



Darwin Community
LEGAL SERVICE

Annual Report 2022-23



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

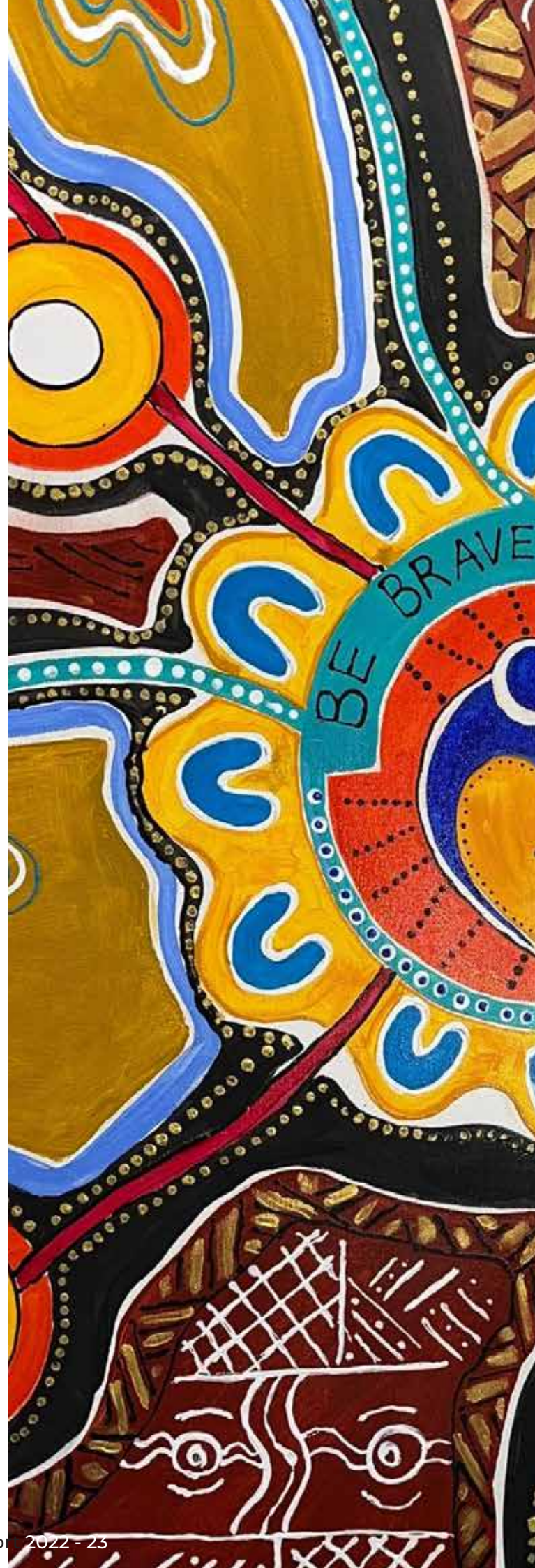
Darwin Community Legal Service operates on Larrakia Country.

We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region and we acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters throughout the Northern Territory and Australia.

We pay our respects to Aboriginal Elders past and present.
We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

IMAGES:
Front Cover - Eva San Yen Keng
“Let’s Make Our Future a Sanctuary”

Right - St Mary’s Catholic Primary School
“Reconcilliation”





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ABOUT DCLS

Darwin Community Legal Service (DCLS) is a non-profit, community-driven organisation dedicated to advancing the principles of legal and social justice, while safeguarding and enhancing rights, equity, and well-being within the Northern Territory.

Our primary focus is on serving individuals who find themselves in vulnerable or marginalised circumstances. DCLS is committed to delivering legal assistance, advocacy, and support services. We actively engage in collaborative efforts to identify barriers to justice, pursue reform, and foster a culture of respect and inclusion by promoting awareness of rights and justice for all.

DCLS provides a multi-disciplinary service consisting of:



A General Legal Service that provides free civil legal advice and representation to vulnerable members of the community, as well as delivering legal education and promoting law reform.



A Tenants' Advice Service that provide specialist legal advice, assistance, representation and information to tenants in the NT. TAS also delivers legal education and promotes law reform to make renting fair and safe for all Territorians.



A Seniors' Rights Service that supports and promotes the rights of older persons in the Northern Territory. They also provide community education, financial advocacy and promote law reform



Disability Rights Service that supports the rights of people with disability and promotes the rights of older persons in the NT. They also provide community education and promote law reform.



After-Hours Legal Advice Service staffed by NT Lawyers who volunteer their time to provide high quality legal advice through accessible after-hours advice sessions.



Veterans' Legal Service provides free legal information, advice and representation on most areas of law; for veterans, by veterans.



Specialist projects including Older Persons Abuse, Older Person Information Line, NDIS appeals and supporting client submissions to the Disability Royal Commission.

VISION

Just and fair outcomes for a stronger community.

