



2015 – 2016

Annual Report



At a glance

2015-2016 Casework

Pro Bono Referral Service

468 applications received
131 referrals

Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic

1515 new client files opened

Refugee Civil Law Clinic

86 new client files opened

LegalPod

69 new client files opened

Self Representation Service (QCAT)

235 applications received (Brisbane)
303 appointments conducted (Brisbane)

Self Representation Service (Qld Courts)

199 applications received (Brisbane)
305 appointments conducted (Brisbane)

Self Representation Service (Federal Courts)

241 applications received
292 appointments conducted
27 conciliations conducted

Duty lawyer

20 new Magistrates Court enforcement hearings
5 QIRC new conciliation conferences

Mental Health Law Practice

200 clients assisted

Mental Health Civil Law Clinic

77 new client files opened

Pro Bono since 2002

Referrals (since 2002)

4,228 applications received
1,412 referrals

Self Representation Service (since 2007)

3,607 applications received

Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic (since 2002)

6,306 clients represented

Refugee Civil Law Clinic (since 2007)

386 clients represented

Mental Health Law Practice (since 2009)

1066 client files opened

2015-2016 Financials

Revenue – \$2,414,832

Expenses – \$2,481,838

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All client stories in this publication have been de-identified and are published with the client's permission.

President's report

I am pleased to present my final report as president.

It was a year of solid achievement, with an increase in casework by 75%, opening in 2015-16 close to 3,000 new casework files and facilitating more than 22,000 hours of pro bono in the year. While increasing our reach is important to give access to justice to as many people as possible, the quality of the work is also important. Blessed with capable and committed staff members and expert and confident volunteers, QPILCH knows that it is having an impact on the individuals and communities we serve.

While restrained only by the ongoing challenges of finding secure funding, I am confident that QPILCH is made secure by the vision, leadership and energy of staff members and the strategic experience and knowledge of the management committee, a mix that results in a well run, productive and stable workplace.

Unfortunately, our society cannot reach consensus on how to address the growing rift between wealthy and poor. We as lawyers are privileged and through organisations like QPILCH are trying to help bridge the gap. But we can only make a small contribution because addressing the systemic causes of inequality is a larger project.

There is however much more we can do to improve access to justice in creative and valuable ways. Our work is only limited by the availability of funds. Small amounts for an organisation like QPILCH can have a big impact on people who do not have access to the resources that many of us take for granted.

The new National Partnership on Legal Assistance Services, the agreement that sets priorities, standards and guidelines for the Australian legal assistance sector, now focuses funding on services for the most in need.

There are intense pressures on public budgets and competing public interests for funding. As a result, community services are continually challenged by reducing government contributions. But making these savings may in fact lead to greater costs in other areas and in the longer term cost us more.

\$1.8m of the Commonwealth's funding for Queensland Community Legal Centres (**CLCs**) will be slashed from July 2017 and the jobs that deliver the services those funds have supported will go along with it. The solution is not just to impose new efficiencies for already lean and struggling services, but for all parts of the justice system to work collaboratively to find new funding models that have the greatest impact overall. Governments expect CLCs to justify the impact of their programs, but often fail to impose the same standards on themselves.

Cutting the Commonwealth allocation and keeping the State allocation at previous levels can only mean that services must be reduced, at a time when demand is

rising from clients who are increasingly desperate in difficult economic times and when social policies threaten the incomes of the poorest.

Other challenges for CLCs include greater competition for philanthropic funding, increased managerialism and excessive accountability. All this is occurring in an uncertain landscape where government offers no clear or coherent public policy framework to help CLCs navigate a way forward, except to prepare themselves for cuts.

CLC lawyers have strived to contribute to a discussion about how better to understand legal need, best practice in service design and to work collaboratively, but have not been consulted about how the future can be secured.

CLCs are also caught between increasing demand and governments' quest for cheaper but unproven service models. Instead, the CLC model should be supported and encouraged not weakened. It harnesses enormous professional and community goodwill.

If CLCs were closed tomorrow: Legal Aid Queensland would flounder under the weight of an extra 50,000 people a year seeking help; every court would be clogged with unrepresented litigants; every law firm would have queues of people needing help but unable to pay for assistance; lawyers in private practice would have no avenue to exercise their professional responsibility to give pro bono assistance; law students would have no avenues for their altruism, energy and thirst for practical experience; and community services would have limited referral avenues for legal help. These are issues rarely factored into the consideration of CLC funding and impact measurement. Reducing the capacity of CLCs will have a similar if less drastic impact.

The history of CLCs is a story of lean, committed and resourceful organisations adapting to changing conditions, needs and priorities, ever reliant on government handouts. Yet unlike any other part of our social structure, CLCs have drawn on the resources of lawyers everywhere to provide millions of hours of professional legal help for millions of Australians. This contribution is taken for granted.

A coherent funding policy would deliver increased funding for CLCs, rather than less, because they are a way to deliver necessary services cheaply and effectively and have many flow-on effects that reduce costs elsewhere. CLCs are more flexible and innovative than the larger bureaucracies so can meet changing conditions more quickly, but they need stability, certainty and appropriate resources to do this. Under-resourcing of community services weakens social cohesion and economic stability.

Looking forward, the year ahead will be a tough year for QPILCH and other CLCs and if funding is not addressed, a tougher time indeed in coming years. I encourage all members to speak up for CLCs as a vital pillar of the infrastructure of justice and urge governments to work with CLCs to find a solution to the funding uncertainty.

On a brighter note, there will be some very positive developments for QPILCH in 2016-17, which will be revealed at the AGM on Monday 14 November 2016.

My thanks

I thank our patron, The Honourable Catherine Holmes, Chief Justice of Queensland, for her kind support during the year.

I thank our many volunteers and supporters, too numerous to name here, for their assistance to QPILCH and the cause of pro bono. I thank our members who continue to generously support QPILCH and the communities in which we work and live.

I thank our funders, particularly the Hon Yvette D'Ath MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills and the trustees of the Viertel Foundation, Sidney Myer Fund and

Lady Bowen Trust.

QPILCH staff members, whose energetic and innovative approach to their work maintains our focus and commitment, are greatly valued and I thank them for their hard work.

I thank my colleagues on the management committee for their leadership and guidance of QPILCH over the past three years.

In 2015-16, QPILCH has not shied from its focus on areas of greatest need – homelessness, mental illness, refugees, self-represented litigants, and young people transitioning from State care – and continues to provide back up through a comprehensive referral service for those who fall through the gaps. I am proud to have served as QPILCH president for the last three years.

Lucy Bretherton
President

Our vision and goals

Our vision is for
a just, fair & accessible legal system

What we do
QPILCH coordinates the provision of pro bono civil law services
to aid in the relief of poverty and disadvantage

Our objectives

1. Provide appropriate, efficient and effective legal services
2. Facilitate engagement of the legal profession in pro bono work
3. Undertake research and exercise a responsible influence
to achieve systemic change

~Underpinned by responsible governance~

Our impact

QPILCH has a strong commitment to continuous improvement through timely and relevant evaluation. We measure the performance of our projects and programs in order to use the funds we receive responsibly, effectively and efficiently.

Regular evaluation internally through close monitoring of data allows us to be sure we are having the impact we expect and can adapt to improve our services when necessary. We are committed to operating openly and transparently and being fully accountable for the way in which we use the funds we receive.

When funds permit, we also obtain external evaluations with the support of professional evaluators.

In 2015, cost benefit analyses of the SRS Federal Court and the Legal Health Check were undertaken by BDO and Encompass Family and Community Pty Ltd respectively. In early 2017, we will publish our first impact report based on 2015-16 data using our 2014-17 strategic framework.

Over 2015-16, QPILCH has developed a new framework and approach which will be published in 2017. This will allow us to more closely examine our outcomes in order to demonstrate our impact within a clearer evaluation framework. Our second impact report based on 2016-17 data will be published later in 2017.

We thank Kerrie Donaldson for her great assistance with this work.

Regional Queensland

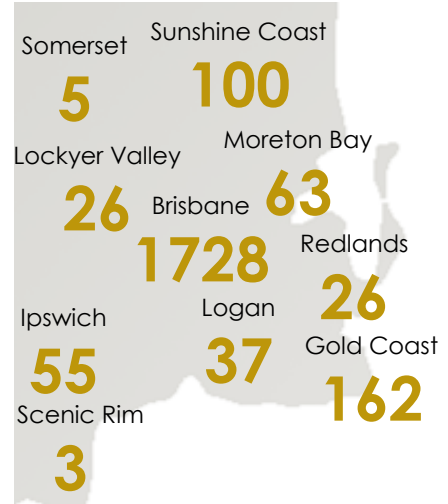
Legend

123 = number of clients per region



= Qld Legal Walk locations

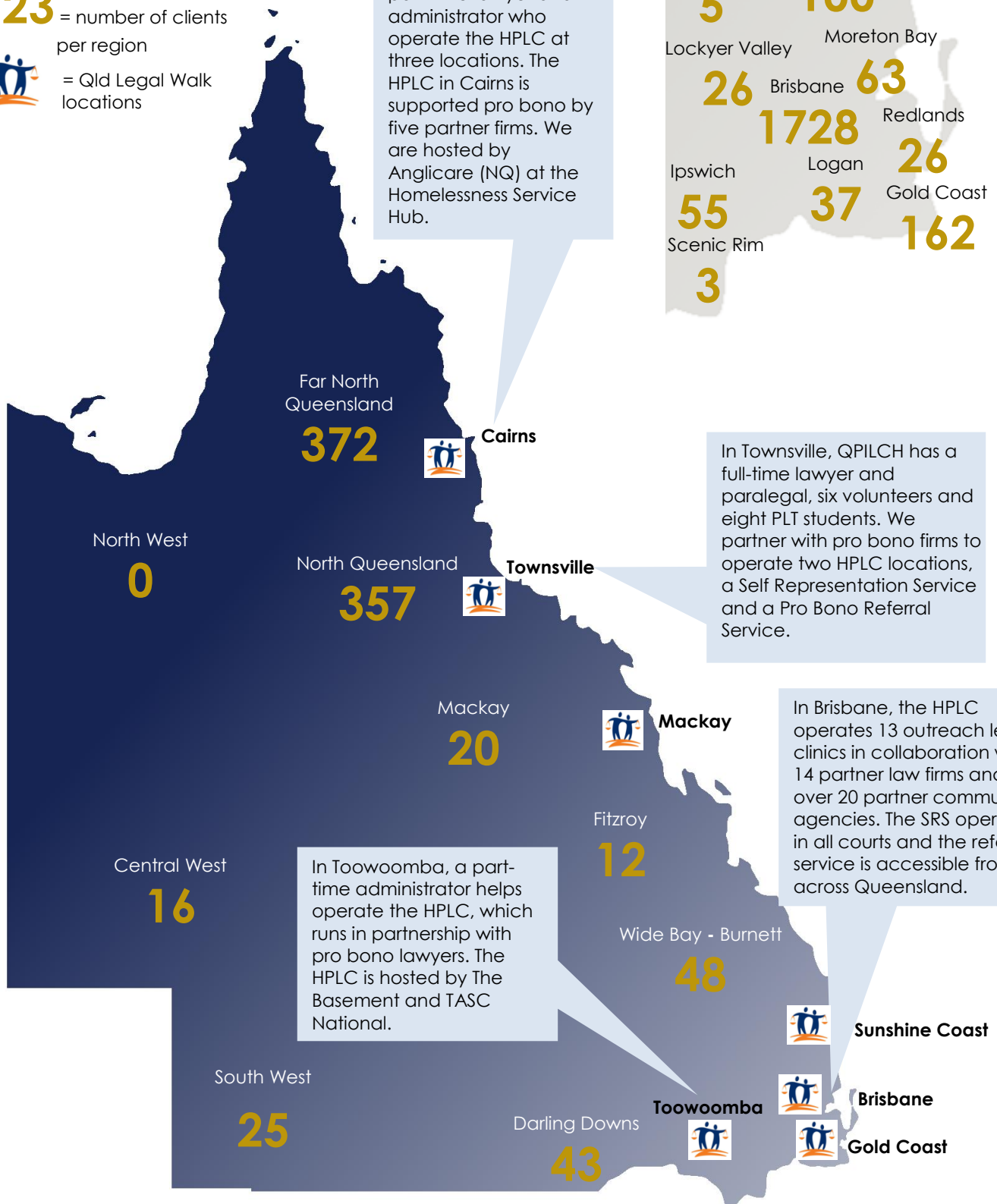
In Cairns, QPILCH has a full-time lawyer and a part-time lawyer and administrator who operate the HPLC at three locations. The HPLC in Cairns is supported pro bono by five partner firms. We are hosted by Anglicare (NQ) at the Homelessness Service Hub.



In Townsville, QPILCH has a full-time lawyer and paralegal, six volunteers and eight PLT students. We partner with pro bono firms to operate two HPLC locations, a Self Representation Service and a Pro Bono Referral Service.

In Brisbane, the HPLC operates 13 outreach legal clinics in collaboration with 14 partner law firms and over 20 partner community agencies. The SRS operates in all courts and the referral service is accessible from across Queensland.

In Toowoomba, a part-time administrator helps operate the HPLC, which runs in partnership with pro bono lawyers. The HPLC is hosted by The Basement and TASC National.



Regional Queensland

More than half of Queenslanders live outside greater Brisbane and regional areas see a high level of disadvantage. QPILCH has operated the Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic (HPLC) in Townsville, Cairns and Toowoomba for several years. We now have staff based in each of these centres, including a full-service office in Townsville, which helps us to collaborate with local lawyers, support agencies and universities.

Townsville

QPILCH's Townsville office operates three services: Homeless Persons Legal Clinic (HPLC) Self Representation Service (SRS) and Referrals. With the support of local pro bono lawyers and JCU law students the HPLC operates from two locations: The Women's Centre and Housing Connections Hub (a cooperative of QPILCH partners including Red Cross, Coast to Country Housing and Sharehouse). The SRS runs two mornings a week from the Townsville Courthouse with the support of volunteer barristers and solicitors. North Queensland referrals are supported by local law firms and Brisbane firms.

Townsville host agencies

Red Cross
The Women's Centre

Townsville partner firms and barristers

Connolly Suthers
Roberts Nehmer McKee
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers
Anderson Fredericks Turner
Crosby Brosnan Creen Lawyers
Slater and Gordon
Wilson Ryan Grose
Tony Collins
Viviana Keegan
Janice Mayes
Michael Fellows
Rowan Pack
Rohan Armstrong
Merissa Martinez
Sean Kelly
Alex Reaburn
Kelly Stone

Townsville volunteer solicitors

Alan Birrell
Harry Bechmann

248 New HPLC files

46 New SRS files

28 Referrals

"An important issue for me is access to justice and equality before the law. Access to basic legal advice can be even more important for those less fortunate, without it, a person's life can unnecessarily spiral out of control."

Jessica Ashwin of Roberts Nehmer McKee

Funding

QPILCH Townsville was funded by a one-off Commonwealth Government grant from 2013-17. This funding runs out on 31 March 2017 and without renewed funding the office will close from that date.

Sharon's Story

Sharon became ill with disabling degenerative osteophytosis which prevented her from working. Volunteers assisted Sharon to obtain a waiver of her \$12,000 debt to a major bank.

Townsville office opened **2014**

Cairns

Since 2013, the HPLC has operated in Cairns, providing holistic legal representation to regional and remote community members in Far North Queensland. HPLC staff members are integrated with the Anglicare NQ - Homelessness Service Hub. The HPLC in Cairns currently delivers three pro bono outreach legal clinics, which have increased our capacity to achieve meaningful outcomes for clients who identify as Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander.

