

VICTORIAN CLCs SYMPOSIUM 2014



PROGRAM

THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER 2014
MELBOURNE TOWN HALL
90-120 SWANSTON STREET
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

TICKETS: \$99 AVAILABLE AT
COMMUNITYLAW.ORG.AU > EVENTS



Federation of Community Legal Centres

VICTORIA

Welcome

The aim of the 2014 Victorian CLC Symposium is to bring together Victoria's community legal sector to profile and debate some of the approaches, ideas and innovations that will help community legal centres continue to thrive, and continue to find new and effective ways to meet changing legal needs in our communities.

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Symposium Theme

The theme of the symposium is 'CLCs: Courage, change, commitment to community,' reflecting features that have characterised the community legal sector over the past four decades and that place the sector in good stead to keep improving access to justice over the next forty years and beyond.

In preparing this symposium, we have tried to bring you a program of plenary and workshop sessions to:

- Give you up to date information and perspectives about what lies ahead for CLCs and the legal assistance sector more broadly;
- Enable discussion and debate on what is important about CLCs, including what we need to preserve and what can change as the sector develops and grows; and
- Share and shape ideas for how to effect positive change, provide services and improve access to justice in a changing environment.

We look forward to these discussions and hope you have a thought provoking, exciting and enjoyable day.

Day at a glance

Please join us at the Melbourne Town Hall and make your way to the Supper Room on level 3 to register **prior** to 9am.

- 8:00 – 9:00 Registrations open
- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome
- 9:15 – 10:30 Plenary 1: CLCs - Where have we come from and what lies ahead?
- 10:30 – 11:00 Morning tea
- 11:00 – 12:05 Workshops – Round 1
- 12:10 – 1:15 Workshops – Round 2
- 1:15 – 2:00 Lunch
- 2:00 – 3:00 Plenary 2: The power to achieve change
- 3:00 – 3:15 Afternoon tea
- 3:15 Open AGM
- 3:20 – 4:30 Plenary 3: CLCs in 2014 - The real work and worth of CLCs today
- 4:30 – 5:00 The Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic) AGM
- 5:00 – 6:00 Refreshments

The Federation would like to thank the following for their generous support:



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Plenary 1

Supper Room | Time: 9:15 – 10:30am

CLCs: Where have we come from and what lies ahead?

CLCs are facing a range of changes and challenges – some familiar and some new – as they work to improve access to justice for communities across Victoria. This session will start with a reminder of where the CLC movement started, followed by a panel of speakers sharing different perspectives and information to inform you as you chart the survival and success of your centre and the CLC sector more broadly through the next few years and beyond.

Speaker



Julian Gardner

Julian's work in human rights and social justice includes involvement in establishing the Fitzroy Legal Service and employment there as the first full-time legal centre lawyer in Australia. As its Director he set up what is now Victoria Legal Aid. He has headed three tribunals and was the Victorian Public Advocate.

Currently Julian is chair of Mind Australia, a director of Alfred Health and a vice-chair of the Australian Press Council.

Panel

Michael Smith, National Convenor, National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC)

Carolyn Bond, National spokesperson, Community Law Australia

Bevan Warner, Managing Director, Victoria Legal Aid

Nicole Bieske, CEO, Inner Melbourne Community Legal

Workshops - Round 1

Concurrent sessions in various rooms | Time: 11:00 – 12:05pm



YARRA ROOM

Strategic use of legal needs surveys

- Sam Horsfield, Director, Real Politic Consulting
- Alison Maher, Lawyer, Hume Riverina Community Legal Service
- Jackie Galloway, CEO, Peninsula Community Legal Centre



SUPPER ROOM

Raising awareness of community legal centres and your work: Communicating with media and the community

- Darren Lewin-Hill, Communications Manager, Federation of CLCs
- Steve Womersley, Communications Manager, Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre
- David Grant, Communications Manager, Fitzroy Legal Service

Workshops - Round 2

Concurrent sessions in various rooms | Time: 12:10 – 1:15pm



PORTICO ROOM

Exploring how to work better together: the process, findings and outcomes so far from the Western CLCs Reform Project

- Catriona Lowe, Project Officer, Western CLCs Reform Project



YARRA ROOM

Monitoring and evaluation – building a learning and improvement culture

- Carolyn McSparran, Manager Program Analysis and Evaluation, Research & Communications, Victoria Legal Aid
- Emma Smallwood, Lawyer, Economic Well-being Project Research Coordinator, Women's Legal Service Victoria
- Tina Turner, Director, Referral Service, Justice Connect