MISSION

Strengthen access to justice and empower the community through advocacy, education, legal advice and holistic service delivery.



Darwin Community LEGAL SERVICE

GOAL 1 SERVICES

To ensure widely available, responsive, and effective assistance and programs which fill gaps, meet needs, and increase wellbeing.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

1. Increase access, effectiveness, and positive impacts of current services and programs.
2. Promote principled, critically informed, and accountable approaches to advocacy, legal assistance, service delivery and activities.
3. Collaborate to increase outreach services and community legal education.
4. Align reforms with community needs, lived experience, and capacity and coalition building.
5. Promote diversity among staff and volunteers, aligned with goals.

KEY MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- Client, stakeholder, workforce, and Board feedback.
- Range of services provided including cultural and geographic coverage.
- Community linkages, responsiveness and orientation is reflected in services and operations, including reform activities.
- Development and growth.

GOAL 2 ADVOCACY

A respected enabler and voice for just and fair treatment for all members of the community.

1. Nurture and promote a community of practice among and for DCLS workers in support of collaborative client-empowering advocacy practices including individual client work and other reform focused advocacy.
2. Facilitate community participation in reform including working with individuals and groups with lived experience to determine their concerns, priorities, and solutions.
3. Engage with current and emerging community issues and collaborate for reform empowering individuals, partners and networks.
4. Promote awareness of community issues, where relevant, including sharing with networks, using social media, seeking media coverage, and visibility through events, including speaking opportunities.

- Client, stakeholder, and staff feedback.
- Reform and policy activities undertaken.

GOAL 3 COLLABORATION

Work collaboratively with others to maximise resources and prospects for positive impacts.

1. Broaden and extend community collaboration with organisations to amplify and extend positive impacts.
2. Collaborate to increase community access to our services to increase community empowerment and wellbeing.
3. Partner with complementary organisations and networks to share resources and expertise for service delivery, support functions, advocacy, and projects.
4. Provide community legal education, including resources in language, and collaborate with others to promote community legal empowerment and inclusion.

- Partnerships and outcomes achieved.
- Outreach programs, clients assisted, and outcomes achieved.
- Community education delivered.

GOAL 4 INNOVATION & CAPABILITY

Leverage opportunities to enhance capacity and impacts by being an agile organisation which responds to changing contexts and opportunities.

1. Innovate to extend community access to our services.
2. Maintain and innovate contingency plans to ensure service continuity in times of disruption.
3. Remain an Employer of Choice.
4. Maximise opportunities for volunteers and pro bono partners to increase service provision and activities.
5. Promote continuous learning, development to maximise capabilities and impacts.

- Reach and range of services expanded.
- Operational continuity innovations.
- Feedback from staff, Board and stakeholders about innovation and capabilities.

GOAL 5 GOVERNANCE

Demonstrate responsible, attuned, and supportive leadership for the organisation to thrive.

1. Establish and maintain long term funding agreements and seek out new funding and resources to address emerging needs.
2. Enhance data collection and create a multi-purpose dataset for reporting to funding entities, evaluating activities, and promoting achievements.
3. Continuous review of policies for regulatory compliance (including risk management & accreditation).

- Successful funding and resource outcomes.
- Regulatory compliance achieved.
- Policies reviewed and maintained.
- Feedback obtained via annual staff and stakeholder surveys.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2025

Darwin Community Legal Service (DCLS) is a non profit community-based organisation committed to legal and social justice and the protection and expansion of rights, fairness and wellbeing in the NT. We especially work with people who are vulnerable or marginalised.

Our mission is to strengthen access to justice and empower the community through advocacy, education, legal advice and holistic service delivery.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the 2022-23, it is evident that due to the commitment of the Board and staff, DCLS has continued to uphold its dedication to our mission to provide vital services and improve legal and advocacy outcomes for the most vulnerable and marginalised members of our community.

One of the critical undertakings of the Board has been the development of our new strategic directions plan, which outlines our course for the next three years. This plan is integral to our organisation's future, providing the pillars upon which we build our services. This plan ensures we remain focused on our core objectives, which include:

Goal 1: Services: Our commitment to providing essential services to our community's most vulnerable members remains unwavering.

Goal 2: Advocacy: We will continue to be a strong advocate, championing the rights and well-being of our community members.

Goal 3: Collaboration: Collaboration with like-minded organisations and partners is essential to amplify our impact.

Goal 4: Innovation and Capability: Embracing innovation and enhancing our capabilities are essential for staying effective and relevant.

Goal 5: Governance: We are committed to maintaining strong governance principles to uphold transparency, accountability, and ethical practices.

The updated Constitution has been in operation for a full year following the significant undertaking by the Constitution Subcommittee to make changes to ensure its relevance and compliance and to make provision for the use of technology. The Constitution Subcommittee are to be congratulated for their work in ensuring the organisation's governance framework remains robust and adaptable to the changing enterprise landscape.