HPLC at Wuchopperen

The HPLC recently commenced a new pro bono health justice partnership with the Wuchopperen Health Service, a healthcare provider for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Cairns and surrounding region. Through the HPLC at Wuchopperen, volunteer lawyers provide legal advice

"We often see clients in vulnerable situations who are being evicted because they don't know their legal rights. The HPLC provides a fantastic service for our clients."

Lucas Williams, Team Leader - Anglicare NQ - Homelessness Service Hub

and representation to vulnerable people within a health care setting and early indicators reflect a strong need for this type of holistic outreach legal clinic. During the first four months of the HPLC at Wuchopperen, we opened 80 new client files. The HPLC has also delivered CLE seminars to

healthcare staff and meetings of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders on community legal issues, including stolen wages.

Cairns partner firms

Maurice Blackburn Lawyers
Shine Lawyers
Miller Harris Lawyers
MacDonnells Law
Marrawah Law

Shanti's story

When Shanti met with the HPLC at a Cairns Indigenous health service, she was a young mother experiencing homelessness after the recent suicide of her de facto partner. The HPLC carried out on-going advocacy with community agencies to arrange temporary housing while working on removing Shanti's TICA tenancy 'blacklisting'. The HPLC successfully negotiated for the removal of the tenancy listing on 'unlawful' grounds, avoiding a tribunal process that was not accessible for Shanti given her circumstances of trauma and hardship. The HPLC's representation

and advice empowered Shanti and her young children to secure stable housing and begin their grieving.



Cairns HPLC staff & volunteers at the Wuchopperen clinic

Cairns host agencies

Anglicare NQ - Homelessness Service
Hub
Mission Australia Douglas House
Wuchopperen Health Service

Funding

The Cairns HPLC is funded by the Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund, administered by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General. The HPLC at Wuchopperen health justice partnership is funded by the '2015-17 Additional temporary Commonwealth CLC funding'.

Established **2013**

Toowoomba

Since 2007, we have been delivering pro bono advice and assistance through the HPLC at the Basement in Toowoomba. Through collaboration with the local legal profession and community sector, the HPLC has made a real difference to the lives of Toowoomba's most vulnerable residents. We are grateful for the support of our Toowoomba volunteer lawyers and community legal sector partners, particularly TASC National.

Toowoomba partners

TASC National
Hede Byrne & Hall
Boulton Cleary and Kern Lawyers
Clewett Lawyers
Kennedy Spanner
Macdonald Law
Walker Solicitors
Joe Millican

Toowoomba host agencies

The Basement
TASC National

"Having had the opportunity to volunteer with QPILCH has given me the opportunity to have a positive impact when assisting the marginalised and vulnerable members of our society."

Brenton Day, TASC National lawyer and HPLC volunteer

John's story

When John first attended the HPLC in Toowoomba, he had recently lost his job and was unable to find new work due to his mental health concerns and personal trauma.

John was also caring for his elderly father and providing support to his wife and their young children after her recent suicide attempt.

John's family was suffering from severe financial hardship and were relying on a specialist homelessness agency for food vouchers and school uniforms.

After a motor vehicle accident, John was pursued for a \$2000 claim by an insurance company. Through detailed legal advocacy and negotiations, the HPLC obtained a full debt waiver for John based on his personal and financial hardship. John is now able to focus on supporting his family and reconciling his financial position.

Funding

The Toowoomba HPLC is funded by the Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund, administered by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Established **2007**

Pro Bono Referrals

People who have complex civil law problems and need representation can be left with few options if they can't afford a lawyer. The Referrals Service is their safety net.

How it works

QPILCH takes applications from individuals and community groups seeking pro bono help. We refer eligible cases to law firms and barristers who provide legal advice and representation on a pro bono basis. We assess each application carefully and only refer it if:

- The applicant is otherwise unable to obtain legal help;
- their case has sufficient legal merit; and
- a referral for pro bono legal assistance is justified.

Having QPILCH as a central assessment and referral agency reduces duplication in the challenging task of assessing applications and responding to the ever-increasing demand for pro bono help. Firms and barristers are enthusiastic about taking on pro bono work, but want to ensure their help gets to the people in genuine need. The Referral Service is able to harness this enthusiasm through an effective assessment and referral process. This ensures firm and barrister resources are used efficiently and the greatest return on investment is achieved for limited CLC funding.

The Referral Service includes:

Public Interest Referral Service for QPILCH members
QLS and Bar Pro Bono Referral Services for members of the Queensland Law Society and Bar Association of Queensland.

Unsuccessful applicants

We explain to every ineligible applicant:

- why their case may lack merit or be inappropriate for pro bono referral;
- what they can do to resolve their problem themselves; and
- where else they can go for help.

This helps them to resolve their legal issue and avoids simply shifting the demand to another legal service.



Referral Service staff. Ben Tuckett, Renee Blackwell, Loretta Stellino and Tim Laird.

Cameron's story

One of our member firms recently assisted "Cameron" a 70-year-old disabled man with significant health issues at risk of homelessness. Over a number of years Cameron spent approximately \$60,000 converting the shed on his son-in-law's property into livable quarters for himself. After his daughter and son-in-law separated, Cameron's son-in-law attempted to evict and sell the property in order to settle his divorce with Cameron's daughter. Our member firm assisted Cameron to defend against the application made to QCAT to evict him and assisted Cameron to negotiate a settlement with his son-in-law. Cameron was very grateful for the assistance provided and reports that his health has improved dramatically following the successful settlement of the matter.

Bill and Jenny's story

One of our member firms and two member barristers recently assisted "Bill and Jenny", two 55-year old applicants involved in Federal Circuit Court proceedings in which they alleged their former employer contravened the general protections contained in the Fair Work Act 2009. After the applicants questioned their employment conditions and entitlements, their employment was terminated by their employer. As a result of the termination, the applicants suffered significant financial hardship. Jenny is homeless and residing at a women's shelter, while Bill is living with his nephew and has only recently found employment as a labourer. QPILCH's Self Representation Service drafted submissions on behalf of the applicant with assistance from our of our member barristers. One of our member firms and a member barrister then assisted Bill and Jenny to negotiate a settlement of the matter.

468
(target 450)

applications received

5.9%

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

25.6%

from regional areas

33.5%

had a disability

48.7%

relied on Centrelink

150

requests sent to firms and barristers

131

successful referrals

63

firms

199

barristers

6300

pro bono hours

2002

Public Interest Referral Service established

2009

QLS/Bar Referral Service established

Public Interest Referral Service

The Public Interest Referral Service refers matters to QPILCH members (listed later) and focuses on cases 'in the public interest'. This means that the case affects a significant number of people, raises matters of broad public concern or impacts on particularly vulnerable or disadvantaged people.

QLS and Bar Pro Bono Referral Service

QPILCH coordinates pro bono referrals on behalf of the Queensland Law Society and the Bar Association of Queensland through the QLS and Bar Pro Bono Referral Service. Any member of the QLS or Bar can be on our panel (listed later).

Cases must still be assessed as appropriate for pro bono assistance, but do not need a public interest element.

In 2015-2016, the QLS and Bar Pro Bono Referral Service made the highest number of referrals to firms and barristers since the service was founded in 2009. The service referred 68 matters to firms and barristers, an increase from 24 in the previous financial year.

Trends in demand

As a clearing house, we often see requests for help in areas of need that are not being met elsewhere. As in previous years, we noticed an

increase in people seeking judicial review of decisions in relation to their protection visa applications. We also noticed a change in the type of assistance not-for-profit organisations were seeking. Fewer organisations sought assistance with simpler matters and appeared to be much better informed about when they might or might not need legal assistance.

Like other Queensland CLCs we've also noticed an increase in the number of applicants with problems arising from elder abuse. Our member firms and barristers are very willing to assist in this area despite it involving typically more complex areas of law with increasingly vulnerable clients.

We've noticed greater enthusiasm to undertake pro bono work from junior barristers and small to mid-tier firms. To utilise this resource, we've taken steps to work more closely with local CLCs and QPILCH's Self Representation Service to offer more opportunities to undertake discrete pro bono work such as one-off representation at mediations and court hearings.

Thank you

Thank you to all our members and supporting firms and barristers listed at the end of this report. Thank you also to all of our student volunteers and Practical Legal Training placement students and thanks to the solicitors who have volunteered with the Referral Service - Carmel McMahon, Madeleine Murphy, Robert Lake, Kisa Rajapakse, Alexander Millman and Elisa Kidston.

"I've gotten my house back, thank you so much for everything you did... I'm now going to start a new phase of my life, my doctor has already told me that my health is improving and I don't have any of that stress and worry anymore. I'm having the best week of my life."

Client

"Your organisation was the first to give me some practical and relevant information in relation to my problem. I had been everywhere seeking assistance and it was only by chance that I found out about QPILCH. I understand you are unable to refer my matter for pro bono assistance; however I will follow through my matter with other processes as you have suggested in your letter to me."

Client

"The support I received from QPILCH and the lawyers that assisted me on a pro bono basis made a huge difference in getting a result I was satisfied with...I am so thankful that firms and people donate their time and expertise...[it] helped level the playing field so we could achieve a fair result. Keep doing what you are doing."

Client

We helped with

Administrative law & government issues
Consumers & complaints
Credit & debt
Employment
Property disputes
Refugee & immigration law
Discrimination

Funding

The Referral Service is funded by the Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund, administered by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, membership contributions, and contributions by the Queensland Law Society and the Bar Association of Queensland

Rural group story

A not for profit organisation that provides aged care services in a rural Queensland town and administers the use of recreational land which is the subject of a charitable trust, sought assistance to change the purpose of the trust from the limited 'recreational purposes' to a broader purpose to better suit the needs of the aging population.

A firm and barrister successfully assisted the organisation to apply to the Supreme Court for a cy-pres order changing the purpose of the trust. The organisation was very appreciative of the assistance they received and has advised that they can now build a number of recreational facilities for persons in the region who are aged, disadvantaged or disabled and need supportive care.

Self Representation

Representing yourself in court is particularly stressful for a vulnerable individual. It is also a challenge for courts and tribunals to balance the fair treatment of litigants with an efficient process.

QPILCH's Self Representation Service helps people with civil law problems who are representing themselves in the:

**Queensland Supreme Court
Queensland Court of Appeal
Queensland District Court
Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Federal Court of Australia
Federal Circuit Court
Magistrates Court (only Townsville and limited matters in Brisbane)**

How it works

Advice and assistance is provided during hour-long appointments by skilled pro bono lawyers from member firms.

Clients are helped to complete the legal tasks associated with litigation or alternatively identify and divert unmeritorious cases.

Clients remain self-represented and responsible for their own case.

Service solicitors and paralegals brief volunteer lawyers before appointments and barristers before appearances, and manage any follow up work after appointments.

Appointments are conducted at our satellite offices, located at QCAT, the Federal Courts, the QEI Courts and the Townsville courthouse, and at allocated spaces for the pilot services at the QIRC and Brisbane Magistrates Court.

Reaching the regions

Clients are often assisted over the phone if they are outside Brisbane and Townsville. This addresses the lack of other services offering the type of ongoing practical assistance with litigation provided by the Self Representation Service.

Diversion

An important objective of the Service is to encourage the early resolution of disputes and dissuade litigants from commencing or continuing proceedings without legal merit. When a case is assessed as having little or no merit, the self-represented litigant concerned is still provided with one appointment for advice about the likely difficulties they will face if they proceed with the action.

This year, 78 people whose cases lacked legal merit accepted our advice to not commence or to discontinue proceedings.

Evaluation

The Self Representation Service is a cost-effective way of meeting the rising demand for accessible legal advice in civil law jurisdictions.

An independent evaluation conducted by BDO in 2015 found a benefit to cost ratio of 2:1 for the Federal Court Service.

Pilot duty lawyer services

Since April 2016, QPILCH has also operated three pilot 'duty lawyer' services within the Self Representation Service to assist:

- Appellants in workers' compensation appeals in compulsory conferences in the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC);
- Debtors in enforcement hearings in the Brisbane Magistrates Court; and
- Parents and carers in QCAT child protection compulsory conferences.

These pilot services were designed to give self represented parties' access to legal representation at a crucial stage of a proceeding to assist them to clarify or resolve issues in dispute and ultimately benefit all parties involved and the tribunals.

In these pilots, QPILCH engages pro bono barristers to provide one-off legal representation to clients at a defined stage of their proceeding.

675

people applied for help

927

appointments provided

78

accepted advice to not commence or continue proceedings

40

clients referred to pro bono mediation or legal representation

25%

had a disability

2%

were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

49%

relied on Centrelink

79%

had household incomes < \$52,000

18%

were from regional areas

17%

were from a non-English speaking background

76%

said they self-represented due to the cost of legal representation

3,500 +

pro bono hours

SRS data includes Townsville figures, which are also separately reported under Regional Queensland.

Self Representation Service Reference Group

Marshall Irwin (Chair)
Joanne Rennick
Monica Taylor
Stephen Colditz
Narelle Bedford

State Courts

People representing themselves in the District Court, Supreme Court and Court of Appeal often deal with complex legal issues and complicated processes and the outcome of their case has a significant impact on their life.

In the civil jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal, just over 20% of people were self represented.

The Self Representation Service (**SRS**) in the State Courts helps people with any area of civil law.

This year

We saw a significant increase in the number of people seeking assistance with wills and estate disputes, an increase from 7% in the last financial year to 18% this year.

We shared

To share the insight and experience we gain at the coalface, staff presented an information session for Registry staff at the District and Supreme Courts on dealing with self represented clients experiencing challenging circumstances.

Thank you

We thank members of the judiciary who supported the SRS, in particular, The President of the Court of Appeal, The Honourable Margaret McMurdo AC, The Honourable Justices Roslyn Atkinson, David Boddice and Peter Applegarth, and His Honour Judge Paul Smith.

We also thank solicitors who volunteered with the SRS, Sophia Finter and Peter de Silva.

Partner law firms

Allens
Ashurst
Barry Nilsson
Bartley Cohen
Clayton Utz
Cooper Grace Ward
Corrs Chambers Westgarth
Crown Law
DibbsBarker
DLA Piper Australia
K & L Gates
King & Wood Mallesons
McCullough Robertson Lawyers
McInnes Wilson
MinterEllison
Murphy Schmidt Solicitors

228
Applications
(target 175)

305
appointments

59%

relied on
Centrelink

90%

had household
income <\$52,000

26%

had a disability

19%

were from
regional areas

16%

from non-English
speaking
background

67%

listed to advice to
not commence
or proceed

Irina's story

Irina, an elderly widow and aged pensioner approached the Self Representation Service for urgent help to defend mortgage repossession proceedings.

Irina was doing casual cleaning work for a finance broker who encouraged her to use her home to borrow funds, which were then lent to another of the broker's clients as an investment. The business failed, and the lender commenced proceedings against Irina.

Irina was referred to a firm to complete her defence. After this step, Irina returned to the Self Representation Service, where volunteers helped her prepare an application to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) and supporting submissions.

Volunteers helped Irina write to the lender's lawyers, and volunteers advised Irina about responding to an offer to settle.

The FOS process resulted in a successful outcome for Irina, with 90% of the debt waived and Irina keeping her home.

The settlement [I reached] lets me draw a line in the sand. I can now focus on the more important things. Thanks to QPILCH's help, my kids and I still have a roof over our heads. I cannot thank everyone enough"
State Courts SRS client

We helped with

Wills and estates
Credit Disputed & Mortgage
Repossession
Property disputes
Contract disputes
Defamation
Appeals from District or Supreme Court
Personal injuries
Disputes with lawyers
Judicial review
Negligence

Funding

The Self Representation Service in the State Courts is funded by the Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund, administered by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Established **2007**

Proceedings in the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal often have serious consequences for the welfare, dignity and daily living of people and their families.