SUPPER ROOM

Law Reform: How client informed advocacy can drive change

- Tiffany Overall, Advocacy & Human Rights Officer, Youth Law
- Denise Boyd, Director of Policy & Campaigns, Consumer Action Law Centre
- Dr Chris Atmore, Senior Policy Officer, Federation of CLCs

Plenary 2

Supper Room | Time: 2:00 - 3:00pm

The power to achieve change

One of the defining characteristics of the community legal sector is a commitment to achieving positive change - for individual clients, for particular groups within our communities, and for the broader community. In this session speakers will reflect on what it takes to achieve change, whether as part of a community organisation or as an individual lawyer or activist.

Speakers



Dr Cassandra Goldie

Cassandra Goldie joined ACOSS as CEO in July 2010. Cassandra has extensive public policy experience and is a leading advocate and commentator on economic and social issues.



Anthony Kelly

Anthony is Executive Officer at Flemington Kensington Community Legal Centre. He has over 25 years experience in human rights advocacy, strategic social justice campaigning and community development. He was Coordinator of the Men's Referral Service for 7 years, Policy Officer with the Federation of Community Legal Centres, and Training Coordinator with the Youth Referral and Independent Person Program (YRIPP).



Peter Noble

Peter studied law at the University of Queensland and practiced at the Brisbane firm Delaney & Delaney. He moved to Bendigo in 2005 to help establish the Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre, having worked for three years at the Fitzroy Legal Service. In 2008 Peter was awarded Community Lawyer of the Year by the Law Institute of Victoria.



Plenary 3

Supper Room | Time: 3:15 – 4:30pm

Community legal centres in 2014: The real work and worth of CLCs today

This session will focus on the incredible contribution made by community legal centres today. We will first hear the Victorian Attorney-General and the Shadow Attorney-General describe their views of the role and value of CLCs and their vision for legal assistance services into the future. Speakers from five CLCs will then talk for five minutes each to share, inform and inspire with small snapshots of just some of the work underway across the community legal sector at any point in time.



Hon. Robert Clark MP

Victorian Attorney-General, Member for Box Hill



Hon. Martin Pakula MP

Victorian Shadow Attorney-General, Member for Lyndhurst

1.

Shorna Moore

Wyndham Legal Service

Outer sight, out of justice: campaign for a modern justice precinct in Werribee

2.

Tanja Golding

Inner Melbourne Community Legal

Assertive engagement in practice - tips, tricks, and challenges

3.

Annie Davis

YouthLaw

How 100 words could save \$100,000 – the case for better legal information

4.

Jillian Chapman & Jessica Frost-Camilleri

Barwon CLC and Central Highlands CLC

The elephant's walk: campaign to end family violence

5.

Gemma Cafarella

Footscray Community Legal Centre

One year, 3 CLCs, 5 minutes

The Federation of Community Legal Centres (Victoria) 2014 Annual General Meeting

Agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Minutes of 2013 Annual General Meeting

Motion: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 30 October 2013 be accepted as a true and accurate record.
3. Chair, Management Committee Report
4. Treasurer, Management Committee Report including report back on membership fee
5. Tabling of the 2013/2014 Federation Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

Motion: That the 2013/2014 Annual Report be accepted.

Motion: That the 2013/2014 Audited Accounts be accepted.
6. Election of Management Committee
7. Election of Standing Group members – Justice Policy & Sector Development
8. Election of Victorian representative on the Management Committee of the National Association of Community Legal Centres
9. Other Business

At the conclusion of the AGM, please join us for refreshments in the foyer of the Supper Room.

Our speakers

Julian Gardner

Julian's work in human rights and social justice includes involvement in establishing the Fitzroy Legal Service and employment there as the first full-time legal centre lawyer in Australia. As its Director he set up what is now Victoria Legal Aid. He has headed three tribunals and was the Victorian Public Advocate.

Subsequent consultancies included a review of the Equal Opportunity Act, advising on reform of the Mental Health Act and advising the Chief Commissioner on the police review of racial profiling.

Currently he is chair of Mind Australia, a director of Alfred Health and a vice-chair of the Australian Press Council.

Nick Hudson

Nick is the Executive Officer of the Barwon Community Legal Service, based in Geelong West. The organisation services the Barwon South West region, which stretches from Queenscliff to the South Australian border. Nick is the Chair of the Federation of Community Legal Centres (Victoria).