In February 2023 we welcomed the new Administrator, His Honour Professor the Honourable Hugh Heggie PSM and Ms Ruth Jones who graciously agreed to be our Patrons. We thank His Honour and Ms Jones for their support of the work of DCLS and our volunteers. Our gratitude is extended to former Administrator, Her Honour Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO and Mr O'Halloran for their service and support as Patrons of DCLS.

Let's take a moment to bid farewell to Julie Hansen who served on the DCLS Board since 2012. Julie has been an unwavering supporter of our organisation and contributed her wealth of experience and expertise to the work of the Board for over 10 years.



On behalf of the Board, we extend our thanks to Julie and wish her and her family the very best for the future.

The Board thanks our CEO, Rachael Bowker, our staff, and our dedicated volunteers. Their consistent efforts are the cornerstone of DCLS's achievements. Collectively, they have achieved meaningful impact on the lives of those we serve in the Northern Territory.

My thanks and gratitude are extended to our dedicated Board Directors for their collective wisdom, guidance, and commitment have been instrumental in shaping the achievements and direction of DCLS. Ms Michelle Ganzer and Ms Max Taylor joined the Board in June 2023 and we offer them a warm welcome.

In conclusion, the year has been one of strength and consolidation for DCLS. We are excited about the future that our strategic plan envisions, and I am confident that collectively, we will continue to make a significant impact on our community.

Julie Davis
Chairperson

CEO'S REPORT

A Year of Change and Achievement: The year 2022-23 has been a period marked by both change and challenge, and I am immensely proud of the remarkable achievements our dedicated staff and volunteers have accomplished during this time. Their unwavering passion, resilience, and commitment to providing high-quality, responsive services deserves special recognition. Without their dedication, DCLS would not have been able to achieve the milestones we are about to highlight.

Throughout the year, DCLS continued to provide a wide range of essential services to those in need, achieving several significant milestones:

Strategic Planning: The organisation proudly launched its new strategic plan, which will guide us in setting future goals and directions.

Recognition and Awards: DCLS received prestigious accolades, including the Volunteering NT Community Organisation Award at the NT Volunteering Awards and the Fitzpatrick Justice Award at the NT Human Rights Awards.

Inclusion and Diversity: DCLS formed an Inclusion and Diversity Committee to develop an inclusion policy and framework, furthering our commitment to diversity and equity.

Advocacy in Residential Homes: Our Advocacy in Residential Homes project achieved success in three Top End residential facilities, highlighted at the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day event.

Hot100 Sponsorship: We are grateful to Hot100 for their continued sponsorship and in-kind support, including three promotional radio ads across their stations for 2022/23.

Seniors' Rights on Show: We successfully completed the Seniors' Rights on Show project with 15 participants, fostering awareness of the charter of rights, artistic expression, and community building.

Rights on Show Event: The Rights on Show event at the Supreme Court drew a substantial turnout, making it a successful community engagement endeavour.

Leadership Changes: We welcomed two new leaders into our staff leadership team: Matthew Gardiner as the TAS Team Leader and Ramnik Walia as the Aged Care Senior Advocate.

Volunteer Appreciation Event: His Honour Prof. Hugh Heggie hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Event at Government House to honour our dedicated volunteers.

Outreach services: Our teams completed 20 trips to remote communities and 81 outreach visits.

We express our deepest gratitude to our funders, community partners and volunteers. Your contributions are indispensable in fulfilling our mission. Special thanks go to Julie Davis, Chair of the Board and our Board Directors for their steadfast support.



Lastly, I extend our heartfelt appreciation to our staff, whose relentless efforts continue to champion fair legal and advocacy outcomes for community members facing disadvantage. We recognise your dedication to creating a society where everyone has equal access to the legal and advocacy services they require. I would like to specifically acknowledge Melisa Coveney, Principal Solicitor, for her unwavering guidance and support.

In the coming year, DCLS remains committed to being fearless advocates for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable members of our community. We eagerly anticipate another year of dedicated service to the Northern Territory. Together, we will continue to make a positive impact on the lives of those we serve.

Rachael Bowker
CEO

PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR'S REPORT

It is an enormous privilege to be writing this report as the Principal Solicitor of Darwin Community Legal Service. DCLS is part of a network of community legal centres to provide free advice, referrals, and assistance to residents of the Northern Territory.

The three teams, being the General Legal Service (GLS); Tenants' Advice Service (TAS); and the Seniors and Disability Rights Service (SDRS), work from client and community wellbeing and empowerment approaches to benefit individuals and increase fairness and justice in the NT.

The DCLS legal and advocacy models reflect a commitment to client and community service, which connects every case with systemic deliberations and analysis. The lived experiences of our clients, their insights and critiques are central to how we aim to respond and assist. The three teams draw on each other in client work, community legal education and reform, which is often multi-disciplinary and collaborative.