QCAT procedure is designed to accommodate self represented parties. However, in our experience, without legal assistance vulnerable people have difficulty in navigating QCAT processes and meaningfully asserting their rights.

The Self Representation Service in QCAT targets areas of law that affect the most vulnerable, including guardianship and administration for adults, children's matters and administrative reviews.

Thank you

To QCAT members and staff who supported the Self Representation Service, in particular Senior Member Peta Stilgoe OAM and Members Patricia Hanly and Julie Ford.
To solicitors who volunteered with the Self Representation Service David Moore, Sophia Finter and Alvin Goh.

This year

Our focus this year continued to be on the human rights division of the Tribunal.

We saw more guardianship and administration matters than ever before. We also saw an increase in requests for assistance with review of blue card related decisions, including those impacting on the placement of, and contact with, children under child protection orders.

Claire's story

Claire wished be appointed as guardian for her elderly mother. She had applied to QCAT for review of the guardianship appointment of the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) due to her concerns about the accommodation and health services that her mother was receiving. Claire's application was dismissed in 2015 and she asked for help to appeal that decision to the QCAT Appeal Tribunal.

Volunteers assisted Claire to prepare her appeal, along with supporting submissions and affidavits.

We gradually diverted our resources from tenancy matters following the commencement of the Queensland Statewide Tenant Advice and Referral Service in October 2015. We continue to assist in this area if a tenancy matter involves domestic violence or termination.

Partner law firms

Colin Biggers & Paisley
Clayton Utz
Cooper Grace Ward
Energen
HWL Ebsworth
K & L Gates
McCullough Robertson Lawyers
McInnes Wilson
MinterEllison
Murphy Schmidt Solicitors
Shine Lawyers
TressCox Lawyers

Presenters at SRS training

Stephen Mackie - Qld Bar
Peta Stilgoe OAM – QCAT Senior Member
Julie Hay - QCAT Appeals Manager
human rights
Alyson Anderson QCAT Appeals Manager – civil disputes
Steven Hogg – Qld Bar
Matthew Jones – Qld Bar
Stafford Shepherd – QLS
Daniel O'Gorman SC
Matt Black
John Farren

A barrister member instructed by a firm accepted a referral to represent Claire in the appeal hearing. The appeal application was granted and the matter was returned to QCAT for reconsideration.

Claire continued to self represent with the support of the Self Representation Service. In April 2016 Claire was finally appointed as her mother's guardian.

Claire was extremely grateful for the assistance she received in "achieving a wonderful outcome for [her] mother."

254
Applications
(target 215)

35%

16%

61%

86%

6%

82%

328

appointments

had a disability

from non English-speaking background

relied on Centrelink

had household income <\$52,000

identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

listened to advice to not commence or proceed

We helped with

Anti-discrimination
Administrative reviews
Appeals
Children's matters
Disciplinary
Guardianship & administration
Information & privacy rights
Minor civil disputes (limited matters)
Tenancy matters involving domestic violence or termination

Funding

The Self Representation Service in QCAT is funded by the Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund, administered by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Established **2010**

Federal Courts

For many, the Federal Courts represent the final stage of proceedings for disputes about bankruptcy, employment and appeals from lower federal courts or tribunals.

Proceedings in the Federal Court and Federal Circuit Court are often heavily litigated, adversarial and pose serious costs risks for parties involved.

Many people in this jurisdiction find themselves unable to afford legal assistance.

This year

2015-16 was the third year of the Self Representation Service operating in the Federal Courts.

In the first two full years of operation, we have seen particularly high demand with matters in the Fair Work Division of the Federal Circuit Court, as well as bankruptcy proceedings in the Federal Circuit Court.

Extra help

Where there is a particularly vulnerable client with a complex case, member firms and barristers sometimes provide extra help than is normally given in the Self Representation model. This includes:

- mediating disputes;
- providing opinions to help us determine how to assist a client; and
- appearing in court.

Mathew's story

Mathew was a former defence force member diagnosed with severe depression. He approached the Self Representation Service for assistance to appeal an Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) decision to the Federal Court of Australia (FCA).

The AAT had affirmed a decision of the Repatriation Commission to refuse the client a pension for an alleged defence-caused injury under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1966* (Cth). A volunteer provided the client with

Thank you

To members of judiciary and staff who supported the Self Representation Service, in particular Queensland District Registrar of the Federal Court, Heather Baldwin.

Partner law firms

Ashurst
Clayton Utz
Clyde & Co Australia
Corrs Chambers Westgarth
DLA Piper Australia
Henry Davis York
HopgoodGanim
McCullough Robertson Lawyers
McInnes Wilson
MinterEllison
TressCox Lawyers
Wotton + Kearney

Volunteer conciliators

John Farren
Stephen Lee
Chris Lenz
Kelly McIntyre
Matt Jones
George Kalimnios
Roman Krumins
Joe O'Hare
Jacob Owen
Kirsty Petersen
Farley Tolpen
Rob Stevenson
Lynette Vanderstoep
Patrick Wedge

preliminary advice and the Service solicitor assisted the client to draft an amended notice of appeal. The FCA set aside the AAT decision and remitted the matter back to the AAT, noting in its judgment how the intervention of QPILCH assisted the client to achieve a favourable outcome (*Linwood v Repatriation Commission* [2016] FCA 90 at [8]). Before the AAT hearing, the Repatriation Commission conceded Mathew's claim.

241
Applications
(target 200)

319
appointments

16% had a disability

2 people identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

39% relied on Centrelink

71% had household income <\$52,000

18% were from regional areas

78% Listened to advice to not commence or proceed

We helped with

Employment law
Bankruptcy
Appeals (federal tribunal)
Judicial review
Anti-discrimination
Enforcement
Appeals to the Full Court of the Federal Court
Competition & consumer

Funding

The Self Representation Service in the Federal Courts is funded by the Commonwealth Government Attorney-General's Department.

Established **2013**

Pilot Magistrates Court service

Many people do not have the resources or skills to properly defend court proceedings against them. People who are faced with an adverse judgment often cannot afford to pay the judgment debt.

If a person does not pay the judgment debt, the creditor can start enforcement proceedings which can have serious consequences. The creditor may be able to seize and sell that person's assets, or redirect their earnings to pay the debt.

Without legal representation, many debtors do not know how to participate in the enforcement proceedings, or the consequences if they fail to properly comply with court orders.

The Enforcement Hearing Duty Lawyer Service engages volunteer barristers to provide one-off legal representation to debtors at their enforcement hearing in the Brisbane Magistrates Court. Volunteers help debtors navigate the enforcement process, try to negotiate a suitable plan for payment of the debt and help debtors comply with court orders.

This year

Commencing in April 2016, the Enforcement Hearing Duty Lawyer Service was developed with extensive consultation with internal and external stakeholders, including the Chief Magistrate, the Magistrates Court registry, the Bar Association of Queensland and individual barristers.

Matthew Jones of counsel was particularly instrumental in developing this service. We also received invaluable assistance from former Chief magistrate and District Court Judge Marshall Irwin.

20

Duty lawyer services

Funding

The Enforcement Hearing Duty Lawyer Service is funded by the '2015-17 Additional temporary Commonwealth CLC funding'. The pilot services will end in June 2017 without new funding.

Established **2016**

Pilot QIRC service

Proving an entitlement to workers' compensation can be a complex and difficult process, particularly where the injury is a psychological one. If a person's application for compensation is rejected by both the insurer and the Workers' Compensation Regulator, then the next step is to lodge an appeal in the QIRC.

The appeal process is complicated, and carries significant costs risk for the appellant. Without legal representation, many appellants are unable to properly articulate or substantiate their claim for compensation.

The Workers' Compensation Appeals Service engages volunteer barristers to appear on a one-off basis for appellants who cannot afford a lawyer or access speculative assistance at a compulsory conference.

Barristers ensure that the client's best case is put forward at the compulsory conference, and help the client to understand the key issues in dispute and the evidence required to prove their claim.

The Service may also arrange for the client to have a one-off appointment with a volunteer lawyer to prepare key documents in the appeal proceedings. These appointments are offered using the self representation model.

This year

Commencing in April 2016, the Workers' Compensation Appeals Service was developed with extensive consultation with internal and external stakeholders, including Deputy President O'Connor and Deputy President Swan, the Workers' Compensation Regulator and the Bar Association of Queensland.

5

Applications

1

Representation at compulsory conference

3

Appointments

We helped with

Workers' compensation appeals

Funding

The Workers' Compensation Appeals Service is funded by the '2015-17 Additional temporary Commonwealth CLC funding'.

Established **2016**

Outreach

When people experience vulnerability and marginalisation, they are more likely to face multiple legal problems and many do not seek help from lawyers.

Without specialist assistance and support, unresolved legal issues can perpetuate chronic and entrenched disadvantage, acting as a barrier to housing, community engagement and positive official interactions.

To reach these vulnerable people, QPILCH provides targeted, on-going pro bono representation through 21 outreach legal clinics at community support agencies. The outreach legal clinics are located in Brisbane, Toowoomba, Cairns and Townsville. Each clinic is staffed by volunteer lawyers from private law firms and located at a community agency where vulnerable people access essential services.



HPLC staff & volunteers from King & Wood Mallesons & Holding Redlich, with Brisbane Youth Service staff, at the HPLC at BYS

Volunteer lawyers work closely with community support workers and health professionals to appropriately identify and address clients' legal needs.

This year, the outreach legal clinics doubled our service delivery through holistic and innovative collaboration, training and resourcing, along with efficient, client-focussed processes, achieving more outcomes than ever before. The outreach legal clinics include:

Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic

helping people experiencing or at risk of homelessness

Refugee Civil Law Clinic

helping refugees

LegalPod

helping young people transition from state care to independence

1747
(target 670)

new client files this year

92%

had no regular income or relied on Centrelink

27%

identify as having a disability

26%

identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

23%

are culturally and linguistically diverse

30

community partner agencies

28

partner law firms

500+

volunteer lawyers

13,000 hours+

of pro bono legal services

Jason's story

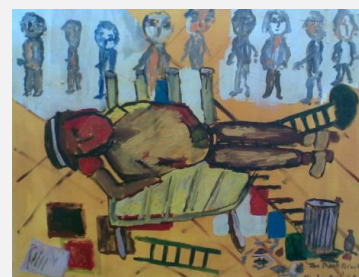
Jason is a 33 year-old Aboriginal man from Far North Queensland. When Jason first came to the HPLC, he had been chronically homeless and 'sleeping rough' for a number of years.

During his adult life, Jason had struggled with personal hardship and health concerns, and found it challenging to positively engage with crisis or community support services.

Jason completed the Legal Health Check with his support worker at a specialist Cairns homelessness agency.

Through this process, Jason identified that he wanted legal help to resolve his \$17,500 SPER debt.

Over the years, Jason had been fined over 100 times for minor criminal offences connected to his homelessness, including public nuisance. The HPLC helped Jason to successfully apply for a Fine Option Order to work off the majority of his SPER debt through community service at a local homelessness agency, and arranged a manageable payment plan for the outstanding debt.



Homelessness

People experiencing homelessness and related forms of marginalisation are likely to have at least three new legal problems each year.

The Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic (HPLC) provides targeted, accessible and comprehensive legal services to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. By empowering clients to resolve their legal issues, the HPLC assists people experiencing hardship to break the cycle of disadvantage and build self-reliance.

How it works

We deliver pro bono legal assistance to vulnerable Queenslanders through 17 HPLC locations across Queensland. We collaborate with law firms, in-house legal units, CLCs, community and health agencies to holistically address the complex legal needs of people experiencing homelessness. This year, the HPLC opened 1515 new client files.

Training

The HPLC provides training to our pro bono partner firms, host agencies, and the broader community sector. This year, we trained over 300 caseworkers to identify legal issues and refer vulnerable clients. We presented over 17 CLE training sessions on legal skills, cultural competencies and key areas of law

for 500 volunteer lawyers, and ran our sixth annual Legal Basics Caseworker Training Day, presenting to 40 social service caseworkers.

Brisbane partner law firms

Allens
Ashurst
Clayton Utz
Herbert Smith Freehills
Holding Redlich
HWL Ebsworth
King & Wood Mallesons
McCullough Robertson
MinterEllison
MurphySchmidt

Host community agencies

Brisbane
139 Club
Brisbane Homelessness Service
Collaborative
Brisbane Youth Service
New Farm Neighbourhood Centre
Australian Red Cross
Roma House
Salvation Army Pindari Men's Hostel
Salvation Army Pindari Women's Hostel
West End Community House
Cairns
Homelessness Service Hub
Mission Australia Douglas House
Wuchopperen Health Service
Toowoomba
The Basement
Townsville
Housing Connections
The Women's Centre

1515 new client files this year

"This SPER outcome means I can manage and I won't be bankrupt (thank god) by them taking anymore than I can cope with. Now I can continue a peaceful life and move on in a positive direction."

Client feedback about the HPLC



Brisbane HPLC volunteer lawyers at our CLE session on assisting with tenancy and housing matters.

We helped with

Tenancy & housing
Debt & SPER fines
Guardianship & mental health law
Domestic violence & family law
Victims of crime compensation
Employment law
Criminal law
Administrative law and Centrelink
Anti-discrimination

Funding

The HPLC is funded by the Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund, which is administered by the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General. The HPLC is also funded by the Commonwealth Government Attorney-General's Department.

Meredith's story

When Meredith first connected with the HPLC at a Brisbane homelessness hub, she was heavily pregnant with her third child and facing eviction from her public housing property on the basis of a drug possession charge.

Although Meredith pleaded guilty to the charge, she told the HPLC that the drugs found at the property belonged to one of her relatives.

Meredith is a proud Aboriginal woman who has a history of mental health and challenging official interactions.

At the time of the offence that triggered the eviction, Meredith had been living in her house for a number of years and was actively engaging with local support services.

With on-going representation and advice from the HPLC, Meredith and her other children were able to remain in their house for the birth of Meredith's third child. The HPLC has continued to proactively address Meredith's legal needs, allowing her to focus on her children and continue her positive engagement with the local community.

Established **2002**

Refugees

Refugees are from diverse backgrounds, cultures and experiences, with many not speaking or understanding English. They are often survivors of torture, and have experienced significant personal trauma.

Vulnerable refugees regularly experience challenges settling into their new life in Australia.

How it works

The RCLC provides free civil law advice and assistance to refugees and other vulnerable people who have been in Australia for less than 5 years.

Since 2007, the RCLC has provided comprehensive assistance and advice to over 375 new clients.

This year, the RCLC opened 86 new refugee client files, helping more marginalised refugees than ever before to navigate the legal system, effectively resolve their legal issues and positively engage in the local community.

Partner law firm

Corrs Chambers Westgarth

Host community agency

Multicultural Development Association

86 new client files this year

"This will have such a significant impact on our client's mental health and the financial situation of her whole family."
Community caseworker expressing gratitude for a debt waiver obtained by the RCLC



Corrs Chambers Westgarth team at our 2015 Street Soccer Tournament

Sofia's story

Sofia is a single mother and refugee with limited English. When she first met with the RCLC, Sofia had concerns about her children's access to health, education and social security. After fleeing Ethiopia, Sofia put her children's wellbeing first and took steps to establish a stable life for her family.

However, difficulties arose as her children's dates of birth had been incorrectly recorded on their arrival in Australia, resulting in them being enrolled in the incorrect school grades and changing their entitlements to essential government services.