Prior to joining the community legal sector, Nick has worked in banking, financial services and recruitment consulting where he has developed a broad skill base that can make a contribution to most situations. In his spare time Nick is a Surf Lifesaver, keen cyclist and helps organise Open House Geelong.

Michael Smith

Michael is the CEO of Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC) in Melbourne and has been leading the organisation since 2004. Originally a youth worker, before joining ECLC Michael worked in homelessness, local government, community development and management. Michael has served on the Federation's Management Committee and been a member of the NACLC Management Committee since 2007. In 2010, he was elected as NACLC's National Convenor, essentially the chairperson and spokesperson. Over the last four years, NACLC has had numerous key achievements with strong leadership and a professional, stable and committed staff team. Michael also chairs NACLC's knowmore sub-committee, that provides governance oversight to this innovative and critical service.

Carolyn Bond

Carolyn is currently the spokesperson for the Community Law Australia campaign, which aims to raise the profile of the work of community legal centres, and the impact of inadequate funding.

Carolyn's long career in community legal centres and consumer advocacy started as a volunteer at the Tenants Union Legal Service in the late 70s – where she had earlier been a client.

Carolyn was co-CEO of the Consumer Action Law Centre for 7 years, and prior to that manager of the Consumer Credit Legal Service. Carolyn's work has included significant law reform and policy work in the area of consumer credit, and she has represented consumers on a number of boards and committees.

Bevan Warner

Bevan was appointed Managing Director of Victoria Legal Aid on 4 August 2008. He has 20 years' senior executive experience including in Corrections and in Aboriginal Affairs where he developed an appreciation of the diversity and underlying causes of the over representation of Aboriginal people in the criminal justice and child protection systems. Bevan was formerly the General Manager of Legal Aid Western Australia.

Nicole Bieske

Nicole is the CEO of Inner Melbourne Community Legal (IMCL). She is also the chair of the International Board of Amnesty International and has been a member of the International Board since August 2011. Prior to her election to the International Board, Nicole was on the Board of Amnesty International Australia for seven years and was the National President (Chair) of that Board for three years.

Nicole previously worked at Oxfam Australia in government relations. She is a qualified lawyer with a PhD in international law (human rights) and has worked as an academic in the Faculty of Law at Monash University and as a human rights consultant.

Cassandra Goldie

Cassandra joined ACOSS as CEO in July 2010. Cassandra has extensive public policy experience and is a leading advocate and commentator on economic and social issues. She has represented the interests of people who are disadvantaged and those of the community sector in major national debates including through the Prime Minister's National Panel on Economic Reform (2013), the Ministerial Roundtable on Superannuation (2012/13) and the National Tax Forum (2011).

Cassandra has worked globally as a human rights advocate, including through the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and UN Habitat. She also has grassroots legal practice experience both as a legal aid lawyer and as Director and Principal Solicitor of the Darwin Community Legal Service in the Northern Territory. Prior to joining ACOSS, she played a central role in major gender equality reforms as the Director of the Sex Discrimination Unit at the Australian Human Rights Commission.

In 2012, Cassandra was recognised as one of the Inaugural Westpac/Australian Financial Review 100 Women of Influence. She was selected as an AFR/BOSS True Leader in 2013.

Cassandra has a PhD from the University of New South Wales, a Masters of Law from University College London and a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from the University of Western Australia. She is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Anthony Kelly

Anthony is Executive Officer at Flemington Kensington Community Legal Centre. He has over 25 years experience in human rights advocacy, strategic social justice campaigning and community development. He was Coordinator of the Men's Referral Service for 7 years, Policy Officer with the Federation of Community Legal Centres, and Training Coordinator with the Youth Referral and Independent Person Program (YRIPP).

Anthony was co-founder of Peace Brigades International – Australia, an associate with the Change Agency and a campaigner, trainer and consultant with over 40 Australian and international social change campaigns.

Peter Noble

Peter studied law at the University of Queensland and practiced at the Brisbane firm Delaney & Delaney. He moved to Bendigo in 2005 to help establish the Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre, having worked for three years at the Fitzroy Legal Service. In 2008 Peter was awarded Community Lawyer of the Year by the Law Institute of Victoria.

Sam Horsfield

Sam is the Director of RealPolitic Consulting. She has more than 10 years experience working at the intersection of community, government and private sectors, including at strategic and executive levels. Her expertise spans governance, policy, legal practice, community engagement, and project management.