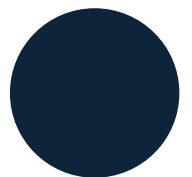
We are committed to a holistic, client focussed service delivery. To do this, we partner with internal and external services to ensure clients receive the best outcomes possible. We provide outreach services at various locations.

DCLS is continually evaluating our service to ensure that we are working in line with government initiatives both local and federally. We are committed to empowering clients in our service delivery model.

During the year, DCLS staff worked collaboratively with other groups to promote community wellbeing, press for reform and increase access to legal help, advocacy and services. For example, DCLS was actively involved in research and advocacy including:

- Federal funding to address lack of access to social security legal help nationally but particularly in the NT.
- Overhauling the National Disability Insurance Scheme ('NDIS') appeals processes. Our work aligned with many NT disability organisations and national peaks.
- Reform of the NT Residential Tenancies Act to increase protections, noting that the NT does not have the standards reflected in other jurisdictions and still does not have a bond holding authority (Rental Bond Board).
- Addressing shortcomings with the implementation of the NT Remote Rent Framework.

*Melisa Coveney
Principal Solicitor*



Together, Melisa and I would like to extend our gratitude to team leaders Matthew Gardiner and Kellie Streeter for their tremendous work and exemplary leadership during the year in leading the organisation and their respective teams to successful outcomes.

Our Admin team deserves applause for keeping the organisation running smoothly, and our Comms/Event Coordinator, Erin O'Connell, for her outstanding work in promoting DCLS and organising top-quality events and resources.

And to DCLS staff as a whole, thank you for working tirelessly to provide services to colients in a complex service delivery setting; the daily committment to advocacy for justice is inspiring.

Rachael & Melisa

FAREWELL JUDY

At the close of 2022, we said farewell to Judy Harrison, who had been serving as the acting Principal Solicitor for the past 2 years, and welcomed Melisa Coveney into this crucial role.

On behalf of the Board and the entire DCLS team, I extend my gratitude to Judy for her hard work during her two-year tenure as acting Principal Solicitor. Judy played a pivotal role in modernising DCLS, ushering in a paper-lite era, updating our legal practice policies and procedures, and implementing a new intake system, all of which have enhanced our client-focused service.

Rachael Bowker, CEO



STATISTICS

COMBINED LEGAL SERVICES



1369
NUMBER OF CLIENTS



81
OUTREACH VISITS

GENERAL LEGAL SERVICE



1068
INFORMATION &
REFERRAL



814
LEGAL ADVICE



581
NUMBER OF NEW
CLIENTS

TOP 5 MOST COMMON PROBLEM TYPE



TENANTS' ADVICE SERVICE



395
INFORMATION &
REFERRAL

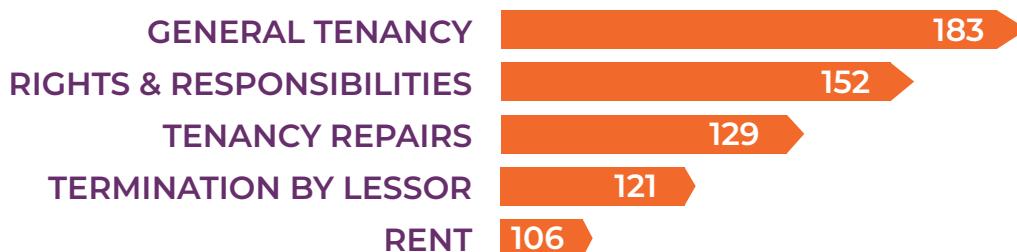


715
LEGAL ADVICE



457
NUMBER OF NEW
CLIENTS

TOP 5 MOST COMMON PROBLEM TYPE



SENIORS AND DISABILITY RIGHTS SERVICE



903
TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS



20
REMOTE COMMUNITY VISITS

SENIORS' RIGHTS SERVICE



139
PROVISION OF INFORMATION



149
NEW CLIENT CASES OPENED



219
EDUCATION SESSIONS

DISABILITY RIGHTS SERVICE



139
PROVISION OF INFORMATION



250
NEW CLIENT CASES OPENED



57
EDUCATION SESSIONS

CLIENT BREAKDOWN BY DEMOGRAPHIC

GENERAL LEGAL SERVICE



- 6% experienced homelessness
- 14% spoke a language other than English at home
- 21% identified as Indigenous Australian
- 26% had a disability and/or mental illness
- 89% lived in outer regional or remote areas of the NT*

TENANTS' ADVICE SERVICE

- experienced homelessness 67%
- spoke a language other than English at home 12%
- had a disability and/or mental illness 15%
- identified as Indigenous Australian 20%
- lived in outer regional or remote areas of the NT* 90%



*refers to outside of CBD and Northern suburbs

GENERAL LEGAL SERVICE

The General Legal Service (GLS) provides civil law legal help, community legal education and undertakes law reform in areas of law reflecting basic rights. This includes social security, credit and debt, consumer, employment law, National Disability Insurance Scheme appeals, discrimination, and adult guardianship.

