years, awarded Margaret Duff life membership last May.

She leaves behind her husband Max, to whom she was married for almost 50 years, two children and their families.
Managing Director's Report

This past year has brought grief, disappointment, hope, surprise and excitement.

We grieve for the loss of a friend and former management committee member, Margaret Duff, who passed away in August 2012. I knew Margaret and her beautiful family for over 20 years, we were colleagues and worked together on many client, constituent and community issues over the years.

Margaret was active on many committees and inspired and often mentored many eager young things into community activism. Her support of SCALES was never in doubt and her nomination to the Management Committee was welcomed with alacrity.

We send our sincere sympathies to Margaret’s loved ones.

While a number of funding applications were prepared and lodged, we were disappointed with the lack of success. One grant, the Human Rights Education was withdrawn by the Federal government at the time we were expecting to hear announcements rather than that the funding had been withdrawn. Many thanks to Anna and Judith Parker for their work lobbying locally and nationally to reinstate this fund.

Disappointment won’t stop us continuing to try and broaden our income base and I welcome any suggestions from you on potential sources of income. I always seek briefings from funders on our applications to ensure I am better equipped for future applications.

Lotterywest funding brought the Management Committee and staff together with consultants Christina Kadmos and Maxina Martallotta from Kalico Consulting to work with us on development of a vision and strategic plan for our future service.

You will have seen the new vision, mission and values statements listed in this report. We settled on 5 strategic objectives that cover the obligations and aspirations of the service.

1. Promote community awareness of people’s legal rights and responsibilities and the services offered by SCALES.
2. Identify and manage current and future community legal needs.
3. Maintain the clinical legal education program and expand SCALES’ partnership with Murdoch University.
4. Build on and strengthen a culture of service excellence.
5. Enhance SCALES’ resource base to ensure future viability, sustainability and growth.

Our strategic plan has been formed from the strategic objectives. We maintain
practices developed over many years while introducing new goals to enhance the service.

For a long time we have wanted to build a stronger community legal education practice to run within the Law Clinic. Current community education is usually done outside of the clinic although students do accompany staff members to sessions.

The challenge to incorporate the clinic has been difficult within existing resources. The key dilemma being the call for legal advice from the community versus the importance of preventative work that we hope will increase individuals’ skills and knowledge base.

To progress this with current resources would mean a reduction in legal appointments in order to free up staff to develop a community legal education program. This is a major obstacle for us and we choose at this stage to work towards this goal while seeking improved resources rather than cutting legal services.

I believe the key to this next evolution of the service is to source funding to increase the capacity of the Principal Solicitor position to be able to supervise a broader practice as well as employ suitably experienced staff, this would mean in essence another law clinic supervisor. We know this work is popular with students but at the moment there is no capacity for further supervision within current resources. A frustration for us but there is a strong commitment by staff and Management Committee to work towards this outcome.

What we must remember is that even though we see opportunities to improve, we did present legal information to almost 800 people. This is in addition to direct legal services and networking.

Taking time to plan has given us a better picture of how we hope this service will look in 1, 5 and 10 years time. That is to have more students involved in a wider variety of work in the community including outreach, a higher regular presence in Kwinana, community legal education. We could focus on working on unexpressed as well as unmet demand with the students assisting those most vulnerable in our community.

We were very surprised by some of the outcomes of the organisational review. We have very positive relationships with, and are respected by, many services and were therefore quite surprised to find that many workers did not have a clear understanding of what we do and how we do it.

We have been reminded of the importance of regular updates to other services to ensure that they, and through them their workers and clients, are able to access information on our services. We are working on ensuring our community has a clearer understanding of our work and opportunities for partnerships and assistance.

**Highlights**

I read in an article that Annual Reports should highlight three things we are proud of this year. Well as you all know, I am a more is more girl and three is such a little number for the amount of excitement we have here each year!

Having the Federal Attorney General the Hon Nicola Roxon MP attend Day 1 of Semester 2 2012 was a huge highlight. The Attorney General visited SCALES with
local MP Gary Gray, toured the centre, met with staff and joined staff and students for lunch. The students were pretty star struck at having the Attorney General there on their first day at SCALES! After lunch she joined the day 1 induction session and spoke to the staff and students about her law studies, early career and volunteering at a Victorian CLC.

Having a film crew on site to showcase the Law Clinic as part of the Law School’s recruitment video was a grand adventure! The team came down for the afternoon and took footage of students talking about files and did some interviews. Amanda Blake was the key bunny and we all piled the pressure on by watching her interview. Amanda as usual did a sterling job. You can watch the final product “I wanna be - Murdoch Law Student_2013” by going to the Law School website at http://www.murdoch.edu.au/School-of-Law/

The closure of the Tenants Advice Service WA in November was not a highlight, I am however, very proud that SCALES was part of coalition of CLCs which proposed and was funded to provide an interim service to ensure residential tenants were able to access advice.

Three community legal centres, Welfare Rights and Advocacy Service, Northern Suburbs and SCALES proposed to the Department of Commerce that interim services were essential during the decision making process for a new Central Resource Unit. Most of the fifteen local service units provided support to the application.

In January 2012, SCALES commenced the state wide Tenant Advice Line Western Australia (TALWA) using the same telephone numbers as TAS. Welfare Rights commenced support to tenant advocates and community workers as well as coordinating the manager and tenant advocate networks. Northern Suburbs took on training and community legal education and provided training to tenant advocates and community workers as well as development of a number of fact sheets posted to SCALES’ TALWA and NSCLC web pages. All three services coordinated a state wide tenancy conference in June to prepare advocates for the new tenancy legislation commencing on 1 July 2013.

I could not have committed to this interim service without the full support of all SCALES’ staff. No other CLC in WA had the space or capacity to host the advice line.

While I endeavoured to ensure the project did not impact significantly on staff workload, in reality any new service has an impact. While TALWA was fairly independent through separate phone lines, workers and supervisors, our staff have been willing to assist where needed to ensure tenants had this service. My sincere thanks to all staff for their commitment and support.

Training and leave may not be everyone’s idea of a highlight but for me the fact that both have happened this year is huge. There isn’t much chat time during semester, winter and summer semesters are important periods for us to build our team and plan for the future, at the same time winter and summer semesters are the time for leave, all staff have taken leave this year.

This year, as a group, we had group training in boundaries, stress management, time management and Moodle. Moodle is an intranet system
that allows us to load information, templates and training exercises and give access. We will be able to do induction training to committee, staff and students with Moodle. It has many uses and we are quite excited. Thanks to Lee Collis from the state CLC Association for her patience and Rhonda for her enthusiasm.

In late 2012, Rockingham Magistrate Mrs Sue Richardson contacted Amanda McGow asking to discuss the need for services to applicants and respondents of VROs at the Court. Amanda developed a model and then worked closely with Clea to refine and settle it. The model of an information session for VRO respondents in a court room just before the interim hearing needed scheduling changes to the court rostering. In January this innovative service commenced where respondents are invited to attend the session.

The presentation explains the aim of giving some general information focusing on the court appearance and covering the basics of an application for a VRO; what options they have to resolve the matter today; and what will happen if it can’t be resolved.

At the same time, our domestic and family solicitor meets with applicants in the Victim Support Service offices and give advice and can then represent at the interim hearing if needed.

These two complimentary services have been highly successful by reducing the confusion and misinformation about VROs with the level of hostility and animosity at the court noticeably decreasing. Options and consequences are clearly defined to both parties and the immediate outcome has been an obvious decrease in the risk of conflict at the court and into the future.

There is a great deal of interest in our model and Amanda has provided information and spoken to a number of people from government, community law and courts who are interested in duplicating this service.

It speaks strongly to the respect Clea and Amanda attract in those who work with them.

My final highlight to share with you is the goodwill and collegiate relationship between the Dean of the Law School, Professor Jurgen Brohmer and SCALES. His enthusiasm for clinical legal education is obvious. Negotiations on a new Agreement which included an increase in admin support and the continuation of the assistance of rent costs was straightforward and simple. Thank you Jurgen.

I am excited by the team of people we have who are dedicated to the ongoing professional development of this service. I acknowledge their commitment, professionalism and enthusiasm for the work. I believe we have a clear vision of where we want and need to go to ensure the continuity of SCALES. I am confident that we are on the right track but not complacent about our place in the community.

My goal in the next year is to ensure that the strategic plan is followed, that the NACLC accreditation is obtained and that further funding and/or resources are sought and obtained to ensure SCALES continues to make a difference to law students, the legal profession and our community.

I welcome contributions from any source that can inform and improve this organisation. While funding is an
important resource, it is not the only one and I invite you to work with us to ensure the viability of the service through diversity. I am always happy to talk about potential opportunities.

Thank you to the Management Committee, SCALES’ staff and our supporters for your commitment to the service. I am proud of the SCALES’ team, we work hard to ensure a quality service is provided. Final thanks go to our stakeholders, the law students and our clients for their faith in us and continued support of the service.

Gai Walker

Left to right, Amanda Blake, Prof Jurgen Brohmer, Federal Attorney General Nicola Roxon MP, student Tom Nolan, Gai Walker, Gary Gray MP, Anna Copeland and Margaret Flower
Legal Practice Report

Even when laws have been written down, they ought not always to remain unaltered.

Aristotle

This year has been busy and interesting.

Risk Management

The Risk Management Guide was substantially amended and our practices and procedures were finalised to ensure compliance.

The hard work paid off with a “no issues” cross check result.