Always inquisitive, Sam regularly engages in discussion and debate to influence public policy, progress social enterprise and enhance collective prosperity. She has a Masters in Public and International Law, with a focus on sustainability, global governance and civic participation, from the University of Melbourne.

Sam is a Board Member of the Women's Legal Service Victoria.

Alison Maher

Ali is employed by the Hume Riverina Community Legal Services as a family lawyer and clinical legal education supervisor. Prior to this position Ali was the community development worker. In this capacity, Ali worked with another lawyer and the HRCLS team to compile a Legal Needs Analysis, which whilst being extremely time consuming and at times challenging, proved to be a very worthwhile exercise in ensuring that appropriate services were being delivered and in the right places.

Whilst Ali loves her work, she is also very fond of her family and farm animals (which include horses, dogs, chooks, ducks, sheep and guinea pigs). Ali is always forward planning for her next holiday adventure!

Jackie Galloway

Jackie is the Chief Executive Officer of Peninsula CLC. With a background in welfare and community development, Jackie is passionate about empowering vulnerable clients and effecting social change. As a tenant and consumer advocate with the Centre for over 10 years, she regularly took on landlords, real estate agents and traders to get better outcomes for clients, appearing in VCAT hundreds of times, including running test cases.

Jackie also has extensive experience in designing and running community legal education activities and law reform campaigns, such as raising awareness of payday lenders. Prior to her role as CEO, Jackie served as Deputy CEO and Manager of the Centre's Consumer Affairs Program. She has also served on the Management Committee of the Federation of CLCs.

Darren Lewin-Hill

Darren joined the Federation as Communications Manager in late April 2012. With more than 15 years' experience in communications, he has previously worked for the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare, coordinating media in response to the Protecting Victoria's Vulnerable Children (Cummins) Inquiry. In earlier communications roles he worked for Save the Children Australia and Australian Red Cross (Victoria). He has contributed to publications including The Age, The Drum, Crikey, and Online Opinion.

Darren has been active in arrange of community campaigns, and ran as an independent candidate for Northcote in the 2006 and 2010 Victorian State elections. He is committed to the community sector and to contributing his skills to build the capacity of organisations to advocate effectively for positive change, especially through the effective use of print, online, radio, television and social media.

Steve Womersley

Steve is the Communications Worker at Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre. He also manages the Community Legal Education and Reform (CLEAR) database for the National Association of Community Legal Centres. He comes from a publishing background but has worked mostly in the community legal sector since 1998. He has a particular interest in the delivery of online legal information and the community legal sector's use of social media.

David Grant

David is a communications professional with more than 15 years experience in various communications and media roles including at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Bureau of Meteorology, and the City of Melbourne to name a few. He has worked across a wide spectrum of sectors including the community sector

where he was the Communications Lead for Anex – which is now part of the Penington Institute.

David has recently commenced working as the Communications Manager at the Fitzroy Legal Service and has hit the ground running with active social media campaigns. He is currently working on campaigns to encourage everyone here today to buy The Law Handbook 2015.

Catriona Lowe

Catriona is a former CEO of the Consumer Action Law. She has served on the boards of a number of community based organisations and a range of industry advisory bodies.

Catriona is the current Treasurer of the Consumers' Federation of Australia and a member of the Board of the Financial Ombudsman Service. She served on the Board of the ACCC's Consumer Consultative Committee and sits on ASIC's External Advisory Panel. Catriona is a member of the National Alternative Dispute Resolution Advisory Council.

Carolyn McSporrان

Carolyn is the Manager for Projects, Evaluation and Performance at Victoria Legal Aid. She heads a small team responsible for leading performance, evaluation and project management across VLA. Originally from the United Kingdom, Carolyn has held a number of senior management roles in both government and non-government before joining VLA in 2001. During her time at VLA, she has worked within a number of different areas, before moving to her current role within Research and Communications. She is an ardent believer in ensuring decisions are evidence based and that continuous improvement is embedded into practice. Carolyn is also a member of the Australasian Evaluation Society Inc.

Emma Smallwood

Emma is a lawyer at Women's Legal Service Victoria. She is the Project Coordinator for the Economic Well-being program.

Tina Turner

Tina is the Director of the Referral Service at Justice Connect. The Referrals Team aims to provide access to justice through pro bono referrals and is responsible for administering the pro bono programs of Justice Connect Member firms, the Law Institute of Victoria and the Victorian Bar.