GLS is the only generalist community legal service for the whole jurisdiction. As the only generalist community legal service in the NT, there are limits to access for people across the NT to general legal service assistance.

Despite resource limitations and other challenges, GLS staff have achieved so many positive outcomes by, with and for clients during the year. There were 769 client legal services in 2022-2023, through the combined efforts of staff, volunteers, and students.

The legal practice:

- Undertook weekly outreach to residents at YiSSA short term accommodation at Mararra.
- Promoted NT wide access to legal advice sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays after hours.
- Provided free legal help to veterans via a collaboration with Mates4Mates.
- Undertook weekly outreach to morning program participants at Ozanam House in Stuart Park.
- Developed new public legal education sessions online.
- Helped develop projects and new funding submissions.

- Worked with numerous collaborators and networks locally, regionally, NT wide and nationally promoting solutions and reform.

During the year the Principal Solicitor was the GLS Team Leader. The GLS includes the after-hours Volunteer Advice Sessions which has operated since DCLS began and the new NT Veterans' Legal Service initiative.

A very big thank you to all who contributed to the work of GLS including GLS Community Solicitors Bridget McDermott, Solomon Berhane and Harriet Murphy plus Legal Practice Coordinator and Volunteer Advice Sessions Coordinator, Sarah Moses, paralegal/intake officer Breathe Hanson and students who worked with us during the year. Thank you also to the Reception and Corporate Services staff in making things run as smoothly as possible.

THE YEAR AHEAD

We have lots of great initiatives planned for the year ahead – including a new Mental Health Legal Service, new partnerships, outreaches and projects; new community legal education seminars; and practice-informed law reform projects. As ever, we will strive to make access to professional legal services a reality for all members of our community – especially the most disadvantaged.

We sincerely thank all those who have supported us this year and look forward to working with you all in the year ahead.



CASE STUDIES

1. Our client is a young woman who has severe chronic illness [diabetes] and chooses to be medication non-compliant. Medical practitioners were concerned for her wellbeing, and they wrote letters recommending NDIS, DSP and also personal and financial guardianship. Our client told DCLS that she did not know about the guardianship orders at the time they were made. The Public Trustee was appointed as her financial guardian, and she was very unhappy with them being in charge of her money. DCLS represented the client in a successful application to have the guardianship order revoked. DCLS liaised over a period of months with the treating doctors and the client's support workers. In the end, the doctors agreed that the client had capacity and understanding to make her own decisions and recognised that the mere refusal of medication, even for a chronic illness, is not independently adequate to establish that a person lacks decision making capacity. The client is now legally able to make her own decisions again.



2. Our client is a First Nations woman with dementia. The client was first brought to DCLS attention due to two separate calls to the Older Person Abuse Information Line. Each call was by separate relatives of the client, both reporting elder abuse against her, perpetrated by the other relative. The matter urgently escalated when one relative appointed under an advance personal plan (APP) locked the client out of her bank account, and she was unable to receive her pension. Medical evidence indicated the client has impaired decision-making capacity for financial matters due to dementia, however, evidence showed that she had planning capacity. The client had three APPs:

- An APP appointing her preferred relatives;
- An APP revoking the former APP and appointing the other party;
- An APP revoking the second APP and appointing her preferred relatives.

The client appeared happy with living arrangements with her preferred relatives.

DCLS prepared letters to the relatives requesting they immediately cease and desist holding themselves out as decision-makers for the client. The relatives then applied to the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NTCAT) for a declaration that the current APP was invalid, and the revoked APP was valid.

We assisted by preparing a response to NTCAT requesting a declaration that the application be dismissed, that the current APP is valid, and the former APP is invalid, in accordance with our client's wishes. We represented the client at the hearing where the NTCAT ordered that a capacity assessment be conducted by a Geriatrician. DCLS worked with opposing counsel to collaboratively draft a letter of instruction to the Geriatrician. The Geriatrician assessment concluded that our client had planning capacity and that her desired arrangement was to reside with the preferred relatives. DCLS promptly sought declarations from the NTCAT that the former APP was revoked and the current APP was valid.

TENANTS' ADVICE SERVICE

The Tenants' Advice Service (TAS) provides free legal advice, assistance, representation, information, community education and resources for renters across the Northern Territory. As the only service of its kind in a jurisdiction where more than 50% of the population rent, TAS plays a valuable role in tackling the power imbalance between landlords and tenants.

RENTAL INCREASES

Rental increases in the market and cost of living increases are causing an increase in rents that have not been seen in the Territory for a long time.