The RCLC, through collaboration with Sofia's caseworker, were able to gather enough evidence to have all the records amended.

Sofia's children are now able to access suitable education and appropriate health and social services, allowing Sofia to focus on stabilising their lives in Australia.

Elsa's story

The RCLC helped Elsa, a refugee from Eritrea experiencing multiple chronic health conditions, to resolve a debt matter and bring stability to her young family's life.

Elsa was driving her car during a period of heavy rain and accidentally hit a traffic light to avoid an accident. Elsa received an invoice for around \$10,000 to repair the traffic light.

As a mother with seven dependent children who could not secure work, Elsa was unable to repay the debt and was concerned about the potential impact on her family.

Through effective legal advocacy and substantive negotiations, the RCLC obtained a full debt waiver on compassionate grounds, enabling Elsa to prioritise the wellbeing of her children and her health.

We helped with

Tenancy & housing
Debt & SPER fines
Employment law
Victims of crime compensation
Insurance law
Motor vehicle disputes
Criminal law
Administrative law and Centrelink
Anti-discrimination

Established **2007**

Young people in transition

Each year, over 500 young people will transition from the Queensland Child Protection system into independence when they turn 18. Around 40% will experience homelessness in the first 12 months. This often leads to chronic, long-term homelessness.

QPILCH developed LegalPod in 2013 to limit this negative impact for these vulnerable individuals. Multiple legal needs are entwined with an unstable transition, including tenancy, debt, Centrelink and criminal law problems.

How it works

LegalPod involves small teams of pro bono volunteers who connect to a young person exiting the child protection system, providing assertive, personalised and consistent legal assistance for up to 4 years.

In collaboration with non-legal youth support agencies, LegalPod completes a Legal Health Check with the young person to diagnose emerging legal needs.

Most LegalPod clients are assisted with multiple legal issues, with two clients having 9 issues each.

Since LegalPod's inception, 11 firms and in-house legal units have been trained and 30 pods have been established.

Partner law firms

Allens
Ashurst
Baker & McKenzie
Clayton Utz
Herbert Smith Freehills
HopgoodGanim
HWL Ebsworth
Idemitsu
King & Wood Mallesons
MinterEllison
MurphySchmidt

Reference Group

The Honourable Margaret White
AO
Lucas Moore, CREATE Foundation
Tracey Smith, PeakCare
Queensland
Paul Newman, Ashurst

500+

young people in Qld will transition from child protection into independence

40%

will exit the child protection system into homelessness

69

new client files this year

3

legal issues each

"[In]...the eyes of the community I was a drop kick that wouldn't make it in life but thanks to the support and belief provided by QPILCH I was able to confidently make a change in my lifestyle and change my ways. This would've been impossible if it wasn't for the awesome eye openers I was shown...none of what [I] accomplished would have been possible without LegalPod and QPILCH guiding [me] through the entire journey so thank you."

Feedback from a client about their engagement with LegalPod

Bobby's story

Bobby was first connected with LegalPod in 2014 by her disability support worker. When Bobby first met with the volunteer lawyers, she was homeless, had a number of debts, fines and outstanding criminal charges.

Bobby's LegalPod was able to negotiate with her payday lenders to arrange manageable payment plans, give Bobby practical advice about her criminal appearances and brief the duty lawyer.

Through the help of LegalPod, one of the charges was dropped and the terms of a DVO were modified allowing Bobby to reconnect with her family without the threat of criminal sanction.

After assisting Bobby with her immediate legal issues, her LegalPod was able to help her access her records from Child Safety which meant that Bobby could apply for adequate funding from Disability Support Services Queensland for ongoing support.

Bobby recently gave birth to her first daughter. During her pregnancy LegalPod helped Bobby with her engagement with Child Safety so that her daughter was not removed from her care. Bobby's LegalPod will continue to provide assistance for the duration of her transition to independence.

We helped with

Tenancy & housing
Debt & SPER fines
Guardianship & mental health law
Child protection
Domestic violence & family law
Victims of crime compensation
Employment law
Criminal law
Administrative law and Centrelink

Funding

LegalPod was funded by a small grant from the Sidney Myer Fund and the '2015-17 Additional temporary Commonwealth CLC funding'.

Established **2013**

Mental Health

One in five Australians is directly affected by mental health concerns, which impacts on relationships, employment, community engagement and quality of life.

Those most marginalised in our community also face homelessness and related forms of hardship due to their mental health.

Addressing a person's legal issues makes it easier for people to focus on their wellbeing, recovery process and broader systems engagement.

How it works

QPILCH's Mental Health Law Practice is comprised of:

- **Tribunal Advocacy Service**
- **General casework service**
- **Health Advocacy Legal Clinic**
- **Mental Health Civil Law Clinic**
- **PAH outreach clinic**

MHLP volunteers and advocates

Ada Sculthorp
Alice Nagel
Anna Brasnett
Ashleigh-Rae Bretherton
Bogart Phillips
Bronte Maddaford
Caleb Brown
Gabriel Perry
Halligan Quinn
Hayley Grossberg
Iain McGregor-Lowndes
Jack Baldwin
Jean Lukin
Jessica Fenech
Laura Manley
Lauren Hickling
Liz O'Connor
Lydia Hugrass
Maria Hall
Marie Corrigan
Michael Stephens
Nastassja Milevskiy
Rebecca Bellamy
Robyn Dawe
Scott Guar
Summer Brady

Referral panel members

Clayton Utz
Colin Biggers & Paisley
HopgoodGanim
Lander & Rogers
Maurice Blackburn
Shine Lawyers

1 in 5

people will be affected by mental health concerns in a year

5%

identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

11%

identify as culturally and linguistically diverse

68%

rely on Centrelink

14%

from regional or remote areas

Funding

This service is funded by a generous grant from the

Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation

The Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation supports medical research, the disadvantaged, the homeless, and the elderly. In 2014, the Foundation kindly awarded QPILCH a grant over three years.



Tribunal Advocacy Service

People on Involuntary Treatment Orders (ITOs) have the order reviewed by the Mental Health Review Tribunal every 6 months.

Less than 2% of people are represented in those hearings. Queensland continues to have the lowest rate of representation in

This service allows people to participate in the legal process which is so closely connected to their own

Australia in this context.

In this non-adversarial, therapeutic jurisdiction, we help clients to tell their story to the Tribunal in a way that addresses the legal criteria so the Tribunal can make the best decision in the circumstances.

105

clients represented at hearings

4

Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) hearings

32

new advocates trained to appear in ITO hearings

970+

hours of volunteer service assisting clients to prepare for their review

health.

How it works

We train senior law students who join our panel of independent advocates.

Advocates provide information and assistance to people on ITOs all over Queensland. The advocates help a patient prepare for their review hearings in the Mental Health Review Tribunal and attend the hearing.



New advocates training, University of Queensland, February 2016

Charlie's story

Charlie comes from a large, supportive family and has a young daughter. When he connected with the MHLP, he had been on remand for over five months.

Charlie was on an ITO and contacted the MHLP because he did not think he needed to be on the order and wanted it revoked.

The MHLP organised an advocate to work with Charlie to prepare submissions for the ITO review. At the hearing, the advocate highlighted Charlie's strong support network; that he had not received medication for

sometime and was happy to engage with the psychiatrist.

Charlie's partner and his advocate attended the hearing in person to support Charlie.

The Tribunal found that Charlie had a strong support network both inside and out of prison. When they decided to revoke his ITO, Charlie felt that the Tribunal members had really listened to him.

Charlie believes that he has had a big wake-up call and he is determined to continue counseling and remain.

"Students are doing real work for real people who are in real need of the work that the MHLP does. It is very fulfilling to be a part of that".

MHLP volunteer

"The advocacy service helped us with the legal jargon, to know who would be present at the hearing and how it would be run".

MHLP client

"[The MHLP] helped me understand the legal procedure and it made me feel more involved with the process. My advocate took the time to explain the process to me and this made me feel really great. I am 110% happy with the outcome."

Charlie

Established **2012**

General casework

How it works

People affected by mental illness and mental health laws often have multiple unmet legal needs. The MHLP aims to address all the legal needs of our clients rather than just the presenting problem.

The MHLP works closely with later year law and PLT students in meeting the needs of our clients.

This year

In 2015-2016, we assisted people to get back on their feet after hospital admissions, we helped advocate on behalf of our clients to have their basic human rights met, and we provided advice over the phone in mental health law when no other service could.

200 new clients

1 – 4 legal issues each

"I can't think of how MHLP could possibly improve the service because I got a result above and beyond my expectations."

MHLP client

Lilly's story

Lilly was placed on an Involuntary Treatment Order in early 2016, with a diagnosis of schizoaffective disorder. She asked for help through outreach clinic with a number of debts (totaling \$22,000) she had incurred while she was unwell. Lilly's Centrelink payment was being garnished to pay off her debts and she couldn't leave hospital because she didn't have enough money to pay rent.

She was at risk of homelessness and medical staff believed that, due to her mental illness, she had experienced significantly impaired capacity for an

extended period of time. On behalf of Lilly, the MHLP obtained supporting documentation from health workers and made hardship applications to her lenders.

The MHLP was able to secure a full debt waiver of \$10,500 for one debt and \$9,450 for another, organised affordable payment plans and moratoriums for others.

With the help of the MHLP and her support worker, Lilly has been able to focus on her health, find affordable accommodation and gain casual employment.

We helped with

Guardianship & administration
Powers of Attorney
Mental health law
Discrimination
Consumer complaints
Tenancy & housing
Debt & SPER fines
Right to information
Privacy

Established **2009**

Mental Health Civil Law Clinic

How it works

The Mental Health Civil Law Clinic (MHCLC) is based on our HPLC's outreach legal clinic model, operating in partnership with two community-based mental health agencies in Brisbane.

This collaborative approach is built around the partnership between the client, their support worker and the MHCLC volunteer lawyers.

By providing representation and advice to people experiencing mental health concerns, the MHCLC helps to remove recovery pathway barriers.

David's story

When David met with volunteer lawyers at the MHCLC at Open Minds, he was struggling to keep track of his finances and his personal wellbeing due to mental ill-health.

The MHCLC substantively negotiated with David's creditors to effectively address his financial hardship, obtaining over \$20,000 worth of debt waivers, and also gave David guardianship and administration advice.

By collaborating with David's Open Minds caseworker, the MHCLC actively connected him with financial counsellors to better manage his money and facilitated holistic pathways for David's social and health needs.

Partner law firms

Allens
DLA Piper

Host community agencies

Open Minds
Footprints

Maureen's story

When Maureen first met with the volunteer lawyers at the MHCLC at Footprints, she had recently been released from hospital and was experiencing on-going mental health concerns. Maureen was also suffering physical abuse and threats from her neighbours, and feared for the safety of her two young children. Through detailed submissions and legal advocacy, the volunteers successfully liaised with the government to secure a 'very high needs' public housing transfer for Maureen. This outcome has enabled Maureen and her children to find safe housing to help stabilise their lives.

77 new client files this year

"Thank you for your assistance in making this housing result happen. I am really happy and hoping it will be a fresh start."

Client feedback about the MHCLC

We helped with

Guardianship and administration
Mental health law
Tenancy & housing
Debt & SPER fines
Domestic violence & family law
Victims of crime compensation
Employment law
Criminal law
Administrative law and Centrelink

Established **2011**

Health Advocacy Legal Clinics

Research shows that environmental causes of poor health can have their origins in unresolved legal issues. These are best resolved by health workers and lawyers working in partnership.

How it works

Under the supervision of experienced legal practitioners who have professional backgrounds in health care, the students provide cross-disciplinary support for patients of the St Vincent's and Mater Hospitals in Brisbane.

Clients are referred by hospital social workers, neuroscience and other specialist units.

The HALC model offers an opportunity for students enrolled in undergraduate degrees in social work, law and medicine to meet with patients who in addition to their health care needs may have legal issues or concerns.

The HALC can assist with issues such as Enduring Powers of Attorney, Advance Care Plans, and Guardianship and Administration.

9 new clients

15 enquiries

Guest speakers

Jane Caldwell, OPG
Sue Garlick & Marissa Dooris, QPILCH
David Manwaring, QAI
Leon Atkinson-MacEwen, OHO
Carmel Ybarlucua, MHC
Jessica Llewelyn & Anne Hardy, Mater Hospital SW Department
Charles Hartley, Metro North HHS Legal
Mary Burgess, OPA

St Vincent's Hospital

Supervisor

Karen Williams, BSW, MHSM, JD

Supported by

TC Beirne School of Law
QUT Social Work School
Griffith University Medical School
St Vincent's Hospital

Semester 2 of 2015

Daisy Lin
Golda Romero
Naomi Wallace
Erica Wilkinson

Semester 1 of 2016

Heather Scheeren
Xiaofei Lu
Ash Joseph
Alex Thams

Funding

The HALC is funded by QUT Social Work School, St Vincent's Hospital and the TC Beirne School of Law.

Established **2014**

Mater Hospital

Supervisor

Dr Kim Forrester, RN, BA., LLB., LLM
(Advanced), PhD

Supported by

TC Beirne School of Law
UQ Social Work School
UQ Medical School
Mater Hospital, Brisbane

Semester 1 of 2016

Karlaminda Luckel
Kris Flint
Rebecca Morrison
Emily Carter

Funding

The **Flannery Foundation** made a significant contribution to QPILCH which has funded the establishment of the HALC at the Mater Hospital, Brisbane.

Established **2016**

PAH outreach clinic

We run a fortnightly outreach clinic at the Princess Alexandra Hospital's mental health unit. The clinic is staffed by the MHLP's coordinator and supported by UQ's Mental Health Law Clinic (see later).

MHLP coordinator Imogen Coates-Marnane and Princess Alexandra Hospital social worker Brian Cargill.



"The service helped me understand my rights. It's not nice being locked in hospital and not knowing what rights you have."

MHLP client

Established **2009**

Legal Health Check

The Legal Health Check (LHC) is a tool to implement cross-sector legal diagnosis, case-management and collaboration for the benefit of highly vulnerable clients with multiple, unrecognised and unaddressed legal needs.

Building on the success of the website of LHC resources developed in 2014/15 for community workers (www.legalhealthcheck.org.au), the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney (DJAG) funded QPILCH to independently evaluate Legal Health Checks in both QPILCH and other Queensland settings. The pilot sites – in Toowoomba, Maroochydore and Cairns paired legal assistance services with disability housing, family violence and indigenous health community organisations.

The evaluation confirmed that a Legal Health Check pathway between legal and non-legal services identifies 3.05-3.61 legal needs per client, increases referrals to legal services, and enables the collaborating services to better understand each

other and offer a better-integrated, more effective service for clients.

Training modules, incorporating the findings and best practice guidelines have been developed and will shortly be available on both the QPILCH and [legalhealthcheck](http://legalhealthcheck.org.au) websites.

The independent evaluation was conducted by Encompass Family and Community Pty Ltd and was guided by a Steering Committee with representatives from Legal Aid Queensland (LAQ), the Queensland Association of Legal Services (QAILS), Queensland Council of Social Services (QCOSS), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services (ATSILS) and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG).



Mental health, homelessness and social service caseworkers at our Legal Health Check training

"Our service recognises that we need to work more closely with community services. It's a change in our mindset and the LHC is a great tool to assist this."
legal service

"My client was fleeing from domestic and family violence with her three children. She and I filled in the Legal Health Check form together. Due to completing the LHC form, I identified that my client was named on the mortgage of the family home. She was therefore not eligible for government housing which placed her in an awkward situation. The solicitor was able to advise her of the most appropriate action to take in these circumstances."
community worker

Student Clinics

QPILCH supervises student volunteers, PLT students and student clinics. This financial year we hosted 75 clinical legal students from 4 universities.