In addition to being Director of the Referral Service Tina also manages Justice Connect's monitoring and evaluation work. Working with all programs at Justice Connect supporting them to capture and report the difference they make and impact of their work is deeply satisfying and a source of significant professional development.

Tiffany Overall

Tiffany has worked in the community sector for over 20 years as a legal and law reform advocate, including over 12 years in community legal centres.

For the past 8 years she has been working as the Advocacy and Human Rights Officer at Youthlaw, a specialist state wide community legal centre in Victoria for young people under 25 years , co-located at Frontyard Youthlaw Services.

As part of her role she convenes a youth justice advocacy group called Smart Justice for Young People (set up in 2011) which brings together over 30 legal, youth, health, welfare and community organisations advocating for evidence-based approaches to youth justice.

Denise Boyd

Denise has twenty years experience in the not for profit sector, and brings a strong skills base in strategic planning and delivery to her roles. After leaving university, she discovered a passion for advocacy, and so began her campaign career with Greenpeace Australia in the early '90s working on toxics, oceans and forests. Since then she has worked for the International Fund for Animal Welfare (UK and Australia) and the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Denise has extensive experience of political advocacy both at the national and international level, and has represented environment and animal welfare interests on Australian government and non-governmental delegations to a number of international forums.

Dr Chris Atmore

Chris is a Senior Policy Adviser at the Federation. She co-leads the Victorian Family Violence Justice Alliance and the Australian Inquest Alliance. Her other main areas of work are sexual offences, mental health and disability. Chris has worked on sexual assault and family violence issues as a university academic, and is the author of over 30 publications. She has volunteered and worked in the community legal sector for 14 years. In 2010-11 she was seconded to Victoria Legal Aid as a mental health duty lawyer.

Shorna Moore

Shorna is the Senior Policy Lawyer at Wyndham Legal Service. Immediately prior to coming to Wyndham, Shorna worked as a lawyer in Civil Litigation at Minter Ellison.

Shorna sits on the Board of Wombat Housing and Support Services, is a Chair of a Lighthouse Foundation Committee and sits on the Committee for the Human Rights Art and Film Festival, Wyndham Humanitarian Network and Wyndham Integrated Justice Precinct Advisory Group. She was previously involved with PILCH HPLC, ASRC and First Step Rehabilitation Program.

Shorna is the author of 'Outer Sight Out Of Justice: Finding pathways to justice for Melbourne's outer-metropolitan areas' (2014). She has an Honours degree in Law and a Bachelor of Commerce at Monash University and was admitted to practice as a Barrister and Solicitor in 2010.

Tanja Golding

Tanja is a Senior Lawyer at Inner Melbourne Community Legal (formerly North Melbourne Legal Service) and is responsible for the provision of legal assistance, education and supervision of the legal team. Tanja's areas of expertise include criminal law, victims of crime assistance and civil law, including a particular focus on infringements and debts. Prior to joining IMCL, she worked as a construction lawyer in private practice, where she was also responsible for coordinating a pro bono program at the Homeless Person's Legal Clinic.

Annie Davis

Annie is a lawyer and Communications Coordinator at Youthlaw. Following on from roles at Victoria Legal Aid as a criminal lawyer and technical writer, she has followed her passion for community legal education and early intervention for young people.

In 2013, she collaborated with students from Youthworx Media and film-maker James Fleming to create a series of animated educational videos called Street Law. Earlier this year, she worked with user-experience experts and young people from Frontyard and Create Youth to develop Streetsmart: a smartphone-friendly guide for young people about their rights and the powers of police and other authorities.

Jillian Chapman

Jillian is the Community Education and Development Worker at Barwon Community Legal Service in Geelong.

Jessica Frost-Camilleri

Jessica is the Project Officer at the Central Highlands Community Legal Centre in Ballarat.

Gemma Cafarella

Gemma is a lawyer with the Footscray CLC. Before starting at Footscray, Gemma was one of the Federation of Community Legal Centres' law graduates for 2013/2014. As part of this program she was seconded to the Flemington & Kensington CLC, Loddon Campaspe CLC and Justice Connect Homeless Law.

Gemma has a background that demonstrates a strong commitment to social justice lawyering, having completed two death penalty internships in New Orleans, USA, and a native title internship with the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council in Perth. She has also volunteered with a number of CLCs.



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VICTORIA

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