The Staff

We had some staff changes this reporting period.

Mary Clark joined us as the family and domestic violence solicitor. Mary was a student at SCALES in 2004 and has experience at Legal Aid, ALS and DCP. Most recently, she was the Principal Solicitor at the Aboriginal Family Law Services.

Amanda Blake was employed as our Tenant Advocate. Amanda started in the Student Clinic, became a volunteer and completed her graduate placement at SCALES. Amanda will be admitted in November 2013.

Judith Quinlivan, an experienced family lawyer, has been popping in for a chat every week and to help clients with urgent matters. She is also doing some family law matters with the students.

The Student Clinic

We supervised 46 students in our Family and General Student Clinics over this reporting period.

We had a variety of legal matters with varying levels of complexity mostly in the following areas:

- Family Law;
- Tenancy
- Restraining Orders
- Criminal Injuries Compensation
- Criminal and Traffic; and
- Consumer matters.

Family law appointments filled very quickly each week. Most of our family law matters are dealt with through our student clinic and range from one off initial advice appointments to submissions on complex interactions between family court orders and violence restraining orders.

Respondent Information Session

Since January 2103, SCALES has delivered an Information Session for people responding to an application for a Violence Restraining Order.

The Respondent Information Session is held every week in the Rockingham
Magistrates Court.

The aim is to provide information on Restraining Orders and address common misunderstandings that can aggravate an already volatile situation.

The feedback from the Respondents and the court staff has been positive.

**Case Study:**
A client from overseas had long term ongoing issues with the father of her child. The father had an interim violence restraining order (VRO) protecting himself and the child in circumstances where the client was the victim. The client had a grant of aid for Family Court matters.

We assisted the client through our student clinic with the violence restraining order matter. The students assisted by drafting submissions for an application to remove the condition extending the VRO to the child. That application was successful.

We further assisted the client with interim parenting arrangements so she could spend time with her young daughter.

Through the student clinic we prepare a large number of Family Court documents; from initiating applications, interim hearing affidavits and trial documents.

An area in which we have an increasing number of cases is grandparents (and sometimes other relatives) seeking parenting orders. In many cases, the grandparents are providing primary care for children and the Department of Child Protection and Family Support have been involved with the parents.

In the reporting period we had three cases of primary carer grandparents/relatives for which we provided ongoing assistance including preparing court documents to initiate Family Court of WA proceedings. Those matters resolved without the need for trial.

**Case Study:**
An aunty had the care of her very young niece after the parents were involved with child welfare authorities in the Eastern States. The child needed significant ongoing medical treatment.

We assisted the client by preparing initiating documents seeking parenting orders including specific parental responsibility to provide consents for medical treatment. The client obtained final orders without the need for a trial.

Ongoing assistance was given in a number of civil matters, including criminal injuries compensation applications.

Rob Guthrie, an Assessor/ Magistrate with the office of Criminal Injuries Compensation (CIC), visited our students to provide a seminar in April 2013. This inspired the students and we finalised a number of matters during this reporting period.

One of our Semester One students is currently doing an internship at the Office of CIC.

**Case Study:**
We assisted a female victim of sexual offences apply for criminal injuries compensation. The client was very vulnerable and had a lot of difficulty providing instructions. We assisted the client through the process including; referring her to a sensitive psychologist to prepare the report; and drafting the
application and submissions.

The client was awarded the statutory maximum in compensation.

Family and Domestic Violence

Women experiencing family and domestic violence often do not know about the legal options available to leave an abusive relationship with minimal risk to the client or any children.

The Family and Domestic Violence practice provides assistance to women and children experiencing family violence in a number of ways:

- Through our FAAST Service;
- At the Rockingham Magistrates Court each Wednesday to assist victims of family and domestic violence with restraining order applications.
- In house appointments and ongoing assistance for restraining orders either for the final order hearing, negotiations or applications to Legal Aid.

Advice to women experiencing family and domestic violence is not just about restraining orders. SCALES is able to provide assistance in other areas of law relevant to the issues:

- Urgent recovery orders in the Family Court;
- Negotiating with the Department of Child Protection and Family Support (as they are now called)
- Reporting offences to Police and assisting clients with the criminal process that may follow
- Tenancy advice, particularly if the other party is still on the tenancy agreement
- Property law advice, particularly if the other party is refusing to leave the family home or disposing of assets.

Family Relationship's Centre

We provided advice and assistance at the Perth Family Relationship Centre every month during the reporting period—a total of 47 clients for the reporting period.

This service is through our partnership with the Family Relationship Centres with the aim of collaborative service delivery.

Tenancy

Tenancy assistance is given to private tenants and social housing tenants across a number of our services, including the Student Clinic, our Tenant Advocates and the Tenants Advice Court Service (TACS).

TACS is in the 7th year. Advice and assistance has been given to over 600 private and public housing tenants since we started.

Case Study

The Department of Housing took action to evict an 18 year old after his mother had passed away. The Department relied on their “no succession” policy to make the decision to terminate the tenancy agreement on the basis that the child was not a party to the Agreement. The client had no other relatives and his father had passed away in 2011.

Our Tenant Advocate worked with a number of support services to convince
the Department of Housing to allow the client to stay in the Premises. Ultimately, the outcome was successful, and the Department found the client another more suitable Premises.

This year, SCALES hosted the Tenants Advice Line with some interesting tenancy issues emerging. We couldn’t resist keeping a list of some creative reasons owners breached tenants. These included pulling vegetables out of the communal vegetable garden, hanging a hand bag over the bedroom doorknob and having the knives and forks in the wrong compartments in the drawer!

**Homelessness should never be used as a punitive measure to shape behaviour in a group with such documented disadvantage:**

Commissioner for Equal Opportunity

Yvonne Henderson

**Social Housing**

Social Housing tenants required assistance after the strengthening of the Disruptive Behaviour Management Strategy by the Department of Housing (following a meth lab explosion in a Department home).

While we understand why this may result in termination of a tenancy agreement, SCALES was of the view that the policy was being applied too rigidly, especially involving complaints by neighbours about the tenant’s behaviour.

The Department of Housing applied to evict tenants using the “no grounds required” provision in the relevant legislation.

SCALES assisted a number of vulnerable tenants with complex needs who were at risk of homelessness.

**Case Study**

The Department of Housing applied to the Court to evict a social housing tenant on the basis the tenant had received 3 “strikes” for “disruptive behaviour”. The complaints involved other family members coming to the tenant’s house without the tenant being able to control their behaviour.

The tenant had the care of the grandchild, and was at risk of eviction to homelessness and apprehension of the child by the Department of Child Protection (as they were then called).

SCALES successfully negotiated with the Department of Housing to withdraw the application.

**The Future**

In October 2013, the WA parliament passed the Family Court Amendment (Family Violence and other Measures) Act 2013, so that the State legislation is now consistent with the Commonwealth legislation.

This puts an end to more than a year of...
having to give different advice and information to clients depending on whether or not they had been married to the other parent. The changes included changes to the best interest considerations and the definition of family violence.

New amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act 1987 include provisions about terminating social housing tenancies due to “objectionable behaviour”. Tenants are already seeking assistance about applications to terminate their tenancy agreement as a result of complaints made to the Disruptive Behaviour Hotline. It will be interesting to see how the Court determines what can be taken into account in these matters.

The Law Reform Commission is now reporting on issues raised in the area of family and domestic violence. The terms of Reference include considering the benefits of having separate family and domestic violence legislation and advice on the utility and legal consequences of separating family and domestic violence restraining orders from the Restraining Orders Act 1997.

SCALES intends to make submissions and we hope to see some improvements following the completion of the Report.

Amanda McGow
Principal Solicitor

Left to right: Community Police officers, Paul and Archie with Alice Barter, alumni Rob Owen, Gai Walker and Amanda McGow catching up for a cuppa in the kitchen.
Our Clients

It is always nice when clients take the time to thank us for our work with letters, cards and sometimes chocolate! Here are some examples of the messages we have received this year.

Hi Clea, the student you assigned to me was helpful and relayed your advice in regards to applying for a variation to the VRO due to a significant change of circumstances. The student was also helpful as to advising me on the drafting of an Undertaking in offer of replacing a cancelled VRO. ... Thanks again for the help of the team at SCALES; you have all been outstanding.

Amanda Blake, Thanks for all your advice and listening to me ... It was good to be able to meet you and work out some of the finer details before entering the courts as it is scary stuff and I don't know the court procedures well, but your advice helped and I was able to hold them off and get back into mediation steps.

Dear Kirsty, Thanks and Appreciation ... We are fully aware that without your organizations support it could have been difficult or impossible for my family to secure their visa.

In that light I and my family are hereby expressing our sincere thanks and appreciation to your organization for a job well done.

Dear Anna, I would like to thank you and SCALES, for providing me assistance on grant of protection visa. It's like me getting another life to survive.

Without your help, I wouldn't be able protect my life. Thank you for being such a wonderful person and providing such an amazing service to me, I must say there is no religions or services better than what you guys doing for us.

You are helping the people like me who are at risk. ...

Dear Danielle, I would just like to extend to you my great appreciation for all your help and advice and that of your team at the Rockingham court house, in particular Tom.

After being terminated from my rental after 8 years and then being footed with a $740 carpet and blind replacement bill ... I was quite upset ...as I thought it quite unreasonable. I was informed by the Real Estate agent of your services, and having never been put in this situation I didn’t have ... an idea on how to proceed ...