Students support the work of many Services either working directly on cases or undertaking research projects which seek solutions to systemic issues.

Student volunteers and clinics provide senior law students with an exceptional learning experience and allow them to put theory into practice.

HPLC Student Clinic

Each HPLC Student Clinic has two rotations, with students spending half the semester in our Brisbane office working on research projects and the other half at pro bono partner law firms, attending and supporting the volunteer lawyers at the outreach legal clinics. This year, students:

- considered the current SPER fines enforcement system, options for marginalised community members to effectively deal with SPER debts, and the criminalisation of homelessness and poverty;
- engaged with stakeholders to discuss improvements to the criminal justice system; and
- researched the reinstatement of the Special Circumstances Court (now known as Queensland Integrated Court Referral scheme).

Supervisors

Cameron Lavery and Marissa Dooris



Semester 2 of 2015

Lily Fletcher
Jessica Mudryk
Kate Sparshott
Alexander Tamayo li
Dominic Theodos
Dominic Willys

Semester 1 of 2016

Maria Cantrill
Gabrielle Coutanche
Victoria Clements
Sarah Clouston
Dominic Jorgensen
Josephine MacMillan

Host partner law firms

McCullough Robertson
Herbert Smith Freehills
DLA Piper
Ashurst
MurphySchmidt
HWL Ebsworth
MinterEllison



"In this course, you find motivation not from achieving a high distinction, but from pursuing the best possible outcomes for clients and producing worthwhile material that can assist vulnerable people.

It encourages students to put their heads together and collaborate on tasks and share ideas.

The CLE experience overall has been incredible. Thank you."

HPLC Student feedback

established **2006**

Mental Health Law Clinic

The Mental Health Law Clinic assists clients with mental health law issues and civil law problems that relate to their mental illness, particularly supporting the PAH outreach clinic.

Supervisor

Imogen Coates-Marnane

Semester 2 of 2015

Jack Baldwin
Amelia Bell
Clare Champney
Prianca Maharaj
Mark Young
May Chen

"Overall, I have found clinic to be the most beneficial subject which I have taken thus far at university. Not only has it provided me with many practical transferable skills which I will be able to take with me throughout my legal career but it has given me a direct insight into the social responsibilities of the legal profession."

Rebecca Bellamy, UQ student

Semester 1 of 2016

Lucy Agnew
Thomas Whip
Angelique Riley
Benedict O'Connor
Stephanie Tang
Rebecca Bellamy



Guest speakers

Mr Barry Thomas, MHRT
The Honourable Justice David Boddice, Mental Health Court
Dr Frank Varghese, Mental Health Court
Julie Hearnden and Tony McCarthy
Queensland Advocacy Incorporated
Suzette Jeffries and Kathryn Taylor
Office of the Information Commissioner
Stacey Parker, Barrett Adolescent Centre
Commission of Inquiry



Established **2009**

Public Interest Research Clinic

This clinic aims to engage in socio-legal research and evaluation. In the last financial year Public Interest Research Clinic ("PIRC") students:

- conducted an analysis of Referral files to identify which were most often referred considering client demographics and matter type; and of the files that weren't referred, the reasons and alternative avenues for assistance; and
- interviewed former Mental Health Law Practice Tribunal Advocacy Service clients, recorded their "stories" and developed a guide about how to effectively collect and ethically tell client stories.

Supervisor

Andrea Perry-Petersen



Semester 2 of 2015

Phoebe Tyszkiewicz
Wendy Furniss
Amparo Santiago
Samiha Ahmed
Kareen Tuyau
Alexandra Ravesnwood

Semester 1 of 2016

Claire Van Der List
Clare Scrine
Megan Applegarth
Francine Londy
Mollie O'Connor
Hannah Anderson

Guest speakers

Stephen Colditz, Barrister-at-Law
Anne-Maree Roche, Mental Health Review Tribunal

"The subject had a focus on the realities of the world/legal practice... it offered perspectives from different guests who were really insightful".

Student



Established **2007**

Access to Justice Clinic

The students worked on Referral Service files and assisted referral staff members to assess applications and refer or advise clients. This clinic operates in semester 2 each year.

Supervisor

Ben Tuckett



Students Semester 2 of 2015

Chandla Stack
Rebecca McDonough
Oliver Clarke
Kathryn McLoughlin
Andrew Summers
Sasha Purcell

"I really enjoyed the clinic. The work we did and the people we helped really made me feel like we were doing something worthwhile and I would happily recommend this clinic to other students who are looking for a real hands-on clinic experience."

Student

Established **2013**

Social Justice Lawyering

The students assisted the Referral Service with casework. Each student also presented a seminar on a topic related to social justice and completed a reflective journal for which they were assessed. This clinic operates in semester 1 each year.

Supervisor

Andrea Perry-Petersen

Students Semester 1 of 2016

Hazal Gacka
Jessica Spence
Daniel Owen
Amanda Miller
Kate Marchesi
Samarth Sharma
Nicola Leach

Guest speakers

The Honourable Justice John Bond,
Supreme Court of Queensland
Stafford Shepherd, Queensland Law
Society



"I widened my appreciation of access to justice and the legal issues faced by real Australians. I came to appreciate the difficulty in accessing the law. The clinic made me re-evaluate the role of law in society, the lawyer's duty to provide legal services to enhance access to justice and the affordability of legal assistance."

Student



Established **2002**

Civil Litigation Clinic

The Civil Litigation Clinic provides support to the Self Representation Service. Uniquely, the Clinic operates in a collegiate environment in its dedicated Clinic room within the Supreme Court precinct. Students observed self-represented litigants in court rooms, attended client interviews with volunteer solicitors and improved their legal research, analysis and writing skills by working on files from the State and Federal Courts and QCAT.

Students also undertook discrete research projects, including preparing scripts for videos published by the Self Representation Service to assist self represented parties with tasks associated with litigation (reported on below).

Supervisor

Liz O'Connor

Students semester 2 of 2015

Ramon Cayamanda
Sean Casey
Christina Hooper
Melodee Luangamath
Thomas Allen
Marie Corrigan
Cheryl Hatzidellis
Renee Blackwell

Students semester 1 of 2016

Daniel Argyris
Leanne Foo
Amelia Hasson
Alexandra Holland
Taylor McCaw
Kate Van Der Heydon
Shana-leigh Webster
Kirsten Zander

Guest speakers

Justice John Logan, Federal Court
Professor Kay Lauchland, Bond
University
Matthew Jones, Barrister
Iain McCowie, Service Solicitor



"Wednesday (clinic day) is now my favourite day of the week".

Student



Established **2014**

PLT students

MHLP

Amanda Bosworth
Megan Girvan
Courtney Blomfield
Ada Sculthorp

Referrals

Lyndsay Hercule
Catherine Grotherr
Kara Ramsay
Damian Lloyd

Townsville

Carly Baker
Maxii Macdonald
Michael Daltonalomes
Stephanie Mariani
Christopher Stokes
Sifat Hossain

Volunteer Students

Self Representation Service

Melodee Luangamath
Megan Prouatt
Joshua Rhee
Lauren Ash
Marie Carroll
Sean Casey
Benjamin Chapman
May-Ann Chen
Anne Marie Chin
Magan Goh
Andrew Osborne
Megan Southwell
Cameron Young
Jermaine Werror
Robert Lake
Marie Corrigan
Natalia Kamusinski
Timothy Sheehan
Andrew McConnell

Bond University placements

Cameron Howlett
Ellen Mitten
Bronte Maddaford

Referrals volunteers

Akash Mahendra
Briana Collins
Bo McGrath
Chanelle Castro
Danika Jackson
Elizaveta Belonogoff
Hazal Gacka
Hunter Thompson
Isaac Day
Jackson Evans
Joe Connolly
Joshua Kudeborg
Lee Vo
Marcus De Witt-Ryall
Nicholas Lindsay
Norisha Young
Priam Rangiah
Rachel Liang
Racheal Wong
Sarah Kingston
Sophie Power
Stebin Sam
Thomas Browning
Zara Nadeem
Zoe Busch

Townsville volunteers

Andrew Du Boulay
Cherie McLaughlin
Haydon Wolski
Kelly Baker
Kyra Morrison
Tracey Bobeldyk

Townsville legal placements

Nicholas Potter
Sam Coffison

Pilot enforcement hearing service student volunteers

Amber Black
Jessica Rankin-Dixon
Saibal Kar
Hugh Pegler
Ryan Godfrey
Albert Lee

Research and publications

The preceding pages show the efforts taken to help individuals and not-for-profit organizations. This page briefly summarises the work done to facilitate access to justice and systemic change.

SRS video project

In 2015, QPILCH obtained funding from Legal Aid Queensland's Community Legal Education Collaboration Fund to develop five short videos to help self-represented litigants with key steps in litigation. The videos are designed to be used with our existing factsheet resources. Topics covered are commencing proceedings, defending proceedings, disclosure and evidence, attending court hearings, and questioning witnesses at trial. We thank Legal Aid Queensland, the Queensland Courts, Justice Martin Daubney and retired District Court Judge Marshall Irwin, the UQ Pro Bono Centre, clinic students from QUT's Litigation Clinic, and the QPILCH members who supported this project. These videos have been uploaded to QPILCH's wiki, and are available for viewing at: http://www.legalpediaqld.org.au/index.php?title=Civil_Litigation_-_Paul%27s_Journey

New factsheet – QCAT review of decisions made by Child Safety

We have recently released a new online factsheet dealing with Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) review of decisions made by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (Child Safety). The factsheet is available on QPILCH's Legalpedia page at http://www.legalpediaqld.org.au/index.php?title=QCAT_review_of_a_decision_made_by_Child_Safety

New resource for the community legal sector

QPILCH presented a new resource, *Legalpedia*, at the recent 2016 National CLCs Conference. Legalpedia is a searchable, online, peer-edited database for the community legal sector and its clients that provides unrestricted access to

legal information. You can visit Legalpedia at www.legalpediaqld.org.au.

A strength of Legalpedia for CLCs is that it provides an opportunity to get CLE on a central platform that can be updated by the private profession on a pro bono basis, ensuring that the information remains current. We are seeking expressions of interest from law firms, barristers, universities and community legal centres that would like to add to this valuable resource. If you would like more information or contribute, please contact Ben Tuckett on qlsbar@qpilch.org.au.

HPLC submissions and publications

Our Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic (HPLC) continues to undertake legal research and systemic advocacy in relation to laws that impact on people experiencing disadvantage. This year, the HPLC achieved this through collaborative law reform and homelessness sector initiatives, including the following submissions and publications:

- Submission to the Department of Justice and Attorney-General on the reinstatement of the Special Circumstances Court Diversion Program – 27 November 2015;
- Submission to the Utilities, Science and Innovation Committee on the *Plumbing and Drainage and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015* – 28 January 2016;
- Submission to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee on a Human Rights Act for Queensland – 18 April 2016; and
- "Pro bono teams on the ball", Proctor, Vol 35(9) p 9, October 2015, Cameron Lavery.

Advance care planning

An ACP can be completed with a client and their family (as attorneys or guardians) and their treating doctor so that when a person finds themselves in an emergency situation, new professionals can quickly see the person's wishes and current treatment.

Over the year, with the assistance of members TressCox and Norton Rose Fulbright, we have drafted three sets of factsheets on EPOAs, Advance Health Directives and Advance Care Planning to provide consistent information and usable forms in light of the terms of the new Mental Health Act. These materials will be linked from our website early in March 2017 when the new Act comes into force.

Practical collaboration for lawyers with mental health clients

People with mental illness experience financial and social disadvantage. Moreover, they have the greatest number of unaddressed legal problems. DJAG provided project funding to QPILCH in March 2016 to deliver training for CLC lawyers on best practice collaborative service delivery for clients with mental illness. Our project worker, Deborah Stafford consulted with over 20 legal and health organisations, drafted best practice guidelines and produced six videos featuring mental health experts. Deborah is using these resources to deliver training at the Sunshine Coast, Townsville and Cairns in November 2016. All the resources will shortly be available on the QPILCH website. QPILCH intends that these resources will assist the whole sector to work more effectively to address the disadvantage of this client group.

Research Reference Group

The Honourable Margaret Wilson (Chair)
Professor Richard Johnstone (QUT)
Katherine Curnow (UQ)
Rebekah Leong (QAI)

Events

Public Interest Address

"I don't want to be part of a system that has to apologise to another generation of people in care."

At our 10th Public Interest Address on 8 June at Customs House, Create Foundation CEO Jacqui Reed spoke of the challenges that face young people transitioning from the child protection system.

The Honourable Margaret White AC, Chair of our LegalPod Reference Group then discussed how QPILCH's LegalPod supports these young

people, connecting them to "pods" of pro bono lawyers for up to four years.

The PIA was once again strongly supported by the judiciary and members of the profession, together with Legal Aid, the Public Guardian and the Family and Child Commission.



Ashurst Partner Paul Newman, The Honourable Margaret White AO, CREATE Foundation CEO Jacqueline Reed and QPILCH President Lucy Bretherton at the 2016 Public Interest Address

CPD Training for CLCs

Sparke Helmore hosted QPILCH staff and staff from six other Community Legal Centres for our Professional Development Training Day in February.

Sessions on *Employment Law, Going Paperless, Taking instructions from clients with a mental illness, Resolving disputes through legal techniques and mediation, Legal Ethics Updates and Managing Expectations of Clients and Colleagues* were well-received.

Speakers

Abbey Richards
Rebekah Leong
Joanne Rennick
Dr. Rachael Field
Noela L'Estrange
Matthew Jones
Brian Bartley
Elizabeth Gallagher

Queensland Legal Walk

The 9th annual Queensland Legal Walk took place on Tuesday 17 May 2016 as part of National Law Week.

Over 1,100 members of the legal profession and community supporters participated in Brisbane, Toowoomba, the Sunshine Coast, Mackay, Townsville, Cairns and for the first time Bundaberg.

The Walk raised nearly \$70,000 for QPILCH's Mental Health Law Practice (MHLP).

'Justice Cups' were awarded to the top fundraising team and individuals.

For the third year, North Quarter Lane

Chambers were the top team, raising over \$7,000. The top individual fundraiser was Amanda Wu from Ashurst Australia who raised \$3,600.

The Brisbane walk was led by The Honourable Catherine Holmes, Chief Justice of Queensland and the Hon Yvette D'Ath MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training Skills.

The Walk was kindly sponsored by the Bar Association of Queensland, the Queensland Law Society and Brisbane City Council through the Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund and The Coffee Club provided a light breakfast.