The Tenants' Advice Service has seen a change of staffing with Al Cabry being admitted during the year and has progressed from working as a TAS advocate to a solicitor. Rachel Shearer joined us in January and Matthew Barsden joining the team as an Advocate. Matthew Gardiner continued on as the team leader.

THE ONGOING RENTAL CRISIS

With increases in interest rates, a lack of available rentals and low numbers of new housing stock being made available, the rental market is seeing rental costs increase almost exponentially across the NT. TAS continues to see an increase in tenants in rental stress, commonly seeking assistance with rent increases, rent bidding, extending their tenancy or having their tenancy terminated because the landlord wants to advertise at a higher rent or attempting to sell the property. As we have seen in the past, many tenants are reluctant to report repairs or enforce other rights for fear of having their tenancy terminated and not being able to secure alternative accommodation within their price range.

LAW REFORM

Comprehensive reform is needed to bring NT tenancy laws into line with the rest of Australia. The Tenants' Advice Service continues to lobby and advocate for change to protect tenants. While it is recognised there has been a change of ministerial responsibilities, little emphasis has been placed on this much needed reform in these times of extreme financial stress.

Some of TAS' key priority areas of reform include:

- The introduction of a centralised bond holding authority;
- Protections for victims of domestic and family violence;
- An end to no cause terminations;
- Longer time frames for termination notices;
- Limiting rent increase to once every 12 months;
- Longer notice for rent increases; and
- Outlawing rent bidding



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TAS has advocated for various tenancy issues and discussed cost of living pressures across numerous media outlets throughout the year. Media outlets have included the NT News, Channel 9 and ABC News television, print and radio.

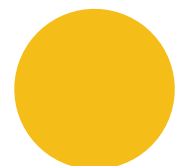
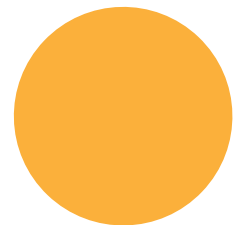
TAS has continued to deliver community legal education (CLE) sessions to various community groups across the Northern Territory. TAS held legal information sessions with student groups, community groups and other legal services. TAS team members have presented Community Legal Education and Continuing Professional Development sessions as part of DCLS monthly CLE presentations. TAS members have also co-presented sessions on renting rights with NT Legal Aid.

TAS participates in the Territory Families and Housing Legal Services Forum and also attends network meetings with various stakeholder groups including:

- Community Legal Education Network
- Refugee and Migrant Support Network (RMSN)
- Darwin Region Accommodation Action Group (DRAAG)
- Alice Springs Accommodation Action Group (ASAAG)
- NT Council of Social Services
- Domestic Family and Sexual Violence Group
- National Association of Tenants' Organisations (NATO)

TAS has travelled to Alice Springs and Tennant Creek and connected with legal services, housing support services and other community organisations based in those locations. This is important as TAS is a Territory-wide service and often relies on local services for referrals or as a point of client contact in order to service clients outside of Darwin.

TAS also participated in the International Students Reconnect Festival and a Homelessness Week events at Casuarina Library and other venues across Darwin. TAS is also continuing with the Homelessness Outreach at a variety of different locations.



SENIORS AND DISABILITY RIGHTS SERVICE

At Seniors and Disability Rights Service (SDRS), our mission is clear: to advocate for older individuals, those with disabilities and their families/carers. We work tirelessly to improve access to services and rights, striving for a fairer, more just world.

Operating from Palmerston to the Tiwi Islands, and from Katherine to East Arnhem, SDRS provides widespread support across the top end of the Northern Territory.

The role of an SDRS advocates is pivotal. They serve as champions for our clients, guiding them through complex systems, raising awareness about their needs, and empowering them to assert their rights.



This year, our advocates focused on community engagement, outreach, and education, resulting in a noticeable increase in the update of services. As we look back on our journey over the past 12 months, we remain dedicated to our mission of advocating for change. We work to create a world where fairness and justice prevail, where voices are heard, and where empowerment is a fundamental right.

We actively contribute to and drive change, ensuring that our advocacy efforts result in meaningful and lasting impact.



NDIS Review and Disability Royal Commission (DRC)

With the Disability Royal Commission closing for submissions on 31 December 2022, and the NDIS Review being announced in October 2022 (finalising in October 2023), it has been a year with unprecedented opportunities for people with disability to speak to government about their experiences. SDRS assisted clients throughout the year with making submissions to the Disability Royal Commission and at their private sessions with DRC Commissioners. DCLS made a detailed submission to the Disability Royal Commission as an organisation, drawing on our experience of assisting people with disability every day.

We presented our views directly to the NDIS Review panel when they visited Darwin in June 2023.