Then most stressing was the idea of standing in front of a magistrate in court. After negotiating with the Property Manager your team managed to settle out of court and had my case brought forward on the list to be put before the magistrate. Tom entered the court with me and represented my case. I walked out of the court after 2 minutes.

I could not have done this without you all and am very grateful for your help.
Case Study

The client, ‘V’, wanted to apply for passports for her children in order to travel to New Zealand for her sister’s wedding. Her ex de-facto partner, ‘W’, was uncooperative and would not sign the children’s passport applications. There were longstanding complex family violence issues with this client which we had supported V within the past including violence restraining orders against W. He had also moved to New Zealand.

To apply for a children’s passport you must have the consent of both parents. V would need to apply to the Family Court of WA (‘FCWA’) for dispensation of the father’s consent. However, after drafting the application, W returned to Perth from New Zealand and the children were successful in securing his signature.

With the support of SCALES, V was able to fulfil all the requirements of the Family Court to allow her to take the children outside of Australia including a signed statutory declaration from W.

In the past W had been known to waste the court’s time and create problems. SCALES also advised V how she could prevent potential proceedings in the Family Court of New Zealand.

V was able to attend her sister’s wedding with her children without the stress and fear of action by W.

Case Study

An 18 year old girl came to SCALES for assistance with her application for criminal injuries compensation. She was the victim of sex offences when she was 11 years old perpetrated by three older teenage boys including a family member.

She was very traumatised by the incident and was diagnosed with depression. Her behaviour at school and her grades changed and continued to deteriorate. She also became socially withdrawn, suicidal and felt she couldn’t trust anyone.

SCALES’ staff spent a lot of time gaining her trust and taking her instructions. As well as preparing her application, we also supported her and referred her to counsellors and other support agencies.

Case Study

Client came to SCALES for assistance with VRO protecting her and binding her ex-partner. He had been very emotionally abusive and demeaning to the client. She was very scared of him.

She was represented by a SCALES’ solicitor at the mention hearing who then negotiated with his solicitor prior to the final order hearing. The day before the hearing the OP consented to the VRO being made final for 2 years. The client appeared at Court the next day but didn’t have to go through the trauma of giving evidence.

She was very relieved and felt a sense of empowerment.
**Case Study**

The client, a 21 year old woman, contacted SCALES for assistance after she left her abusive partner. She instructed that she had been with the other party for 3 years and that he had been very controlling, verbally abusive, threatening and had problems controlling his anger.

At the time they separated, they had a 7 month old baby. The client was very worried because the other party had slapped the baby in the face and would routinely smack and throw her when she was crying. The client was worried the other party would take the baby and never let her see her again.

We gave the client initial family law advice and explained to her the option of applying for a violence restraining order (VRO) and how to do that. We also discussed with her counselling and safety planning and referred her to South Coastal Women’s Health Service and the Lucy Saw refuge/Safe at Home for further assistance.

The client subsequently went to the Rockingham Courthouse and drafted the affidavit in support of her application for the VRO with assistance from the Family Violence Service. SCALES’ staff reassured her and explained what would happen at the court hearing. The client instructed she was very scared and was having trouble sleeping. The other party had been sending the client abusive text messages and we advised her to report this to the police.

The other party was served with the VRO and lodged an objection. Therefore the client had to attend a mention hearing at the court.

Further advice was given in relation to the VRO, breaches and family law, and represented her at the mention hearing. The client was then assisted to fill out an Application for Legal Aid and we submitted that on her behalf. Legal Aid was granted and the client was represented at the VRO final order hearing.

The client was also referred to Legal Aid’s Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution program so that the client would be supported by a counsellor and represented by a lawyer in resolving the issues related to the other party spending time with the child.
Tenant Advice Line Western Australia

From 22 January to 30 June 2013, the advice line had provided 1,869 advices to 1,573 clients.

As noted previously in this report, the Interim CRU proposal came from the concern of tenancy services that tenants would not have access to telephone advice during the recruitment of a new Central Resource Unit following the closure of the Tenants Advice Service.

We are very proud to have been able to set up this service within 3 weeks of advice that our submission had been successful.

Solicitor Aoning Li, former student, tenant advocate and clinic supervisor was recruited on a part time basis to supervise the advice line tenant advocates. Initially the project was funded for 2 full time equivalent tenant advocates with further lobbying increasing the number to 3 full time equivalent staff.

Tenant advocates for the advice line were recruited from TAS, the Law Clinic and Fremantle CLC student volunteers.

Pam Howatson is a longstanding telephone advice line tenant advocate at TAS. Her experience on the policy and procedures of how the advice line was run as well as her extensive knowledge and networks was extremely valuable during set up and induction. Tom Nolan had just finished Advanced Advocacy, his second SCALES unit and came on board as our second part time advice line worker. Toms experience and understanding of SCALES’ policy and procedure was also valuable in helping with induction of the other workers. Danika Adair a recent law school graduate and FCLC volunteer was our third recruit. Suzanne Murphy was our fourth part time recruit with Beau Chapman replacing Tom on his departure at the end of June.

It has been great to watch Aoning stretch himself as the team leader of this project, he has settled in well to his new role and developed a strong positive team.

Amanda McGow, Gai Walker and Aoning developed an induction and training package to ensure that the new staff were aware of the role and responsibilities of SCALES and TALWA.

Advice line staff have attended the Rockingham Magistrates Court tenancy court service with Danielle and Amanda, they also attended tenant advocate network meetings, the Tenancy conference and court training. This training not only prepared them for the 1 July new legislation, it gave context to the advice they were giving and gave the tenant advocates a chance to meet face to face with other workers who were taking on referrals and discuss protocols around referrals.

Congratulations to all and thanks to Clea, Amanda, Danielle and Amanda for their support to the project.
Most Common Issues

Family Law

Family Law and Family Violence matters are 45% of SCALES’ work with almost 42% of family law matters including domestic and family violence.

The most common issues where services are provided include:

- Domestic and family violence
- Who a child lives with or spends time with
- Property – marriage, de facto, other
- Children’s matters (taking child overseas, child protection, child support, DNA testing, changing name)
- Divorce or separation
- Other
Criminal Law

Criminal Law is less than 4% of overall practice. There were 56 criminal matters dealt with this year.

- Road traffic and motor vehicle regulatory offences (34)
- Theft and related offences (11)
- Property damage and environmental offences (4)
- Acts intended to cause injury (2)
- Other (5)

Civil Law

Civil Law is diverse with our main issues being tenancy, immigration and criminal injuries compensation. Other matters include consumer and complaints against government services. Civil Law matters are 50% of SCALES’ work with Tenancy being 34% of the overall practice or 67% of the Civil Law work. Immigration is 7% or 4% of the overall practice.

- Tenancy matters - termination by lessor; rent; bond; repairs; other
- Criminal injuries compensation
- Immigration Refugee/Protection Visa
- Civil legal system or process
- Civil restraining orders
- Other

Civil Matters
Client Statistics

In the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013, SCALES gave advice to 856 people in the form of one off advice, information and referral, case work, negotiation, advocacy or representation.

Clients assisted 856

(New clients 604, Repeat clients 164; Existing Clients 88)

Information and Referral Activities (No legal advice) 1162
Advice (one off) Activities 1045

TOTAL Number of Services provided (Information, Advice and Casework) 2207

Cases Ongoing (open) at 1 July 2012 97
Cases Opened 221
Cases Closed 208
  Minor cases closed (0-5 hrs) 116
  Medium cases closed (6-20 hrs) 57
  Major cases closed (20 hrs and over) 38

Cases Ongoing (open) at 30 June 2013 110
Matters where client was represented 145
Law and Policy Reform

Law and policy reform issues this year were on highly diverse issues. We also engaged in public debate through public speaking, meetings with department holding our own symposiums and workshops and through extensive media work. This year alone we have hosted, participated or contributed to the following events and issues:

Youth Justice Think Tank
Anna worked with WACOSS, YACWA and YLS on this project and presented at two workshops.

Out of control gatherings project
Anna spoke to media and provided a briefing paper to a member of parliament.

Complaints against the Judiciary
Gai had a telephone conversation with a WA Law Reform Commission officer on issues raised by local community groups.

Public Tenants and the right to housing - evictions and procedural fairness Symposium
Anna worked with the late Stephanie Bachman from Shelter WA. Two symposiums were hosted at the Law School, about 110 people attended overall. Representatives from the EOC, DoH, health, DoC, tenancy and housing workers, Murdoch, SCALES and tenants attended.

Hakea prison: Human rights and juvenile detainee
Anna and the human rights students carried out extensive work including client and family interviews and casework, submissions to the government and Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services. A number of media interviews are recorded in this report.

Justice reinvestment project
A submission was prepared by the human rights law clinic students for the Parliamentary enquiry into justice reinvestment.

Changes to the Family Court and Federal Magistrates Court fees
SCALES endorsed the Women’s Legal Services Inc. submission providing case studies.
Vulnerable witness protections in the Family Law Act 1975, SCALES endorsed the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network submission providing case studies.

Roebourne Prison project,
Anna and students prepared a submission as part of a campaign aiming to increase funding to Roebourne prison so as to increase the conditions to an adequate standard of living. Arguing that the current conditions have only been accepted due to Roebourne being an aboriginal prison.

NGO Human Rights Commission, Anna reviewed the NGO submission to the HRC on Australia’s continuing obligations under the ICCPR and added feedback on SCALES’ behalf.

Human Rights Report Card Western Australia, 2013 – All solicitors provided case studies to the committee for research. Report expected late 2013.