Bundaberg inaugural walkers

Management committee

President	Lucy Bretherton	Special Counsel, Ashurst
Secretary and Treasurer	Matthew Jones	Barrister
	Robert Reed	Special Counsel, MinterEllison
	Bronwyn Neroni	General Manager, Queensland Law Society Incorporated
Bar Association of Queensland representative	Kathryn McMillan QC	Queen's Counsel
Associate Member representative	Judith McNamara	Associate Professor and Head of School, Queensland University of Technology Faculty of Law
Corporate Legal Unit representative	Rochelle Carey	Co-opted member
	Andrew Buchanan	Co-opted member
	Matthew Holmes	Partner, MurphySchmidt (resigned March 2016)
	Tim Baumann	Senior Associate, MurphySchmidt (from April 2016)
	Gabriella Ritchie	Senior Associate, McCullough Robertson (from October 2015)
	Katharine Philp	Partner, TressCox
	Robyn Wilkinson	Acting Director, Executive Services, Legal Aid Queensland from (April 2016)
	Anthony Reilly	CEO, Legal Aid Queensland (resigned February 2016)
	Richard Hundt	Lawyer, McCullough Robertson (resigned October 2015)

Secondments

Australian Government Solicitor

Sally Emberton
July 2016 – October 2016
Tristan Lockwood
May 2016 – July 2016
David Sutherland
August 2015 – October 2016
Pro Bono Referral Service

K & L Gates

Julia Chen
September 2015 – October 2015
SRS

Corrs Chambers Westgarth

Jack Cornwell
November 2015 – March 2016
Emily Ryan
March 2016 – September 2016
Pro Bono Referral Service

MinterEllison

Lauren Crome
April – June 2016
Ivan Mukarev
July – September 2016
Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic

Sparke Helmore

Dominique Fordyce
October 2015 – November 2015
Pro Bono Referral Service

Ashurst

Bianca Kabel
June 2015 – July 2015
Mental Health Law Practice
Matthew Scott
February 2016 – March 2016
Mental Health Law Practice and Self Representation Service

Thank you

We thank the firms listed for their invaluable secondments to QPILCH. These resources enable us to augment and enhance the services we provide.

Staff members

Victoria Allen

Administrator, HPLC

Lyn Aplin

Administrator, HPLC Toowoomba

Faye Austen-Brown

Lawyer, HPLC

Ellen Bevan

Project Solicitor, SRS

Renee Blackwell

Paralegal, SRS QCAT and Referrals

Courtney Blomfield

Paralegal, SRS State Courts

Catherine Browning

Coordinator, Referrals (to Oct 2015)

Rochelle Carey

Lawyer, MHLP (from Nov 2015-Jan 2016)

Elizabeth Carmichael

Paralegal, SRS QCAT (to October 2015)

Angela Carroll

Administrator, Townsville

Imogen Coates-Marnane

Coordinator, MHLP

Andrea de Smidt

Principal Solicitor

Marissa Dooris

HPLC Research Lawyer and LegalPod Lawyer

Raquel Dos Santos

Solicitor, SRS QCAT

Mitchell Dunk

Paralegal, SRS State Courts

Karen Dyhrberg

Principal Solicitor

Sophia Finter

Solicitor, SRS Fed Courts

Kim Forrester

Supervisor, HALC (Mater)

Elizabeth Gallagher

Coordinator, SRS

Sue Garlick

Deputy Director

Nikki Gatlinton

Administrator (from May 2016)

Stephen Grace

Lawyer, HPLC (to May 2016)

Philip Hancock

Fundraiser

Jessica Keir

Acting Managing Solicitor, Townsville

Tim Laird

Coordinator, Referrals

Cameron Lavery

Coordinator, HPLC

Renee Lees

Lawyer, HPLC Cairns

Jacob Matysek

Administrator, HPLC Cairns

David Maunsell

Managing Solicitor, Townsville

Hannah McAlister

Paralegal, SRS Federal Courts

Iain McCowie

Solicitor, SRS State Courts

Donnella Mills

Lawyer, HPLC Cairns

Alice Nagel

Paralegal, MHLP and SRS

Danielle O'Connor

Paralegal, Townsville (to Nov 2015)

Liz O'Connor

Supervisor, Student Clinics and SRS solicitor

Melanie O'Sullivan

Paralegal, SRS QCAT and Referrals

Stacey Parker

Coordinator, MHLP (to Jan 2016)

Andrea Perry-Petersen

Supervisor, Student Clinics

Jennifer Porter

Administrator (to May 2016)

Charlie Raftos

Solicitor, SRS State Courts (from May-July 2016)

Rebecca Slade

Bookkeeper

Deborah Stafford

Projects Lawyer, MHLP (from June 2016)

Loretta Stellino

Paralegal, Referrals (from Oct 2015)

Fiona Thatcher

Lawyer, HPLC

Michaela Transton

LegalPod Project Officer, HPLC

Ben Tuckett

Solicitor, Referrals

Karen Williams

Supervisor, HALC (St Vincent's)

Tony Woodyatt

Director

QPILCH members

Member firms

Allens	K&L Gates
Ashurst	Lander & Rogers Lawyers
Australian Workplace Lawyers	Maurice Blackburn Lawyers
Baker & McKenzie	McCullough Robertson Lawyers
Barry.Nilsson Lawyers	McInnes Wilson Lawyers
Bartley Cohen	McPhee Lawyers
Butler McDermott Lawyers (Nambour)	MinterEllison
Clayton Utz	Moulis Legal
Colin Biggers & Paisley	MurphySchmidt Solicitors
Cooper Grace Ward	Norton Rose Fulbright Australia Piper
Corrs Chambers Westgarth	Alderman
DibbsBarker	Shine Lawyers
DLA Piper Australia	Slater+Gordon Lawyers
Harper Finch Lawyers	Sparke Helmore Lawyers
Henry Davis York Lawyers	Splatt Lawyers
Herbert Smith Freehills	TressCox Lawyers
Holding Redlich	Walker Lawyers (Toowoomba)
HopgoodGanim Lawyers	WF Yau Lawyers & Notary
HWL Ebsworth	Wotton + Kearney
King & Wood Malletsons	

Member barristers

Anthony Anderson
Nicholas Andreatidis
Michael Ballans
Ken Barlow QC
Paul Beehre
Robert Brandon (Miami)
Jacoba Brasch QC
Judy Brien
Sue Brown QC
Benjamin Buckley
Liam Burrow
Gerald Byrne (Rockhampton)
Stephen Byrne (Mackay)
John Cahill
Douglas Campbell QC
Anna Cappellano
Justin Carter
Lee Clark
Simon Cleary
Hamish Cliff
Stephen Colditz
Lauren Coman
David Cormack
Gary Coveney
Christopher Crawford
Janice Crawford
Brian Cronin
Patrick Cullinane (Mackay)
Christian (Chris) Curtis
Elliott Dalglish
Clare Dart
Michael de Waard
Dr Gillian Dempsey
Tracy Fantin (Cairns)
John Farren
John Faulkner
Michael Fellows (Townsville)
Domenico Ferraro
James Ford
Steven Forrest
Dr Kim Forrester
Jillian Francis
Dan Fuller
Duncan Galton
Dr Andrew Greinke
John Hammond
Gavin Handran

Stephen Hartwell
Patrick Hay
Mark Healy
Jennifer Hewson
Steven Hogg
Emma Hoiberg
Deborah Holliday
Keith Howe
Joseph Jacobs (Cairns)
Steven Jones
George Kalimnios
Alexandros Katsikalis
David Keane
Viviana Keegan
Stephen Keim SC
Liam Kelly QC
Nitra Kidson
Willem Kilian
Polina Kinchina
Carla Klease
Katrina Kluss
Derek Kordick (Cairns)
Michael Labone
Dr Stephen Lee
Allan Lonergan
Fiona Lubett
Aida-Portia Maier
Scott Malcolmson
Alexandra Marks
Nicole Martin
Janice Mayes (Townsville)
Kasey McAuliffe-Lake
Mark McCarthy
Dr Cathryn McConaghy
(Sunshine Coast)
Kelly McIntyre
Carolyn McKeon
Susan McLeod
Bill McMillan (Gladstone)
James McNab
Peter Metzdorf
Paula Morreau
Alex Nelson
Antony Newman
Anastasia Nicholas
Toby Nielsen
Damien O'Brien QC

Paul O'Brien
T.P. O'Brien
Dan O'Gorman QC
Kateena O'Gorman
Rowan Pack
Chato Alexander Page
Kila Pedder
Ajith Perera
Greg Potter
David Purcell
Andrew Quinn
Justin Ratanatray
Kristi Riedel
Sally Robb
Guy Sara
Claire Schneider
Hugh Scott-Mackenzie
Sarah Scott-Mackenzie
Anand Shah
Leonid Sheptooha
Julian Siggins
Anthony Skelton
Kate Blackford Slack
Caleb Spicer
Dr Max Spry
Mark Steele
Amanda Stoker
Chris Tam
Chris Templeton
David Thomae
Tracy Thorp
Peter Travers
Jeremy Trost
Ben van de Beld
Clem van der Weegen
Patrick Van Grinsven
Manuel Varitimos QC
Borcsa Vass
Stewart Webster
William Wild
Matthew Williams
Richard Williams
Douglas Wilson
Dianna Worrell
Keith Wylie
David Yarrow

Associate members



Specified members



QLS and BAQ supporters

QLS participants

Aitken Whyte Allens Ashurst Australian Workplace Lawyers Baker & McKenzie Bartley Cohen Litigation Lawyers Bealla Legal Berrigan Doube Lawyers Bevan & Griffin (Townsville) BN Law Broadley Rees Hogan BT Lawyers Butler McDermott (Sunshine Coast) Byrnes Business Lawyers (Townsville) CBP Lawyers	Clayton Utz Cronin Litigation (Gold Coast) DibbsBarker Franklin, Athanasellis & Cullen Henry Davis York Herbert Smith Freehills HopgoodGanim HWL Ebsworth Lawyers HW Litigation (Gold Coast) International Aerospace Law & Policy Group Irish Bentley K& L Gates Kafrouni Lawyers Kelly Legal (Mackay)	Kerrin Anderson KM Splatt & Associates Landers & Rogers Lee Turnbull (Townsville) Macrossan & Amiet (Mackay) Martinez Lawyers MD Lawyers Murray & Lyons (Cairns) Payne Butler Lang (Bundaberg) Piper Alderman Queensland Lawyers (Cairns) RGB Lawyers Rostron Carlyle Solicitors	RTB Legal (Mackay) Ruddy Tomlins Baxter (Townsville) Shine Lawyers Slater+Gordon Lawyers Sparke Helmore Lawyers Thornton Legal Tresscox Lawyers Trudie Rogers Medical Lawyers Wettenhall Silva Solicitors (Cairns) Williams Associates Lawyers Williams Graham Carman Lawyers (Cairns)
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BAQ participants

Brisbane Alex Alcock Alex Nelson Allan Lonerger Anand Shah Andrew Barron Fraser Andrew Hoare Andrew Quinn Andrew West Angela Rae Anthony Fronis Anthony Morris QC Anthony Kimmins Anthony McKinnon Anthony Skelton Antony Newman Brian Cronin Ben Buckley Ilan Klevansky Isaac Munsie James Ford	Ben McEniery Ben McGlade Ben McMillan Benjamin Kidston Bertram Curran Borcsa Vass Caleb Spicer Carolyn Mckeon Catherine Muir Charles Matthews Chato Alexander Page Chris Tam Chris Templeton Christian (Chris) Curtis Christian Jennings Claire Schneider Matt Black Matthew Brady Matthew Jones Matthew Williams	Clare Dart Clemens van der Weegen Craig Harding Damien Gates Dan Fuller Danae Younger Daniel Lavery David Keane David Kent David Yarrow Dean Wells Deborah Holliday Denika Whitehouse Dianna Worrell Donna Callaghan Duncan Galton Richard Schulte Scott Malcolmson Sean Radich Shaneen Pointing	Edward (John) Williams Edward Goodwin Edward Shorten Elizabeth Gaffney Elliott Dalgleish Emma Hoiberg Fiona Lubett Florence Chen Gail Hartridge Gavin Rebetzke George Kalimnios Geraldine Dann Graham Carter Greg Potter Hamish Cliff Hugh Scott- Mackenzie Ipswich Andrew West
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James Grehan
 Janice Crawford
 Jennifer Hewson
 Jens Streit
 Jeremy Trost
 Jillian Francis
 Jo Chapple
 Joe Morris
 John Allen
 John Cahill
 John Dwyer
 John Farren
 John Hammond
 John-Paul Mould
 Joshua Fenton
 Julene Winn
 Julia O'Connor
 Julian Siggins
 Julie Kinross
 Justin Carter
 Kasey McAuliffe-Lake
 Kate Blackford Slack
 Katrina Kluss
 Keith Wylie
 Kila Pedder
 Kim Bryson
 Kirsty Gothard
 Kristi Riedel
 Lee Clark
 Liam Burrow
 Liam Dollar
 Manuel Varitimos
 Mark Guest

Melinda Zerner
 Michael Bonasia
 Michael JW Byrne
 Michael Kehoe
 Michael Labone
 Michael Lyons
 Mark McCarthy
 Mark Plunkett
 Michael Williams
 Neil Francey
 Neville Weston
 Nicholas Andreatidis
 Nicholas Loos
 Nitra Kidson
 Patricia Feeney
 Patrick Van Grinsven
 Patrick Wilson
 Paul Jeffery
 Paul O'Brien
 Paula Morreau
 Peter Goodwin
 Peter Travers
 Philip Looney QC
 Pierre (Mark) Le Grand
 Polina Kinchina
 Richard Williams
 Robert Brandon
 Ron Ashton
 Russell Byrnes
 Ruth O'Gorman
 Simon Gerber
 Sarah S F Poon
 Sarah Scott-Mackenzie

Simon Burgess
 Simon Cleary
 Simon Cooper
 Stephen Colditz
 Stephen Hartwell
 Stephen Lee
 Stephen Lumb
 Stephen Mackie
 Steven Forrest
 Steven Hogg
 Steven Jones
 Stewart Webster
 Sue Brown
 Susan McLeod
 Tracy Thorp
 Vince Brennan
 William Wild
 Willem Kilian
 Yulia Chekirova
 Zoran Gelic

Cairns

Chris Ryall
 Doug Turnbull
 Laura Neil
 Nerida Wilson
 Stephanie Williams

Gold Coast & Hinterland

Ajith Perera
 Angela Salzmann
 Bertram Curren
 Robert Brandon

Hunter Trotman

Mackay

Neil Francey
 Patrick Cullinane
 Stephen Byrne

Moreton Bay

Lisa Stewart
 The Hon Dean Wells

Rockhampton

Gerald Byrne
 Jeff Clarke

Sunshine Coast

Clem van der Weegen
 Simon Gerber

Townsville

Anthony W Collins
 Janice Mayes
 Viviana Keegan

Volunteer Barristers Enforcement Hearing Duty Lawyer Service

Matthew Jones
 Lonya Sheptooha
 Dan Fuller
 Peter Somers
 Stephen Colditz
 Borcsa Vass
 Florence Chen
 Melanie Hindman
 Ben Wetzig
 Denika Whitehouse
 Bridget O'Brien
 Keith Wylie
 Nathan Shaw
 Steven Hogg
 Michael Holohan

Anthony Anderson
 Greg Potter
 Benjamin Buckley
 Steve Jones
 Gail Hartridge
 Peter Travers
 Sue McLeod
 Troy Schmidt
 Barry Ryan
 John Merrell
 Sarah Poon
 Anthony Skelton
 Stephen Hegedus
 Anita Sharma
 Zoran Gelic

Volunteer Barristers QIRC Workers' Compensation Appeals Service

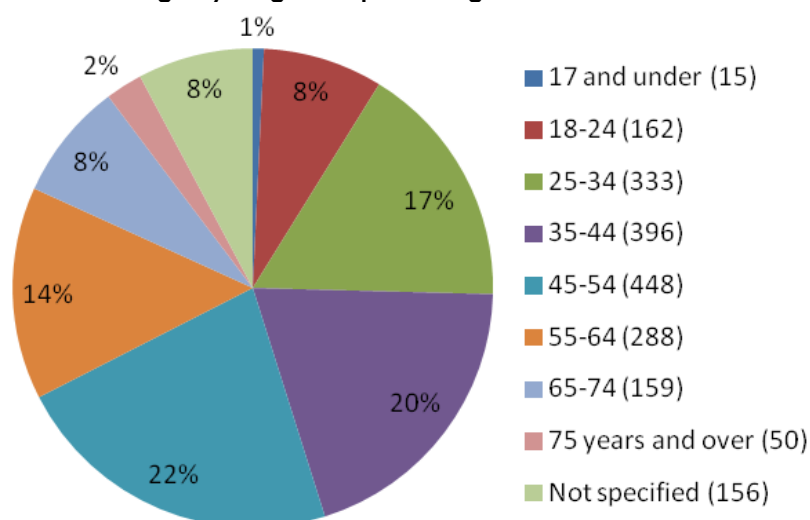
Mark Healy
 Rosemary Dalby
 Jens Streit
 Subramaniam
 Barataraj
 Susan Anderson
 Polina Kinchina
 Michael Holohan
 Anastasia Nichols
 Greg Potter
 Benjamin Buckley
 Zoran Gelic

Borcsa Vass
 Hugh Scott-Mackenzie
 James Ford
 Ajith Perera
 Jennifer Hewson
 Anthony Skelton
 Graham Carter
 Sean Reidy
 Ben McMillan

Client information 2015-16

The following selected data applies to QPILCH as a whole, with some breakdown by service. Non-QPILCH data is sourced from the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW's *Legal Australia-Wide Survey*, Queensland 2012.