SDRS took the opportunity to raise our concerns regarding inadequate decision support services for people with disability. SDRS also worked with Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service, Queensland Advocacy for Inclusion, and the Rights Information and Advocacy Centre on a briefing paper and meeting with the NDIS Review Panel regarding the NDIA's improper use of section 5.1(b) of the NDIS Act. Advocacy focussed on the impact of NDIA's narrow interpretation of the Act which has negatively impacted people attempting to access supports they require and are legally entitled to.

COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES AUSTRALIA

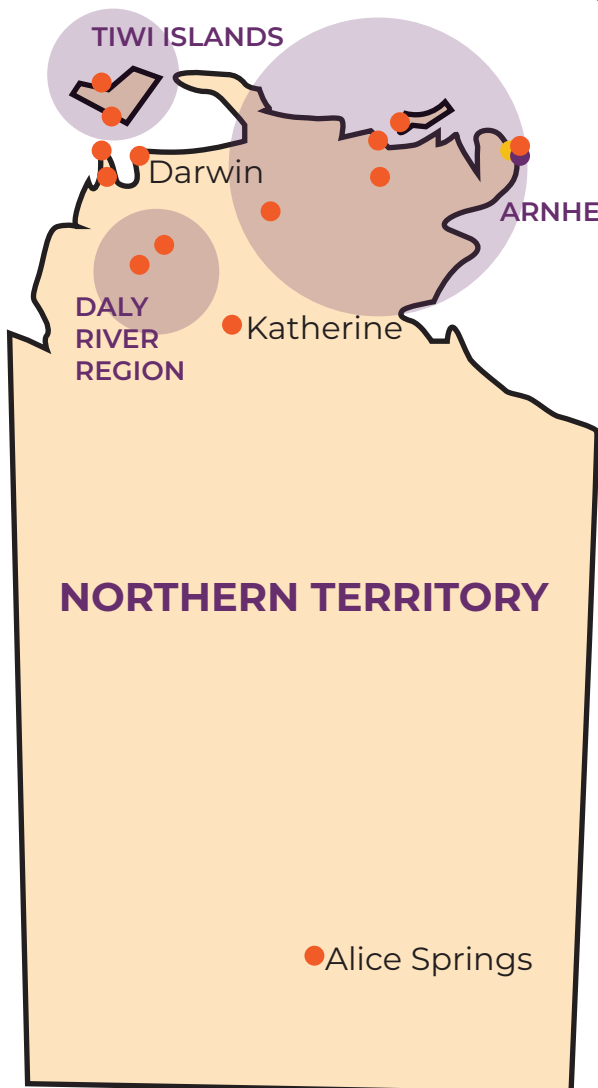
Senior Advocate Jessica Brugmans attended the Community Legal Centres Australia national conference in Hobart 21-24 March 2023 on behalf of SDRS. Jessica was one of the panellists for the session on 'Asserting the rights of people with disability – legal practice and service delivery post NDIS'. In this session, Jessica spoke about DCLS' commitment to co-advocacy, and the impact of NDIS on a CLC, beyond NDIS appeals, but also its relevance in employment, guardianship, child protection, and criminal matters.

OUTREACH

This year, SDRS advocates worked across the Top End, providing a range of impactful services. We engaged in individual advocacy, community outreach, education for service providers and the community, and strategic advocacy efforts to improve systems throughout the Northern Territory.



Central to our outreach efforts is a model that emphasises building strong community relationships and maintaining a consistent presence in the areas we serve. This approach has been key in building trust and fostering understanding within these communities. As part of our commitment, we conducted educational sessions for staff at Aged and Disability Care Centres in Yirrkala, Milingimbi, Ramingining, and Galiwin'ku. This collaborative knowledge-sharing initiative contributes to improving services and care within these centres, aligning with our broader mission to enhance the quality of life for all individuals in the region.



The footprint of our services extended to the following locations:

- Belyuen
- Wagait Beach
- Wurrumiyanga (Tiwi Island)
- Milikapiti (Tiwi Island)
- Ramingining
- Milingimbi
- Galiwin'ku
- Jabiru
- Adelaide River
- Daly River and Nauiyu
- Katherine
- Nhulunbuy, Yirrkala, and Gunyangara
- Alice Springs



Addressing Accessibility Challenges in Remote Communities

SDRS advocates have taken a strong stance on the accessibility challenges encountered by seniors and people with mobility issues in remote regions.

Residents of Mandorah and Wagait Beach approached SDRS advocates to voice their concerns about the accessibility of the Mandorah Jetty. Recognising the urgency of these concerns, the SDRS team raised these issues and initiated efforts to lobby for change by engaging with the NT Government, the local council, and other stakeholders. The absence of wheelchair-friendly facilities at the Mandorah Jetty has created a situation where wheelchair users must undertake extensive journeys (240km round trip) and incur significant expenses to attend medical appointments. This lack of dignity in travel significantly impacts their lives.

In response to these concerns, DCLS has worked on identifying interim solutions to address accessibility challenges while awaiting the reconstruction of the jetty with wheelchair-accessible facilities.