Community Law Australia, Gai is the WA representative on this national campaign committee to raise the profile of CLCs generally and through that lobby to bring CLCs better funding to Australian CLCs.

We believe that all Australians should be able to access the law, regardless of their financial or social circumstances, or their geographic location.


In addition to these activities, a number of consultations sought feedback from SCALES on community demand and unmet need, client demographics, wages, draft budget submissions, clinical legal education course details and statistics and funding sources and community needs.
Family Abuse & Advocacy Support Team

SCALES is one of very few legal practices where a client can get assistance to deal with all of the issues, rather than each issue in isolation. It is unusual that one legal practice or one lawyer would or could deal with all of the legal matters a client experiencing domestic and family violence is likely to present with.

The clients of the domestic and family violence practice can be assisted in person, via our outreach service at the Rockingham Magistrates Court or by telephone. Issues raised have varied from a relatively simple matters to highly complex ones.

Often clients seek assistance to get a VRO because the Police told them to get one. While a VRO can be a valuable tool in keeping victims of violence safe, clients do not always want to apply for a VRO as they believe it will escalate the violence and aggression by the other party. It is always important that they are given legal advice even if they choose not to take immediate action.

Case study
A 41 year old female attended our office for legal advice in regards to a VRO. She was still living under the same roof at the time and had a 4 year old child to the relationship. The father of her child has always been controlling but recently he started to physically and verbally abuse her to the point that she left the house and sought safety and accommodation at a refuge.

He contacted her through her mobile phone and told her that if she went to a lawyer he would burn their house down. She wasn’t sure about applying for a VRO, concerned that it might make the situation worse and she felt that things had to settle down following her departure. She was given legal advice and was also encouraged to follow her safety plan developed with the support of the refuge and to call the police if required. She didn’t apply for a VRO because she felt safer without one.

When a client contacts the service we look at the immediate legal issues and what a client would need to consider, including:

- Whether there are grounds to apply for a Violence Restraining Order and whether this is the best course of action in the circumstances.
• Whether there are children impacted by the violence and the best way to protect the children. That is, to include children in a VRO application or whether an urgent application in the Family Court is a better option.

• Whether the client needs an appropriate and warm referral to services to assist with safety planning needs. Safety is the primary concern, the solicitor will always check if the client has engaged with other services such as the women’s refuge (the Lucy Saw Centre for the Prevention and Intervention of Domestic and Family Violence), counselling, and victim support services.

• Where there is merit and the client meets the eligibility criteria, the solicitor may prepare an application for Legal Aid. In some cases the women have resources to engage a solicitor but just need to know how to get started, what do they need to do, who do they talk to, how do they keep safe while doing this, what should they do first?

• Advice about Injunctions and Recovery Orders in the Family Court if there is a fear the other party will not return the children.

• Any involvement with Department of Children Protection, and if so, the level of the involvement (eg court applications or support only).

Case Study
An Aboriginal lady sought our assistance following a warm referral from Djooraminda. Her 3 children had been removed from her care nearly 2 years ago following neglect and welfare concerns due to alcohol abuse. At that time the client did not engage with the Department at all but had sought assistance following service of an amended application for the children to stay in the care of CEO until they are 18.

The first day she attended our office she looked unwell and reeked of alcohol. She recognised the need to engage with support services and make changes to her life if she wanted to reunify with the children. After several months of attending court and meetings with the Department, she has now moved into a house close to her family and is engaging well with the Department.

She now looks healthy, is attending AA meetings and other recommended courses. The Department are now reconsidering their application from an order until 18 to another 2 year order.

Some other issues that SCALES can assist with “down the track” may include:

• Applications for criminal injuries compensation (not so straightforward when the other party has been in a relationship with the other party); and

• Sorting out any how to deal with Family Law property settlements when domestic violence has been present in the relationship.
The Lawyers Practice Manual (WA) was first published in 2005. In 2013 there are 19 chapters addressing a diverse range of legal areas from Family Law, Bail and Administrative Law through to areas such as Legal Aid and Crime and Violence.

Chapter Updates

In this financial year reviewed and updated chapters included:

3.2 Restraining Orders;
3.3 Bail Applications;
6.1 Appeals to the Social Security Appeals Tribunal;
6.5 Debt Recovery by Centrelink & the Family Assistance Office;
6.6 Using the Freedom of Information Act
7 Guide to Proceedings in the State Administrative Tribunal;
7.2 Military Compensation and Rehabilitation Scheme
11.1 Terms & Conditions of Employment;
11.2 Termination of Employment;
18.1 Immigration Law;
19.1 Intellectual Property;

Publications

In April 2013 Thomson Reuters published Judge David Parry and Bertus De Villiers updated Guide to Proceedings in the State Administrative Tribunal. It is an extensive and detailed update.

SCALES successfully assisted David and Bertus in promoting the work to Thomson Reuters as a monograph. In early 2013 both a hard copy and E-book were published with a forward by Justice Barker.

The book is a comprehensive guide for lawyers working in any of the four streams of the Tribunal.

Finally, this is my last report for the WA Lawyers Practice Manual.

My thanks go to the team at SCALES who made working on the Manual a rewarding and enjoyable experience over the past 2 ½ years.

Marion Huntly
Coordinator
Clinical Legal Education

Report

The students had to have the experience of trying to do the thing before they would be ready to understand the kind of explanations that the teacher would give them about what they were doing:

Donald Schon: Educating the Reflective Practitioner

This year has been a very busy one for the Clinical Legal Education program based at SCALES. We have offered 60 students places in three separate clinical programs.

Our general clinical program has allowed students to see the operations of community law up close. It has provided opportunities for them to interview clients, undertake research, formulate advice and offer clients ongoing legal assistance.

In our Family Clinic a select group of students have had the opportunity to work across all aspects of family matters including initial advice, mediation and litigation.

Our Human Rights Clinic challenges our students to apply a human rights framework to the legal issues of our clients to improve the outcome.

The national reputation of the clinical program at SCALES has grown this year with the release of two publications.

The book 'Promoting Justice through Clinical Legal Education' by Jeff Giddings was released this year and features the Murdoch program based at SCALES. The response to the book has been overwhelmingly positive providing an endorsement of Clinical Legal Education in general and also the program at SCALES.

Our program has also been at the forefront of some national research into Clinical Legal Education funded by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council. This research has resulted in a final report including best practices in clinical legal education. It can be found at http://www.cald.asn.au/assets/lists/Resources/Best_Practices_Australian_Clinical_Legal_Education_Sept_2012.pdf

This year has seen the development of our clinical program ahead of some structural changes within the University which are on the horizon.

We are now well placed to address these changes, with a strong focus on reflective learning and academic support to assist our students deal with the demanding environment of a community legal centre practice.
These changes have been well received by the students and represent a more comprehensive approach which takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that the clinical program and the practice at SCALES offers.

Anna Copeland,
Director Clinical Legal Programs
Murdoch School of Law

Amanda and Clea with students with Dr Rob Guthrie, Criminal Injuries Compensation Assessor (centre front).
Law Clinic Students

Semester 2 2012

Law 390 General Clinic
Perveen Kaur
Shezah Arif
Danya Borkowski
Vidya Thiagarajan
Tenille Fricker
Clea Turner
Marc Tan Jia Wei
Samuel Harper
Sunita Sebastian
Nia Cardian
Sian Blakemore
Tichaona Mazhawidza
Olufunmilayo Olubodun
Rishi Kashyap
Taranjeet Singh

Law 385 Human Rights Clinic
Shane Ethell
Nasreen Sadiqi
Alana Bernstein
Chantelle Arathoon
Rachel Noronha
Jamie Lim Yin Yin
Justin Naidu
Shaun Wyn-Jones
Brett Smith
Almona Patel
Carole McMahon
Conelia (Mia) Kotze

Semester 1 2013

Law 390 General Clinic
Kelly Tranter
Zoe McColl
Rosie Blakey-Scholes
Paula Hudson
Vivek Jacob
Michael Panizza
Bronwyn Nevin
Ron Mathieson
Amanda Ho
Sophia Greenwood

Law 385 Human Rights Clinic
Robert Tedeschi
Stuart Nicol
Cherie Tan Sze Xuan
Yazan Majrouh
Veronica Burns
Qalila Omar

Law 385 Advocacy Clinic
Steph Baxter
Julie Lindsley
Skye Asher Holden
Phoebe Boswell Hyde

Law 385 Family Clinic
Alanah Murphy
Thomas Nolan
Faiza Bukhary
Katherine Dillon

Law 385 Family Clinic
Abbey Cross
Hannah Lucas

Law 385 Human Rights Clinic
Corey White
Stephanie Reincastle
Autumn Feuerheerd
Annemarie Tully
Bethwyn Cheng
Priya Gunendra
Daniel Cave
Louisa Miller
Ashleigh Williams
Braeden Watts
Student Gallery
Student Testimonials

From my time at SCALES I have gained insights into what practicing law is like.

I have further developed skills such as interviewing, research, and writing legal memos that I will use for the rest of my career. It is worthwhile having this experience in a “class-room” because it would be severely nerve racking going into practice without experience. I found the hardest part of practicing in law is giving the client an answer they do not want to hear.

The reason why I went into law was to help people and SCALES has illustrated to me that this is possible because the clients are people who are economically disadvantaged so you are usually their only option. I am keen to gain further experience in Family Law.