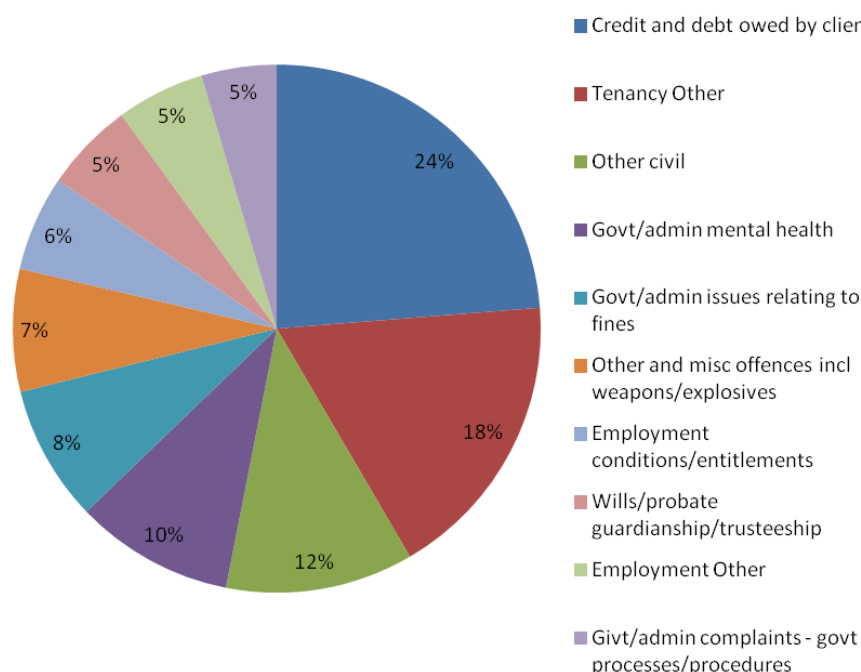
1. Client age by range and percentage



The main age ranges for clients of our services are:

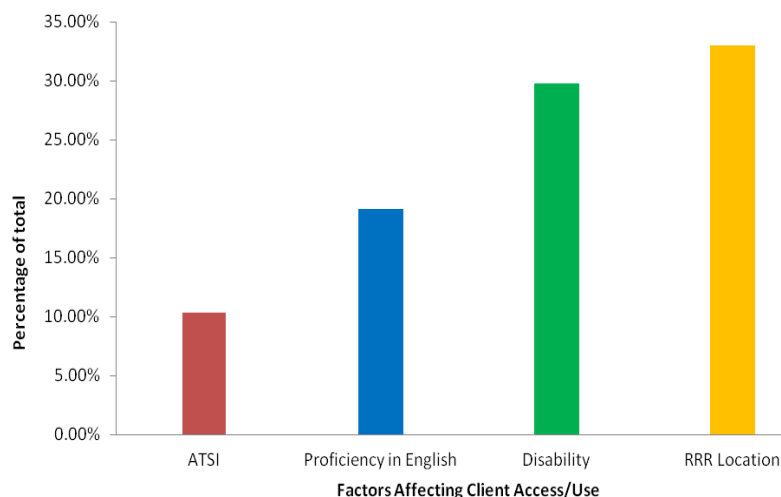
- **Referral Service:** 45-54 y.o. with 35-44 y.o. being the next largest.
- **Self Representation Service:** 45-54 y.o. with 35-44 y.o. being the next largest.
- **Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic:** 35-44 y.o. with 45-54 y.o. being the next largest.
- **Mental Health Law Practice:** 35-44 y.o. with 25-34 y.o. being the next largest.

2. Legal problem by percentage



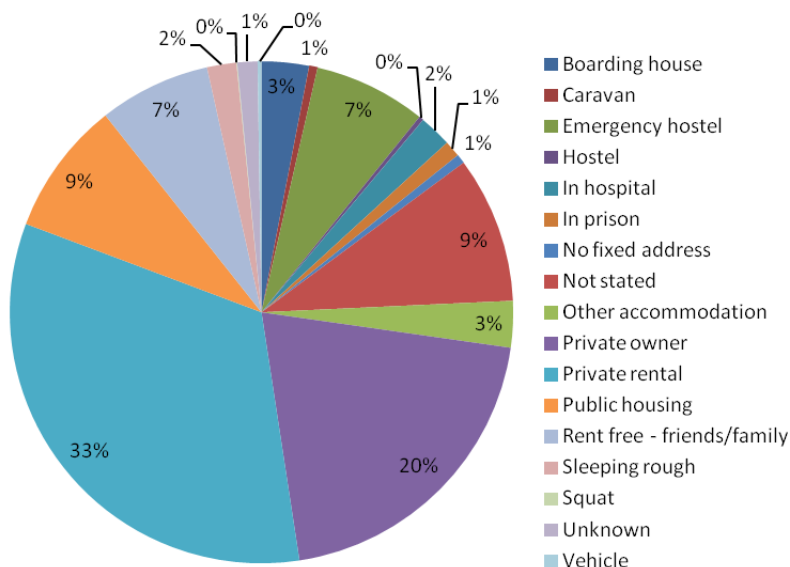
- 23% of Queensland respondents experienced three or more legal problems within the 12-month reference period (pages xiv, 58-9).
- 10% of Queensland respondents accounted for 68% of the legal problems reported (pages xiv, 58-9).
- In Queensland, legal advisers were sourced via referrals through personal networks in 22% of cases and via referrals from professionals in 19% of cases (page 186).

3. Factors affecting access/use by percentage



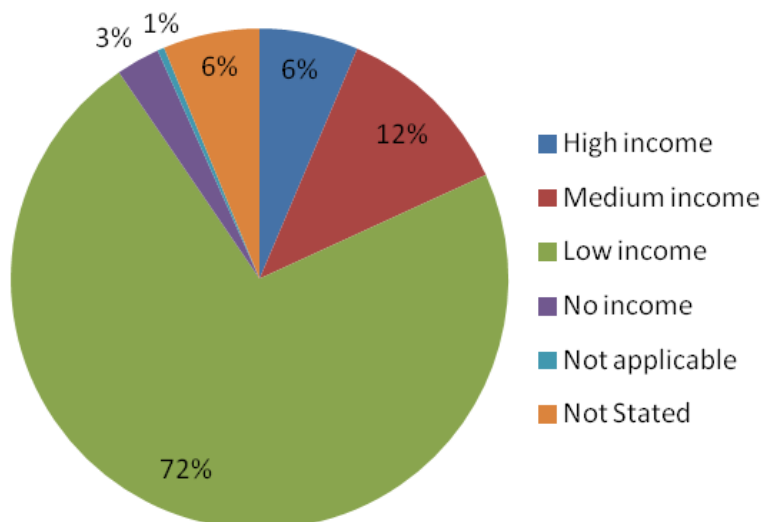
- People with a disability in Queensland had increased prevalence of legal problems overall, substantial legal problems and multiple legal problems (including very high prevalence of legal problems from the health problem group) (page 166).
- Disability status was often one of the strongest significant predictors of prevalence (page 166).
- Citing a report by Pleasence et al (2010) of respondents who had at least six problems, over 60 per cent had a mental illness (page 25).
- Queensland respondents who consulted their main adviser in person reported travelling more than 20 kilometres in 21% of cases, including more than 40 kilometres in 8% of cases (page 186).

4. Housing type by percentage



- Housing type was one of the strongest predictors of the prevalence of multiple legal problems (page 167).
- In Queensland, people living in disadvantaged housing had increased prevalence of legal problems overall and substantial legal problems, but not of multiple legal problems. They also had increased prevalence of problems from four problem groups: crime, employment, family and rights (page 167).
- People living in disadvantaged housing may require considerable support in order to achieve legal resolution (page 227).

5. Household annual income by percentage



- Disadvantaged groups that are especially vulnerable to multiple legal problems also tend to have multiple non-legal needs, by virtue of their socio-economic status (page xxiii).

Finances and fundraising

Treasurer's report

I am pleased to present my third report as Treasurer of QPILCH and the audited financial statements for the 2015-2016 year.

QPILCH is in a strong position to meet the challenges posed by the current funding environment in the community legal sector.

Although a large proportion of the organisation's annual revenue comes through the Commonwealth and State Governments, QPILCH has worked diligently to broaden its funding base. For example, the annual Legal Walk continues to go from strength to strength, this year raising a substantial sum for the benefit of the Mental Health Law Practice. QPILCH's fundraising initiatives have required enormous effort from its staff on top of their considerable service delivery responsibilities. Consistent with previous years' practice, a table setting out the sources of QPILCH's funding appears on page 41.

The Management Committee is continuing to deploy some of QPILCH's reserves to employ a fundraiser to prepare funding applications and coordinate fundraising events. The Committee has also critically reviewed a number of specific fundraising initiatives to ensure that there is ultimate benefit to service delivery from each project QPILCH undertakes.

Like last year, the financial statements report a modest operating deficit (this year -\$67,006). However, in both years this was a result of the Management Committee deploying some of QPILCH's reserves to special projects. Core operating costs have been kept within core income.

QPILCH maintains a strong cash balance and a prudential reserve for future contingencies.

Regrettably, some issues I referred to in previous reports remain. LPITAF funding is still a dwindling resource. Uncertainty around Commonwealth funding places some of QPILCH's service delivery under pressure. The one-off Federal funding for the recent establishment of the Townville office is due to expire and that office will close unless alternative funding is found. The Mental Health Law Practice continues to rely on charitable grants to keep it operating. Other services, including the provision of assistance at QIRC compulsory conferences, Magistrates Court enforcement hearings and QCAT child protection matters, will end in June 2017 unless ongoing funding can be found.

The investment made in QPILCH by government, members, donors and participants in fundraising events is money well spent. QPILCH's services benefit the community in ways beyond just direct service delivery to disadvantaged Queenslanders. The Self Representation Service saves court resources by diverting some potential

litigants away from the court system and assisting others to conduct their cases more efficiently. Research indicates it has a benefit to cost ratio of at least 2:1. Another notable service is the Legal Health Check, which provides a way to reach people across Queensland, using community workers and points of contact, so people can access legal services without the need for new local legal service points to be established.

During my term as Treasurer we have amended QPILCH's financial policy to clarify the duties of the Treasurer, but also his or her access to information to ensure close and appropriate supervision of QPILCH's financial position over the year. I again express my gratitude to our bookkeeper, Rebecca Slade and our auditor Jeremiah Thum of Powers Financial Group. I wish to also acknowledge and commend the tireless work of Tony Woodyatt, QPILCH's long-serving Director, for his efforts in relation to financial management of the organisation. In relation to other aspects of the organisation, the efforts of all staff members are evident from the balance of this Annual Report.

The next year will be a challenging one, not just for QPILCH but for the entire community legal sector. However, I am confident that QPILCH will be able to adapt to whatever changes are required into the future.

I thank the members of the Funding and Fundraising Sub-committee for their work throughout the year.

In closing, I would like to again thank QPILCH's core funders, supporters and charitable bodies. Although it might seem QPILCH is always pressing for more money, we are enormously grateful for the funding which is provided, particularly the significant contributions made by and through the Commonwealth and State Governments.

Matthew Jones, Secretary / Treasurer

Funding and fundraising subcommittee

Andrew Buchanan (chair)
Kathleen Singleton
Bob Shead
Rochelle Carey
Robert Reed
Matthew Jones

Civil Justice Fund

To provide a sustainable, long-term source of funding for civil law work, QPILCH has established the Civil Justice Fund (**CJF**).

In the longer term, the CJF will provide direct legal assistance to families, the elderly, disadvantaged people and anyone with established need.

The CJF was launched in March 2015 by the CJF's patron, **The Honourable Justice Margaret McMurdo AC**, President of the Queensland Court of Appeal.

How it works

The CJF is a registered subfund of the Queensland Community Foundation. It was established with seed funding from the Public Trustee and Legal Aid Queensland. Donations and

bequests made to the CJF are invested in perpetuity and the income earned each year is applied to meet the objectives of the Fund. The perpetual fund is managed by the Public Trustee of Queensland and invested by QIC - one of Australia's leading investment managers.

The CJF is administered by a voluntary Committee comprising lawyers, business leaders, a marketing specialist, an accountant and the director of QPILCH. There are no administration costs to the fund as all work is done on a voluntary basis.

To make a donation

To make a donation, visit <http://www.qcf.org.au>, contact director@qpilch.org.au.

Bank account details

PTQ Common Fund No 1
Commonwealth Bank of Australia
064 006 00090244
Reference: QCF20664496

Disbursement Fund

Since 2008, QPILCH has applied a percentage of its fundraising income towards the *Disbursement Fund* for distribution to community legal centres and law firms to pay for disbursements (court filing fees, medical and other reports, travel costs) in pro bono matters when the client is unable to afford such costs.

In 2014-15, the fund has supported access to justice in the following ways:

- Caxton Legal Centre accessed the fund to pay for an expert psychological assessment and report.
- The fund reimbursed filing and search fees for a pro bono client referred by the Self Representation Service.
- The Refugee and Immigration Legal Service accessed the fund to pay High Court filing fees for a refugee challenging a decision of the Federal Court.
- The fund paid for travel costs incurred by a solicitor to travel to Cairns for a QCAT hearing that resulted in a favourable settlement for the client.
- The fund paid for a special test for a client of the Suncoast Community Legal Centre to prove that she was drug free in order to have better access to her children.

Major funders



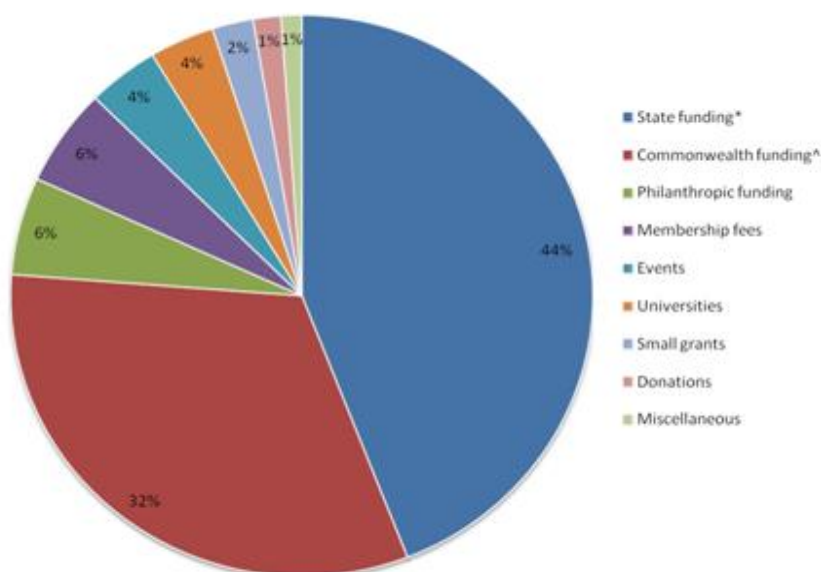
An Australian Government Initiative



Thank you to LitSupport for printing QPILCH's annual report.