Lawyers in our system are valuable as they are informing the community of things they may not fully comprehend which will have a significant impact on their lives.

SCALES has demonstrated to me that in the future working in a community legal centre may be more rewarding than a corporate law firm because you are in the position to help people who really need your advice.

Phoebe Boswell Hyde, Semester Two 2012 L385 Family

SCALES is a wonderful experience and I think that all students, especially third and fourth years, should take the opportunity to work in the clinic. The practical skills that you learn are priceless and will assist students when they commence working in a law firm.

Skye Asher Holden  Semester Two 2012 L385 Family

I think I have said this already, but my time at SCALES has been the most informative and the hugest learning curve of my entire education – nothing could have freaked me out more or prepared me better for what’s to come. I have learnt how to put different aspects of law together, to listen and use instructions, lots of the “lingo” and, importantly, that I don’t have to memorise every bit of the law, just recognise when the bells go off in my head. From there I can research, developing my skills even further. My time has given me a taste of what is to come from my degree and it has shown me what a brilliant opportunity I have been given to work in a profession which changes people’s lives. Thanks so much!

Stephanie Baxter, Semester Two 2012 L385 Family
SCALES has been the best unit I have completed in my degree, it has been such a wonderful and life changing experience, the guidance and support is invaluable.

For once I was able to learn about the issues surrounding the legal profession rather than just the law. If only there was a possibility to ensure every student could attend SCALES, as it really helps you understand what being a lawyer is about and as it places your career aspiration into perspective.

Nasreen Sadiqi, Semester Two 2012
Human rights

My SCALES experience has been amazing! I have learnt so many practical skills and made some great friends. I hope the program continues for many years to come and that one-day I can give back to SCALES and those who helped me along the way.

Tenille Fricker, Semester Two 2012
General Clinic

SCALES has been such a good experience for me. I’m very glad I did it because it opened up so much about the world of law to me – especially the practical side to it. There are so many things that I learnt through SCALES that could not be learnt through a normal unit in law school! Just want to say thank you everything Anna 😊

Jamie Lim Yin Yin, Semester Two 2012
Human rights

SCALES has been the outstanding highlight of my time at Murdoch. I have learnt more this year through SCALES than I believe I learnt throughout the other 4 years of my degree. I have not only learnt about specific areas of law, I have learnt about what it means to be a lawyer, who I am and who I want to be as a lawyer and where my passions truly lie. I really hope to maintain contact with SCALES.

Alana Bernstein, Semester Two 2012
Human rights

My SCALES experience is very valuable. I came in without any clinical experience, I have learnt and still learning that the application of law to real life issues is very different and that there is a process involved with each area of law.

Further, Amanda’s comment after my first client’s interview about “nothing is straightforward” is one that I will always remember.

Olufunmilayo Olubodun, Semester Two 2012
General Clinic

I just want to thank Anna, Clea, Amanda and everyone down at SCALES for going to all the effort to make this unit such a rewarding experience for me and, I’m sure, most of the other students too. I really enjoyed it and especially appreciate the confidence it has instilled in me going forward.

DANIEL CAVE, Semester Two 2012
General Clinic
Without a doubt, SCALES has been the most practically useful unit that I have undertaken to date. I have learnt skills that I will use throughout my career, in a supportive environment where I’m not afraid to make mistakes or ask questions. It has also taught me a lot about where I want to go as a lawyer, and about the benefits of reflective practice.

**Kelly Tranter, Semester One 2013 General Clinic**

I have gained invaluable practical experience from having done SCALES and I have no doubt that this will be of tremendous benefit to me in my future career. SCALES has also given me a much clearer idea of which areas of law I would like to go into. I have really enjoyed my Tuesdays in Rockingham at SCALES because all the staff have been so fantastic and I have learned so much.

**Ron Mathieson, Semester One 2013 General Clinic**

SCALES has been a valuable experience and I have felt very privileged to be accepted into this program. It is an experience that I will be recommending to other law students.

I have made good friendships amongst my peers at SCALES and have great respect for the supervisors and the staff in general. They set an excellent example to me in their work practices.

**SOPHIA GREENWOOD, Semester One 2013 General Clinic**

It has been a fantastic experience, and I am very grateful for the privilege. I have had a fantastic semester with the incredible people who work at SCALES Rockingham (and Anna!). I feel I have learnt an enormous amount and gained invaluable experience. I also feel I have developed professionally and personally from the lessons and exposure SCALES has offered me. The tutorials were “the icing on the cake”, and imperative to the practical legal learning environment. They cemented everything you had begun to identify and learn independently at SCALES through experience, and then with the legal ideas delivered effectively in the tutorial everything fell into place.

**Rosemarie (Rosie) Blakey-Scholes, Semester One 2013 General Clinic**
This year we have been interviewed or commented on the following justice issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Media Outlet</th>
<th>Description of events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31.12.2012</td>
<td>The West Australian</td>
<td>Three-strike evictions criticised&lt;br&gt;Discusses the 3 strike policy within the Public Housing Act. States there are people being forced into homelessness over careless government action. Also discusses the involvement of the Human Rights Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.2013</td>
<td>Weekend Courier</td>
<td>Group takes on ‘unfair’ tenant eviction law&lt;br&gt;Discusses the Murdoch and SCALES’ lobby group on the 3 strikes policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1.2013</td>
<td>6PR Interview</td>
<td>Students form a new taskforce&lt;br&gt;Discusses a new legal task force including Murdoch Human Rights Clinic and SCALES to look at legislation that is seeing tenants evicted without proper process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.1.2013</td>
<td>Sydney Morning Herald</td>
<td>Detaining sex offenders in WA indefinitely&lt;br&gt;Discusses the implications of indefinite imprisonment of sex offenders under the Dangerous Offenders Act. Says that the psychological impact of indefinite detention can be very serious and breaches Australia’s commitment to international human rights law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.1.2013</td>
<td>Fremantle Herald</td>
<td>Three strikes move&lt;br&gt;Discusses the Murdoch Human Rights Clinic and their work regarding the 3 strikes policy and evictions to homelessness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.1.2013</td>
<td>ABC Radio 720</td>
<td>Interview with Clinic director about their work on the three strikes policy&lt;br&gt;Discusses the 3 strikes policy within the Public Housing Act, and the work the clinic was doing in support of tenants being evicted to homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.3.2013</td>
<td>ABC Radio 720</td>
<td>A riot at Banksia Hill....&lt;br&gt;Discusses the legal challenge of the detention of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
with Russell Wolfe youths within Hakea prison and compares the facilities within Hakea with those of Banksia Hill. Interviews Clinic Director about the work of the Clinic


19.3.2013 6PR (news and interview with talk back) Staff and students at Murdoch University are challenging the condition of juvenile detention Discusses the transfer of Juvenile inmates from Banksia Hill to Hakea Prison, and the isolation and lack of education & rehab programs within Hakea compared to Banksia Hill. Also the work that the Human rights Clinic is doing on this issue.

19.3.2013 96FM News Headline Inquiry heard from teenage prisoners in the Hakea Prison News reader explains an inquiry has heard about hunger and abuse of juvenile offenders in Hakea prison. Quoted as saying ‘concerned about the conditions within Hakea’.

19.3.2013 The West Australian Young detainees ‘not fed enough’ by Amanda Banks Discusses the food situation for juveniles within Hakea Prison. Says that juveniles are losing weight as food is ‘inedible’. Also states that inmates complain that there is physical and mental abuse by prison staff and there are limited education and rehab programs. Mentions the work done by the Human rights clinic

19.3.2013 Perthnow.com.au Juveniles at adult Hakea 'unacceptable' Also picked up by the Daily Telegraph Department of Corrective Services discusses the situation with juvenile prisoners being incarcerated within Hakea prison in regards to the submissions by Human Rights Clinic (Murdoch) and SCALES.

5.4.2013 ABC 7.30 Report (Perth) Non profit group HALO shows rehabilitation can keep at risk juveniles out of jail Includes an interview with Clinic’s Director about the
work we are doing on juvenile justice issues
http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-04-05/non-profit-group-halo-shows-rehabilitation-can/4613366

9.4.2013  SBS Radio  WA’s Courts Raise Concerns Over Children In Hakea Prison

Interview with Anna Copeland Director of Human Rights Clinic about the work the Clinic is doing on this issue

30.4.2013  Fremantle Herald  Kids in Prison a Crime

Discusses the imprisonment of Juveniles within Hakea Prison and the work that the Human rights Clinic is doing on this issue. “They are just kids. Some of these boys will never lead a normal life after all the psychological and emotional torture.” Includes a picture of the students.

“the main problem here in my view is that the rigts of those kids and the welfare of those kids in detention are not being given enough priority”  5.4.2013, ABC 7.30 Report (Perth)
Community

In order to raise SCALES’ profile in the community and inform the legal practice, we participate in and contribute to, many different activities, events, networks and committees throughout the year.

Community Legal Education

As part of SCALES’ strategic objective to promote community awareness of people’s legal rights and responsibilities, as well as SCALES’ services, a calendar of events is developed and delivered to the Rockingham and Kwinana Communities. We also respond to requests and opportunities as they arise where resources allow.

We often feel that community legal education is a small part of the service but when reviewing the statistics, SCALES provides at least one information session each week with almost 800 people receiving legal information over the course of the year. Presentations were made to young mums groups, TAFE students, women’s ESL classes, Murdoch law and community development students, conference delegates, community workers, organisation staff meetings, respondents to Violence Restraining Orders, housing and tenancy workers.