Funding sources

2015-16 Funding Sources



*These funds are from the Legal Practitioners' Interest on Trust Account Fund, which is not public money from consolidated revenue.

^ This funding includes a final year of a three year grant that ends 31 March 2017 and the first six months of a temporary grant that ends 30 June 2017.

Financial Report

Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated ABN: 52 033 468 135

Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2016

Independent Auditor's Report

To the members of Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated:

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated ("Association"), which comprises the Assets and Liability Statement as at 30 June 2016 and the Income and Expenditure Statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the management committee statement.

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 basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 QLD* and the needs of members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

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

Independence

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

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated:

- (a) presents fairly, in all material respects the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2016 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complies with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 QLD*. As a result, the

financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Matters relating to the electronic presentation of the audited financial report

This Auditor's Report relates to the financial report of Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2016 published in the annual report and included on Association's website. The entity's members of committee are responsible for the integrity of the Association's website. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of this web site. The auditor's report refers only to the financial report identified above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial report. If users of the financial report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial report.

**Powers Auditors
Chartered Accountants**



**Jeremiah Thum
Director
Brisbane, QLD**

Date: 4 November 2016

Committee report

Your committee members submit the financial report of Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

Committee Members

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Lucy Bretherton - President	Special Counsel, Ashurst
Matthew Jones - Secretary and Treasurer	Barrister
Bronwyn Neroni - Queensland Law Society Representative	General Manager, Queensland Law Society Inc
Kathryn McMillan QC - Bar Association of Queensland Representative	Queen's Counsel
Judith McNamara - Associate Member Representative	Assistant Dean, Learning & Teaching, Queensland University of Technology Faculty of Law
Gabriella Ritchie - Law Firm Member Representative	Senior Associate, McCullough Robertson
Andrew Buchanan	Co-opted member
Tim Baumann - Law Firm Member Representative	Senior Associate, Murphy Schmidt
Richard Hundt - Law Firm Member Representative	Lawyer, McCullough Robertson
Robert Reed - Law Firm Member Representative	Special Counsel, MinterEllison
Katharine Philp - Law Firm Member Representative	Partner, TressCox
Rochelle Carey	Co-opted member
Robyn Wilkinson - Legal Aid Queensland Representative	Acting Director Executive Services, Legal Aid Queensland
Matthew Holmes - Law Firm Representative	Partner, MurphySchmidt
Anthony Reilly - Legal Aid Queensland Representative	CEO, Legal Aid Queensland

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to provide legal referral and direct services.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

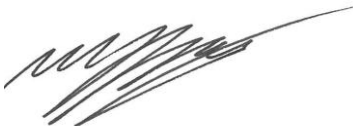
Operating Result

The net deficit for the 2016 financial year amounted to \$67,006. (2015: \$222,984)

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.



Lucy Bretherton
President



Matthew Jones
Secretary and Treasurer

Date: 4 November 2016

Income and expenditure

	NOTE	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue	2	2,414,832	2,144,528
Employee provisions expense		(2,060,059)	(1,973,382)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	3	(17,119)	(36,612)
Fuel, light and power expense		(10,518)	(21,421)
Rental expense	3	(95,612)	(65,394)
Audit, legal and consultancy fees		(4,967)	(4,620)
Accounting fees		-	(5,008)
Administration expenses		(293,563)	(261,075)
Current year deficit before income tax		(67,006)	(222,984)
Tax expense		-	-
Net current year deficit		(67,006)	(222,984)
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:		-	-
Items that will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss when specific conditions are met:		-	-
Items that have been reclassified to profit or loss:		-	-
Total other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		(67,006)	(222,984)
Total Deficit		(67,006)	(222,984)
Total comprehensive loss		(67,006)	(222,984)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Assets and liabilities

	NOTE	2016 \$	2015 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on hand	4	1,128,454	1,336,027
Accounts receivable and other debtors	5	33,284	63,243
Other current assets	6	1,450	1,450
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,163,188	1,400,720
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	31,737	48,856
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		31,737	48,856
TOTAL ASSETS		1,194,925	1,449,576
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and other payables	8	525,863	717,428
Employee provisions	9	184,464	147,318
Provision for repair and maintenance costs		8,000	-
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		718,327	864,746
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee provisions	9	30,302	71,528
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		30,302	71,528
TOTAL LIABILITIES		748,629	936,274
NET ASSETS		446,296	513,302
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		446,296	513,302
TOTAL EQUITY		446,296	513,302

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Cash Flows

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Commonwealth, state and local government grants		1,846,634	1,598,630
Receipts from donations, bequests and raffles		288,001	282,549
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,369,652)	(2,330,889)
Interest received		27,444	43,404
Net cash generated from operating activities	12	(207,573)	(406,306)
Net increase in cash held		(207,573)	(406,306)
Cash on hand at beginning of the financial year		1,336,027	1,742,333
Cash on hand at end of the financial year	4	1,128,454	1,336,027

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Changes in Equity

	Note	Retained Surplus \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2014		736,286	736,286
Comprehensive Income			
Deficit for the year		(222,984)	(222,984)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity		(222,984)	(222,984)
Balance at 30 June 2015		513,302	513,302
Balance at 1 July 2015		513,302	513,302
Comprehensive Income			
Deficit for the year		(67,006)	(67,006)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity		(67,006)	(67,006)
Balance at 30 June 2016		446,296	446,296

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 1

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated applies Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements as set out in AASB 1053: Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards and AASB 2010-2: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements.

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 19 October 2016 by the committee of the association.

Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue

Non-reciprocal grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the entity obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

When grant revenue is received whereby the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

The association receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for zero or a nominal value. These assets are recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position and with a corresponding amount of income recognised in profit or loss.

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

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

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

(b) Plant and Equipment

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

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1(f) for details of impairment).

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are valued and recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and capitalised lease assets but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

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

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Computer	25%
Furniture and equipment	5% to 15%
Motor Vehicle	15%

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

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

(c) Financial Instruments

Initial Recognition and Measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the association commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transactions costs except where the instrument is classified 'at fair value through profit or loss' in which case transaction costs are recognised immediately as expenses in profit or loss.

Classification and Subsequent Measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value (refer to Note 1(q)), amortised cost using the effective interest method, or cost.

Amortised cost is calculated as the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments and any reduction for impairment, and adjusted for any cumulative amortisation of the difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method.

The *effective interest method* is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying amount with a consequential recognition of an income or expense item in profit or loss.

(i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

(ii) Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities other than financial guarantees are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial liability is derecognised.

Impairment

At the end of each reporting period, the association assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset has been impaired. A financial asset (or a group of financial assets) is deemed to be impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events (a "loss event") having occurred, which has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset(s).

Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expire or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the related obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability, which is extinguished or transferred to another party, and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

(d) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the entity assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another Standard (e.g. in accordance with the revaluation model in AASB 116). Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with that other Standard.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Impairment testing is performed annually for goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives

(e) Employee Benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

The association's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages, salaries and sick leave are recognised as part of current trade and other payables in the statement of financial position.

Other long-term employee benefits

The association classifies employees' long service leave and annual leave entitlements as other long-term employee benefits as they are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Provision is made for the association's obligation for other long-term employee benefits, which are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Upon the remeasurement of obligations for other long-term employee benefits, the net change in the obligation is recognised in profit or loss classified under employee benefits expense.

The association's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current liabilities in its statement of financial position, except where the association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, in which case the obligations are presented as current liabilities.

(f) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

(g) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

(h) Income Tax

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

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of reporting period.

(j) Comparative Figures

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

(k) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(l) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The committee evaluates estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the association.

Key Judgements

Employee benefits

For the purpose of measurement, AASB 119: *Employee Benefits* (September 2011) defines obligations for short-term employee benefits as obligations expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related services. As the association expects that most employees will not use all of their annual leave entitlements in the same year in which they are earned or during the 12 month period that follows, the committee believes that obligations for annual leave entitlements satisfy the definition of other long-term employee benefits and, therefore, are required to be measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees.

(m) Economic Dependence

Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated is dependent on the Commonwealth and State Grants for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the Committee has no reason to believe the Commonwealth and State Government will not continue to support Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated.

(n) Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities

The company measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value on either a recurring or non-recurring basis, depending on the requirements of the applicable Accounting Standard.

“Fair value” is the price the association would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (ie unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market values may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset or liability. The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from the principal market for the asset or liability (ie the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability). In the absence of such a market, market information is extracted from the most advantageous market available to the entity at the end of the reporting period (ie the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of the asset or minimises the payments made to transfer the liability, after taking into account transaction costs and transport costs).

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement also takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The fair value of liabilities and the entity's own equity instruments (if any) may be valued, where there is no observable market price in relation to the transfer of such financial instrument, by reference to observable market information where such instruments are held as assets. Where this information is not available, other valuation techniques are adopted and where significant, are detailed in the respective note to the financial statements.

Note 2 Revenue and Other Income

		2016	2015
		\$	\$
Revenue			
—	State/federal government grants		
—	– operating	2,099,387	1,818,575
—	Interest	27,444	43,404
—	Memberships	129,400	132,869
—	Donations and fundraising	144,153	108,546
—	Sundry income	14,448	41,134
Total revenue		2,414,832	2,144,528

Note 3 Profit for the year

	2016 \$	2015 \$
(a) Expenses		
Employee benefits expense:		
— Salaries and wages	2,060,059	1,973,382
Total employee benefits expense	2,060,059	1,973,382
Depreciation and amortisation:	17,119	36,612
Rental expense on operating leases:		
— minimum lease payments	95,612	65,394
Total Rental Expense	95,612	65,394
Audit fees		
— audit services	4,967	4,620
Total Audit Remuneration	4,967	4,620

Note 4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2016 \$	2015 \$
CURRENT		
Cash at bank	1,128,121	1,335,885
Cash on hand	333	142
Total cash on hand as stated in the statement of financial position and statement of cash flows	1,128,454	1,336,027

Note 5 Trade and Other Receivables

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
CURRENT			
Accounts receivable		33,284	63,243
Provision for doubtful debts		-	-
Total current accounts receivable		33,284	63,243

Note 6 Other Assets

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Security deposit	1,450	1,450
	1,450	1,450

Note 7 Property, Plant and Equipment

	2016 \$	2015 \$
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Computer equipment		
At cost	41,365	41,365
(Accumulated depreciation)	(40,191)	(39,333)
	1,174	2,032
Furniture and equipment		
At cost	107,487	107,487
(Accumulated depreciation)	(77,101)	(60,916)
	30,386	46,571
Motor vehicles		
At cost	2,727	2,727
(Accumulated depreciation)	(2,550)	(2,474)
	177	253

Total plant and equipment	31,737	48,856
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Note 7 Property, Plant and Equipment (Cont'd)

Movements in Carrying Amounts

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

	Computers \$	Motor Vehicle \$	Furniture and Equipment \$	Total \$
2015				
Balance at the beginning of the year	6087	354	69864	76,305
Additions at cost			101	101
Depreciation expense	(4,055)	(101)	(23,394)	(27,550)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	2032	253	46,571	48,856
2016				
Balance at the beginning of the year	2032	253	46,571	48,856
Depreciation expense	(858)	(76)	(16,185)	(17,119)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	1174	177	30,386	31,737

Note 8 Trade and Other Payables

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
CURRENT			
Accounts payable		142,122	50,975
Deferred income		383,741	666,453
	8(a)	525,863	717,428
		2016 \$	2015 \$
(a) Financial liabilities at amortised cost classified as accounts payable and other payables			
Accounts payable and other payables:			
— Total		525,863	717,428
— current		525,863	717,428
Financial liabilities as accounts payable and other payables		525,863	717,428

Note 9 Provisions

	2016 \$	2015 \$
CURRENT		
Provision for employee benefits: annual leave	115,160	115,160
Provision for employee benefits: long service leave	69,304	32,158
	184,464	147,318
NON-CURRENT		
Provision for employee benefits: long service leave	30,302	71,528
	30,302	71,528
	214,766	218,846

Employee Provisions

Employee provisions represents amounts accrued for annual leave and long service leave.

The current portion for this provision includes the total amount accrued for annual leave entitlements and the amounts accrued for long service leave entitlements that have vested due to employees having completed the required period of service. Based on past experience, the association does not expect the full amount of annual leave or long service leave balances classified as current liabilities to be settled within the next 12 months. However, these amounts must be classified as current liabilities since the association does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of these amounts in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlement.

The non-current portion for this provision includes amounts accrued for long service leave entitlements that have not yet vested in relation to those employees who have not yet completed the required period of service.

In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based upon historical data. The measurement and recognition criteria for employee benefits have been discussed in Note 1(g).

Note 10 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

No contingent liabilities or contingent assets were identified during the year.

Note 11 Events After the Reporting Period

No events after the reporting period were identified during the year.

Note 12 Cash Flow Information

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Reconciliation of Cash Flows from Operating Activities with Net Current Year Surplus		
Net current year surplus	(67,006)	(222,984)
Non-cash flows:		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	17,119	36,612
Provision for repairs and maintenance	8,000	-
Assets written off	-	(9,163)
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities:</i>		
(Increase)/decrease in accounts receivable and other debtors	29,959	10,587
Increase/(decrease) in accounts payable and other payables	(191,565)	(316,507)
Increase/(decrease) in employee provisions	(4,080)	95,149
	<u>(207,573)</u>	<u>(406,306)</u>

Note 13 Use of Funds - Legal Aid Queensland

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2016		
Income		
Service Delivery Funding - Queensland	1,044,352	1,015,168
Service Delivery Funding - Commonwealth	285,712	130,032
Allowable Surplus From Previous Year	25,689	47,186
Other income	2,054	62,224
Total Income	<u>1,357,807</u>	<u>1,254,610</u>
Expenditure		
Salaries and Wages	1,173,080	986,626
Other Operating Expenditure	146,964	265,930
Total Expenditure	<u>1,320,044</u>	<u>1,252,556</u>
Surplus/ Deficit	37,763	2,054

Note 14 Entity Details

The registered office of the entity is:

Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated
19 Dornoch Terrace
WEST END QLD 4101

The principal place of business is:

Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Incorporated
19 Dornoch Terrace
WEST END QLD 4101

Committee statement

The committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this general purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Inc. as at 30 June 2016 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee.



President

Lucy Bretherton



Secretary/Treasurer

Matthew Jones

Brisbane

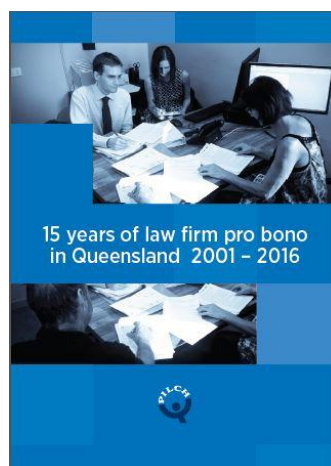
Dated: 4 November 2016

Thank you

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Queensland 2001-2016”**
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