Our goal to increase the community legal education practice involves presenting more substantive community legal education sessions on specific areas of law and policy as well as introducing students to the practice of assessing need, research, developing content, clear communication skills, learning styles, presentation skills as well as evaluation.

A large part of the community involvement has fallen to Danielle this year. She does this work effectively and it fits well with the new DoC contract that has increased funding for community legal education for tenancy matters. Over the past year we have provided community legal education, attended community events, provided outreach services, participated in consultations, networks and committees.

While much of this work is done within Rockingham and Kwinana, some roles go beyond the local region.

Every staff member has represented SCALES in some way.
New Tenancy Legislation

This year will see the changes to the Residential Tenancies Act (1987) come into effect. In preparation of the changes SCALES has presented and participated in a number of events to raise awareness of the changes.

While most staff had some involvement, Danielle was the key organiser and presenter for a number of events. She organised an information and networking day for 14 local community workers whose clients had tenancy issues.

The Department of Commerce delivered a very informative training session in preparation of the changes. Evaluation of the day indicated an increased knowledge of the changes with expressions of interest for future sessions.

Amanda McGow presented an information session at the Medina Aboriginal Cultural Centre to local residents and community workers on the new Disruptive Behaviour Management Scheme.

In conjunction with Sussex Street Community Law Service Danielle provided an introduction to the SCALES service and a tenancy information session to Homecare Services. Homecare Senior Coordinator Monika thanked Danielle and said the information will be very useful for the participating community workers.

The WA Tenancy Network Conference 2013 was held on 17-18 June 2013. Danielle was an active member of the conference committee where approximately 50 people attended with a mix of tenant advocates, Coordinators and community members. Aoning presented one session as part of a panel.

A full days training on Court procedures followed this conference. Thanks to the Law School for making available the Freehills Moot Court, the training showed tenant advocates how the...
Court operated, protocols and worked through some case studies. Aoning contributed to the planning and presented to this group as well.

Danielle continues her role the Fremantle and Rockingham/Kwinana Interagency Homeless Group Committee as well as the Homeless Committee Working Party. Danielle contributed to establishment of the South Metropolitan Homeless Plan 2013 - 2014 where local services such as DCP Rockingham/Kwinana, Centrelink, Anglicare WA, City of Kwinana, City of Rockingham, St Patrick’s Community Centre, Lucy Saw Refuge, Department of Housing, Access Housing, Communicare, Mercy Care Reconnect, Medicare Locals, Department of Human Services, The Smith Family and WA Police work towards reducing homelessness in this region.

Case study - community legal education
The demand for advice and assistance in claiming criminal injuries compensation continues to increase. Amanda and Danielle are working on a Criminal Injuries Compensation Information package. The purpose of the information session is to provide clients with an overview of a Criminal Injuries Compensation application so that they have a base level of understanding of the process and in most cases continue on themselves. We expect that regular sessions are likely to identify the people who have a need for advocacy and assistance.

Events and networking
We take as many opportunities as time permits to attend events including community lunches, an information stall at the Kwinana Festival Fair and participation in the Festival parade as well as a sparkling high tea!

Other functions include a Reconciliation Day event, White Ribbon Day morning tea, City of Kwinana Human Services luncheon, the Kwinana employment expo and community cabinet.

Other committee involvement is listed in this annual report.

Jenny Hardy, the new Executive Officer of the community legal service knowmore briefed WA CLC managers on knowmore’s role to provide legal services to people considering making submissions to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Knowmore hopes to open a WA office early in 2014.

The nomination of the partnership between SCALES and Murdoch University was one of three finalists in the 2012 Rockingham Kwinana Chamber of Commerce Regional Business Awards Corporate Community Award culminated in a very pleasant evening at the Gary Holland Community Centre.

Case study - outreach
The ‘Local Connections to Work’ initiative by the Department of Human Services in the Rockingham Centrelink Office aims to increase opportunities for long term unemployed people to re-enter the work force. DHS recognise that the risk of and actual homelessness and the lack of a valid driving license are major barriers to successful inclusion in
Danielle attends Centrelink on a fortnightly basis usually with a law student and provides an onsite service to Rockingham Centrelink customers regarding tenancy issues and licensing matters. The service has successfully assisted clients to set up payment plans for outstanding fines and assist with things such as arranging a transfer for a Department of Housing client. She also held a stall during Law Week. The service included licence checks to identify any fines, licence suspensions, demerit point checks, referrals to ‘Fines Enforcement Registry and assistance with setting up Centrepay payments.

The day was very successful and Centrelink have requested further days with similar focus. A big thankyou to Veronica Burns one of our students for assisting on the day.

“Our customers found that Danielle from SCALES has both the strength and persistence to stick up for their rights but is also very pragmatic”.

Julian Lee- DHS Rockingham

Respondents  
information session

Participants at the sessions have indicated strongly that they found the information useful and now have a better understanding of the VRO process. Most expressed being very satisfied and would recommend the session to others. We hope to be able to present a separate session to court staff and community workers so they understand the sessions.

SCALES has excellent relationships with many local services. Staff work closely with many of these services (government and not for profit) and their staff to provide client services, staff training, local and regional planning on service provision, collaboration for events, issues and community education and lobbying government and departments for resources for the region.

Danielle and student Veronica speaking to clients at Centrelink.
Domestic Violence Legal Workers' Network

The Network comprises legal and other professionals specialising in domestic and family violence, advocating for the rights of victims of FDV through education, reform and capacity building.

Funding and coordination

The Network is funded by the Commonwealth Attorney General’s Department and is coordinated by 4 community legal centres; Fremantle Community Legal Centre, Gosnells Community Legal Centre and SCALES community legal centre each employ and DV solicitor through the funding received and the Women’s Law Centre employs the Network Coordinator.

Collaborative support model

DV solicitors often work in isolation. It is therefore important that the Network conducts regular meetings for caseworkers to network and collegiately collaborate, identify issues and trends within policy, law and procedure, to strategise for resolutions and reform, and to ensure the best outcomes for clients.

Resourcing the Network

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

Representation and consultation

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

**Policy and law reform**

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

**An example of our work this year**

An example of some of the lobbying we have undertaken this year is in regards to unintended consequences in relation to amendments made to the **Restraining Orders Act 1997**. The Bill had been drafted in such a way that s25 directed applications in relation to children to be made in the Children’s Court.

Even though s68 of the Act allows for an individual’s VRO to be extended to cover another person (such as their child) as if it were their own VRO, the Network was worried that the way the Bill was drafted would lead to situations where for example a mother caring for her child would have to get a VRO for herself and additionally have to go to the Children’s Court to ensure her child was also protected.

The Network lobbied extensively to raise awareness about this issue, however, the Parliamentary debate decided that there would be no issue in interpreting the legislation.

Unfortunately for many families, this was not the case and although some Magistrates interpreted the legislation as intended, other Magistrates interpreted the legislation the way it had been expressly written. Members of the Network started to have clients who had to be assisted in two separate courts for virtually the same issue. Where the VRO was contested by the respondent, solicitors were representing the same client for two different trials.

In addition, there were issues regarding the already limited funding and resources of legal assistance services now having to double their workload to ensure the best outcomes for their clients.

The Network lobbied extensively for amendments to the legislation utilising case examples.

Given the dire need for the legislation to be amended, the Network also
started to raise awareness about other issues between the intent and implementation of the Act which hadn’t been addressed in the 2011 Bill.

Hard work pays off

The Network is pleased to announce that in June of this year the *Restraining Orders Amendment Bill 2013* was introduced into Parliament. We are also equally excited about the Attorney General’s recent announcement in regards to a “complete overhaul of DV laws”, where the Law Reform Commission of WA will be receiving a reference in regards to family and domestic violence. The Network looks forward to ensuring the voices of the people affected most by the law (our clients) are heard and their stories are used to improve the system responding to FDV.

Getting involved

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

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

Heidi Guldbaek
Coordinator
FRC Legal Assistance Partnership Program

In recent years family law in Australia has shifted away from long and costly court battles between separating parents, towards encouraging parents to settle their disputes about the arrangements for their children, outside of Court.

Child disputes and family law

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

Partnering with Family Relationship Centres to provide collaborative service delivery

In December 2009 the Federal Attorney General announced funding arrangements for a 12 month Australia-wide pilot project for community legal centres (CLCs) and Legal Aid Commissions to provide child focused early intervention legal services at Family Relationship Centres around Australia (FRCs). FRCs provide family dispute resolution to separating parents, as well as a range of support services to families at all stages. This change in policy was aimed at providing greater support to families in resolving their disputes and to help build a more integrated and collaborative family law system, whilst ensuring that the best interests of the child remain the primary focus of dispute resolution processes. The
policy also had the intent to enable better partnerships between FRCs and legal professionals. Following this Pilot, funding for the FRC Legal Assistance Partnerships Program was allocated for a 3 year period from June 2010 - June 2013 and has now been extended to June 2014.

Objectives of the Partnership Program

The Partnership Program objectives are to:

- assist clients to better understand their legal responsibilities and advise them in resolving their own disputes where possible;
- increase the FRC’s flexibility in how they provide services to separated parents;
- increase the likelihood that clients will be able to utilise legal assistance in the FRC in a timely, non-adversarial way; and
- help maximise client safety, as clients go through separation and divorce.

Operation of the FRC Legal Assistance Program

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

To achieve the objective, the model is inclusive of:

a) Resource Unit (hub)

The Women’s Law Centre of WA is the resource unit or “hub” for this model and is responsible for providing networking, professional development and resourcing, and facilitates collaboration among CLCs, FRCs and other legal service providers. These hub services are managed by the program Coordinator.

b) Partnership community legal centres (spokes)

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

- Legal Advice appointments at FRCs;
- Legal advice by telephone, and at CLCs for FRC clients;
- Information sessions at FRCs;
- Information and referrals;
- Community legal education for FRC workers, and clients; and
- Consent orders for clients referred from FRCs, where appropriate.
The following CLCs are partnered with the respective FRCs:

- Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre / Joondalup FRC
- Peel Community Legal Service / Mandurah FRC
- Kimberly Community Legal Service and Pilbara Community Legal Service / Broome FRC
- Geraldton Resource Centre / Geraldton FRC
- Gosnells Community Legal Centre, Goldfields Community Legal Centre, Sussex Street Community Law Service / Midland FRC
- Albany Community Legal Centre, Bunbury Community Legal Centre / Bunbury FRC
- SCALES Community Legal Centre, Sussex Street Community Law Service, Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre, Fremantle Community Legal Centre, Women’s Law Centre / Perth FRC.

Johanna Overmars on behalf of the Women’s Law Centre has been providing outreach services to the Perth FRC legal clinic as part of the Perth Partnership from September 2012 to June 2013.

During this time Johanna also took on several cases referred from the Perth FRC. Johanna has since started up a private practice and is no longer with us. WLCWA extends warm thanks to Johanna for her contributions to our Centre and wish her all the best for her future.

Network activities over the 2012/2013 year

During the 2012/2013 year, the Resource Unit (Women’s Law Centre) supported the Network in a variety of ways, including:

- coordinating and resourcing network participants in both CLCs and FRCs
- coordinating community legal education and professional development events and resources for solicitors and FDRPS engaged in the partnership
- working in collaboration with the partnering agencies to ensure effective service delivery in outreach locations
- convening meetings of network participants and facilitating partnership meetings
- Representing the interests of the Network at stakeholder meetings
- providing regular updates relevant to the Network
- Representation on the Family Pathways Network Steering Committee and the Conference and Events Sub-Committee.

Women’s Law Centre Western Australia would like to thank all Community Legal Centres and Family Relationship Centres involved in the
Partnership Program for their commitment to collaborative service delivery.

Overall the Program has been a success and we look forward to striving to continually improve our collaborative service delivery approaches to ensure the best outcomes for clients and their children.

Heidi Guldbaek
Program Coordinator
Committees and Networks

Staff participated in the following committees and networks:

- CLCAWA Legal Practice and Profession Indemnity Committee
- Clinical Legal Education Network Australia
- Community Law Australia
- Community Legal Centre Association (CLCAWA) Executive Committee
- Community Legal Education Workers Network WA
- Domestic Violence Legal Workers Coordinators Network
- Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network (DVLWN)
- Family Abuse and Advocacy Support Team (FAAST)
- Human Rights Network
- Lawyers Practice Manual WA Editorial Committee
- Mandurah Family Relationships Centre Consortium
- Rockingham Family Violence Court Operational Committee
- South Metropolitan Integrated Family Abuse Service SMIFAS
- South West Metropolitan Regional Working Group on Homelessness
- St Nicholas Community Centre Management Committee
- Tenancy WA Board of Management
- WA CLCs Family Relationships Centre Consortium
- WA Tenancy Network – Managers and Tenant Advocates

SCALES is a member of the following organisations:

- Community Legal Centres Association WA
- Family Law Practitioners Association
- Law Society of Western Australia
- Migration Agent Regulation Authority (MARA)
- Migration Institute of Australia
- NACLC
- Refugee Council of Australia
- Shelter WA
- South Coastal Women’s Health Service
- Tenants Advice Service WA Inc. (closed November 2012)
- WA Council of Social Services (WACOSS)
- Women Lawyers of WA
- Women’s Council for Family and Domestic Violence Services (WA)
- Women’s Law Centre
- Youth Affairs Council of WA (YACWA)
Access and Equity

SCALES is committed to equality and justice.

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

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

Physical surroundings

- accessible by public transport (bus stop 100 metres from building).
- access for people with disabilities (wide door ways, ground floor, disabled parking within 10 metres, play area, toys and activities for children etc).

- Interview rooms with enough room to accommodate wheel chairs, prams and support people to attend interviews.
- Environment with artwork, posters, information for people from diverse backgrounds.

Service attributes

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

Attitudinal

- Respectful service to diverse cultures including religion, young people, indigenous people, people from NESB, same sex and transgender people

A commitment to access and equity underpins all operations of SCALES. SCALES’ staff, students and volunteers must operate within SCALES’ access and equity policies.
**Funding**

SCALES has been successful in attracting funding from a number of sources over the years. In the 2012/2013 financial year funding was received from the following sources:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCLSP</td>
<td>$133,900</td>
<td>Clinical Legal Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCLSP</td>
<td>$25,900</td>
<td>Perth Family Relationship Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCLSP</td>
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<td>One off payment</td>
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<td>Public Purposes Trust Fund</td>
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<td>Human Rights and Pro Bono</td>
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<td>School of Law, Murdoch University</td>
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<td>Clinical Legal Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomson Reuters</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Lawyers Practice Manual</td>
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**$975,050**

Murdoch University | $33,500 | IT Support *(In Kind)*

School of Law, Murdoch University | $109,700 | Salary 1 staff member *(In Kind)*

**$1,118,250**

Income and In Kind

**CCLSP** Commonwealth Community Legal Services Program

**CLSP WA** Community Legal Services Program Western Australia

**DCP** Department for Child Protection

**DoC** Department of Commerce

**DVLW** Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network

**FAAST** Family Abuse and Advocacy Support Team
Treasurer’s Report

Statement of Operations

This surplus in the current year as compared to the deficit of the 2012 financial year is reflective of the tenancy advice services and related income earned in the current year as well as a further drive for strong cost control.

Consistent with the prior year, the not-for-profit sector continues to face an ongoing competitive funding environment that currently exists across the not-for-profit sector as sources of public finance contract whilst cost increases associated with market conditions and an increasing drive and expectation of improved service quality continue to exist.

Statement of Financial Position
Despite the operating deficit in the current period, the balance sheet remains relatively strong with net current assets of $188,554 and total net assets of $258,879.

As set out in note 4(a), cash and cash equivalents include $170,704 of short-term deposits. These monies have been set aside from the cash at hand to accumulate interest to settle any long-term employment liabilities as and when they arise.

There were minor capital additions during the period with less than $5,000 spent on property, plant and equipment. These minor additions were more than offset by depreciation for the period of $28,558, reducing the written down value of property, plant and equipment decrease from $94,123 in 2012 to $70,325 in the current year.

Employee entitlements continue to grow each period as the association retains its staff members and their entitlements continue to accumulate.

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

Treasurer’s Statement
In the last year the management committee and the organisation have re-visited the association’s strategy and challenged the way in which the organisation operates to achieve its objectives.

We are already beginning to see some benefits from this and it’s been great to see the enthusiasm and the energy dedicated to this endeavour across the organisation.

I look forward to seeing all the successes that are to be shared by the community and the association upon the continued execution of this strategy over the coming periods.

Darryn Hall
Auditors Report

Thompson Hughes & Co
Certified Practising Accountants

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


We have audited the accompanying financial report as set out on pages 1 to 10, being a special purpose financial report, of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. (the association) for the year ended 30 June 2013.

Committee’s Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Association Incorporation Act Western Australia and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee’s responsibilities also include designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor’s responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

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

* Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.
Rockingham Accountancy Service Pty Ltd as Trustee for Thompson Hughes Unit Trust - ABN 59 319 636 852
Director: Alan Thompson
The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting obligations under the Associations Incorporation Act Western Australia. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

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

*Independence*

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

*Auditor's Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial report of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. as at 30 June 2013 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the Associations Incorporation Act Western Australia.

THOMPSON-HUGHES & CO

ALAN THOMPSON
9 August 2013
Auditor's Certification

Southern Communities Advocacy Legal & Education Service Inc
Year ended 30 June 2013

I hereby certify that:

a) I am not a principal, member, shareholder, officer, employee or accountant of the Organisation or of a related body corporate as defined in section 9 of the Corporations Act 2001;
b) In my opinion, the attached financial statements which comprise a Balance Sheet (Statement of Financial Position), a Statement of Operations (Statement of Comprehensive Income), a Statement of Changes in Equity, a Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements of the above mentioned Organisation ("the Organisation") for the stated Financial Year are:
   i) Based on proper accounts and present fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and
   ii) In accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement --- ----, a copy of which has been made available to me, in relation to the provision of community legal services.

  c) The Statement of Comprehensive Income is provided in respect of Funds for all Funding Categories.
d) The audit opinion to which this certification refers is unqualified.
e) In my opinion there is no conflict of interest between myself and the Organisation or its Management Committee.

Signed: __________________________

Alan Thompson
Registered Company Auditor No 13797

Thompson Hughes & Co
9 August 2013
### Financial Statements

**SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.**  
Unit 3, 14 Council Avenue  
ROCKINGHAM WA 6168  
ABN 57 402 785 794

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
for the year ending 30 June 2013

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Note</th>
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<th>2012</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Operating revenues</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,122,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(1,113,193)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operating surplus/(deficit) before net finance benefits/(costs)**  
9,699  
(71,508)

**Finance income**  
13,565  
16,542

**Operating surplus/(deficit)**  
23,264  
(54,966)

**Opening balance of accumulated surplus**  
235,615  
290,581

**Other comprehensive income**  
-  
-

**Closing balance of accumulated surplus**  
258,879  
235,615

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.
**SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.**

**BALANCE SHEET**
as at 30th. June 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current assets**

- Cash and cash equivalents: 4 $362,856 $272,157
- Trade and other receivables: 5 $13,976 $796
- Other assets: 6 $17,058 $15,007

**Total current assets** 393,890 287,960

**Non-current assets**

- Property, plant & equipment: 7 $70,325 $94,123

**Total non-current assets** 70,325 94,123

**Total assets** 464,215 382,083

**Current liabilities**

- Trade and other payables: 8 $80,454 $24,421
- Employee entitlements: 9 $124,881 $122,047

**Total current liabilities** 205,336 146,468

**Non-current liabilities**

0 0

**Total non-current liabilities** 0 0

**Total liabilities** 205,336 146,468

**Net Assets** 258,879 235,615

**Equity**

- Accumulated surplus 235,615 290,581
- Current year surplus/(deficit) 23,264 (54,966)

**Total Equity** 258,879 235,615

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.

Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Accumulated Surplus</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 June 2011</td>
<td>290,581</td>
<td>290,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td>(54,966)</td>
<td>(54,966)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 June 2012</td>
<td>235,615</td>
<td>235,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating surplus</td>
<td>23,264</td>
<td>23,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 June 2011</td>
<td>258,879</td>
<td>258,879</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.

Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ending 30 June 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receipts from funders, donations and government grants (GST inc)</td>
<td>966,479</td>
<td>719,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments to suppliers and employee (GST inc)</td>
<td>(887,598)</td>
<td>(779,424)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>13,565</td>
<td>16,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Cash used in Operating Activities</td>
<td>92,446</td>
<td>(43,541)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

| Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment | (4,760) | (6,597) |
| Net cash used in Investing Activities     | (4,760) | (6,597) |
| Net Increase in Cash                      | 87,686  | (50,138) |
| Cash at beginning of financial year       | 272,157 | 322,295 |
| Cash at end of the financial year         | 359,843 | 272,157 |

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.
NOTE 1 - Statement of Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of preparation and statement of compliance

This special purpose financial report is prepared in order to provide financial statements which satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1987 to prepare accounts. The Management Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity as defined in Statement of Accounting Concepts 1 "Definition of the Reporting Entity" and therefore, 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 historical cost values except where specifically stated.

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

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

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

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar.
The requirements of Accounting Standards and other financial reporting requirements in Australia do not have mandatory applicability because the Association is not a “reporting entity” and it is a not-for-profit organisation not governed by the Corporations Act 2001. Accordingly, the management committee have prepared the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other financial reporting requirements in Australia with the following exceptions:

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

(b) Foreign currencies

Translation of foreign currency transactions

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

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

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at bank, and short term deposits readily convertible to cash.

(d) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less any provision for doubtful debts. A provision for doubtful debts is made when there is objective evidence that the Association will not be able to collect the debts. Bad debts are written off when identified.

(e) Property, plant and equipment

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

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

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

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

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

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

Derecognition and disposal

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

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

(f) Revenue recognition

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

Contributions

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

Rendering of services

Revenue from services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion.

Stage of completion is measured by reference to labour hours incurred to date as a percentage of total estimated labour hours for each contract.

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

*Interest*

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

*Government grants*

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

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

(g) Employee benefits

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

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

(h) Trade and other payables

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

(i) Leases

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

**Association as a lessee**

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

**(j) Income tax**

**Income Taxes**

Under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 (as amended) the Association is exempt from income tax.

**(k) Income tax (continued)**

**Other taxes**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- where the GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the taxation authority, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item as applicable; and

- receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note 2 - INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>954,721</td>
<td>698,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services received in kind</td>
<td>143,232</td>
<td>90,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other grants</td>
<td>24,919</td>
<td>15,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,122,892</td>
<td>804,886</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notes to and forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 30th June 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note 3 - OPERATING EXPENSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation expense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; wages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></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:

| Petty Cash float         | 300   |
| Cash at bank             | 191,852 | 108,349 |
| Short term deposits      | 170,704 | 163,508 |
|                         | 362,856 | 272,157 |

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

| Operating result         | 23,264  | (54,966) |
| add/deduct non cash items: |         |
| Depreciation             | 28,558  | 24,710   |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Changes in assets and liabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Increase)/ decrease in other assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase / (decrease) in trade and other creditors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase / (decrease) in employee entitlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash provided by Operating Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 5 - TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

| Trade debtors       | -     |
| Other receivables   | 13,976 | 796   |
|                     | 13,976 | 796   |
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.

Notes to and forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 30th June 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 6 - OTHER ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>9,747</td>
<td>7,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7,311</td>
<td>7,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>17,058</td>
<td>15,007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 7 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

At 30 June 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Additions</th>
<th>Depreciation</th>
<th>At 30 June 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WDV</td>
<td>WDV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>20,096</td>
<td>4,456</td>
<td>15,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furn.</td>
<td>43,731</td>
<td>7,081</td>
<td>36,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>30,296</td>
<td>17,021</td>
<td>18,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fitout</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>94,123</td>
<td>28,558</td>
<td>70,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Acc. Dep’n</th>
<th>WDV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>At 30 June 2011</td>
<td>At 30 June 2013</td>
<td>At 30 June 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>37,830</td>
<td>22,190</td>
<td>15,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furn.</td>
<td>65,008</td>
<td>28,358</td>
<td>36,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>58,586</td>
<td>40,551</td>
<td>18,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fitout</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>162,236</td>
<td>91,963</td>
<td>70,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At 30 June 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Additions</th>
<th>Depreciation</th>
<th>At 30 June 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WDV</td>
<td>WDV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>21,525</td>
<td>4,120</td>
<td>20,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furn.</td>
<td>50,812</td>
<td>7,081</td>
<td>43,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>39,899</td>
<td>13,508</td>
<td>30,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fitout</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>112,236</td>
<td>24,709</td>
<td>94,123</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY, LEGAL & EDUCATION SERVICE INC.

Notes to and forming part of the accounts
for the year ended 30th June 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 7 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Acc. Dep’n</th>
<th>WDV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>At 30 June 2012</td>
<td>At 30 June 2012</td>
<td>At 30 June 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>37,830</td>
<td>17,734</td>
<td>20,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furn.</td>
<td>65,008</td>
<td>22,277</td>
<td>43,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>53,826</td>
<td>26,530</td>
<td>30,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fitout</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>157,527</td>
<td>63,405</td>
<td>94,123</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 8 - TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Accounts payable (inc GST) | 62,196 | 23,935 |
Accruals                   | 18,258 | 486    |
|                          | 80,454 | 24,421 |

Note 9 - EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

Annual leave as at 30/06/12 | 48,181 | 66,358 |
Increases/(decreases) in provisions | 178 | 18,177 |
Annual leave as at 30/06/13 | 48,003 | 48,181 |

Long service leave as at 30/06/12 | 73,867 | 49,929 |
Increases/(decreases) in provisions | 3,012 | 23,938 |
Long service leave as at 30/06/13 | 76,879 | 73,867 |
Total Employment Entitlements | 124,881 | 122,047 |

Note 10 - AUDITOR REMUNERATION

Audit fees | 5,400 | 5,200 |
|            | 5,400 | 5,200 |

Note 11 - GOODS & SERVICES RECEIVED IN KIND

In kind contribution from Murdoch University School of Law for the year ended 30 June 2013 was $143,232 (2012-$90,788) comprising Senior Lecturer wages of $109,732 (2012- $57,288) and $33,500 (2012- $33,500) IT support and EAP. A second Law Clinic supervisor position is provided by funding to SCALES and is noted as income in this report.
Note 12 - CONTINGENT LIABILITIES
There are no known contingent liabilities at balance date.

Note 13 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS
No significant events have occurred after balance date which would materially affect either the Association's operations or results of those operations.
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S DECLARATION

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

The Management Committee of the Association declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 11
   a) Comply with accounting standards as detailed in Note 1 to the financial statements and the Association’s Incorporation Act 1887; and
   b) Give a true and fair view of the Association’s financial position as at 30 June 2013 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

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

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

Darryn Hall  
Treasurer

Gal Walker  
Managing Director
Sponsors, Supporters, Partners

SCALE'S Management Committee and Staff would once again like to thank the following organisations for their generous support and partnerships throughout the year and look forward to continuing these associations in the future.

Ashurst
Child Protection, WA Department for Commerce, WA Department of
Community Legal Centres Association Western Australia
Community Legal Services Program, Commonwealth
Community Legal Services Program, Western Australia
Fremantle Community Legal Centre
Gosnells Community Legal Centre
Herbert Smith Freehills
King & Wood Mallesons
Law Society of Western Australia Public Purposes Trust Fund
Legal Aid WA CFDR project
Lotterywest
Lucy Saw Centre for the Prevention and Intervention of Domestic and Family Violence Service
Murdoch University
Murdoch University IT Services
Murdoch University School of Law
National Association of Community Legal Centres
Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre
Perth Family Relationships Centre
South Coastal Women’s Health Services
South Metropolitan Integrated Family Abuse Service (SMIFAS)
Sussex Street Community Law Service
Thomson Reuters
Welfare Rights and Advocacy Service
Women’s Law Centre