These recommendations include;

- the introduction of a wheelchair-friendly bus service that offers periodic transportation.
- engaging an independent local bus contractor to facilitate regular travel
- advocating for a revision of the Patient Assistance Travel Scheme (PATS) to encompass the Belyuen and Wagait Beach areas.

These measures aim to alleviate the obstacles faced by seniors and people with mobility issues, providing them with a dignified means of transportation.

In a promising development, there have been indicators that the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, Natasha Fyles, and her team are actively reviewing these concerns and issues. This signifies a positive step towards addressing the pressing accessibility challenges faced by seniors and people with mobility issues in remote regions, and DCLS advocates will continue to champion this cause on behalf of the community.

Strong and Functional Weight Training Program – DCLS & COTA NT

In November 2022, the SDRS team was approached by a group of seniors who expressed their concern about the absence of an affordable weight training program for seniors in the Darwin. The seniors explained that the weight training options available at local gyms and health centres were expensive, a significant concern given that many of them relied on pensions or were self-funded retirees with limited financial resources.

SDRS reached out to various stakeholders, including the City of Darwin, to inquire about the existence of any pre-existing weight training programs (in Gym setting) which were offered on subsidised rates. Unfortunately, none of the stakeholders expressed interest in creating such a program.

SDRS team subsequently met with the Council of the Aging (COTA) to bring attention to this issue. A collaborative plan was developed to

investigate, plan, and create a program that had never existed before in Darwin. Both COTA NT and the SDRS team worked together to establish a program that not only included weight training but also provided free transportation for seniors who participated in the program.

In March 2022, the program's official launch took place at the Evergreen Seniors Groups in Nightcliff

The Seniors Weight Training Program holds significant importance for SDRS as it's dedicated to the well-being of seniors. In a society where ageism and misconceptions about aging persist, this program was developed to challenge stereotypes and empower individuals aged 50 and above.

The program addresses the specific muscle strength needs of seniors while emphasising inclusivity and social interaction. It's not just a fitness routine; it's a way to build community and combat loneliness among our older population.

SDRS - SENIORS' RIGHTS TEAM

The Aged Care Team has been actively engaging with stakeholders, including the Department of Health, local councils, CALD associations and Aboriginal corporations to discuss and work on issues relating to aged support and older abuse in remote areas.

Initiatives such as participation in the Top End Pride Event and COTA NT's Seniors Expo in Darwin and Katherine demonstrate the Aged Care team's commitment to inclusivity, reaching out to the LGBTIQ+ community and advocating for senior rights within aged care facilities and community.

The Aged Care Team's education initiatives encompass workshops and outreach trips to remote regions. Educational sessions are designed to empower seniors with information and provide advocacy on matters such as older persons' abuse, financial support, and advanced personal planning.

Collaboration with organisations such as Services Australia and Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory assists the team's commitment to providing seniors with the tools to make informed decisions about their well-being.

Senior Rights on Show

In May 2023, we celebrated a significant achievement with our "Senior Rights on Show" project. Over six weeks, we combined art and education to empower local seniors about their rights under the Aged Care Charter. Guided by experts, participants explored painting while learning about safeguarding their rights. This blend of creativity and education highlighted our senior community's strength and resilience, fostering lasting friendships.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Our Senior Rights Service team hosted the successful World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on 15 June 2023. This event was attended by Minister Lauren Moss and CEO of Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN) Craig Gear to acknowledge the work DCLS advocates do in this space and to raise awareness of this important issue in our communities. The event also was an opportunity to showcase our Senior Rights on Show project and the Advocacy project. This event was the ideal platform for connecting with our peer community as it was attended by many organisations and services whose primary focus is our older community members. The day's highlight was the impressive display of art that formed part of the "Rights on Show" initiative. Their art beautifully captured the essence of the aged care charter of rights, reminding us of our ongoing essential work.



THE ADVOCACY PROJECT

The Advocacy Project is fostering an environment of empowerment, understanding, and collaboration, laying a resilient foundation for the well-being of older Territorians and the seamless partnership of Aged Care and advocacy services.

Empowering Aged Care and Advocacy Synergy

SDRS embarked on an innovative project 'The Advocacy Project'. This initiative aimed to reshape the collaboration between Aged Care residential providers and advocacy services, with the shared goal of enhancing the quality of life for older Territorians.

Prompted by the recommendations of the 2021 Aged Care Quality and Safety Royal Commission, particularly recommendation 106 on 'Enhancing Advocacy', the project focused on fortifying the ties between Aged Care Residential services, advocacy services, and the elderly community. Recognising the potential in bolstering relationships, the project hinged on two primary strategies; educational empowerment and on-site advocacy.

Educational Empowerment:

The development of an interactive suite of information tools to explain the Charter of Aged Care Rights and underscore the vital role of advocacy in enriching lives.

On-Site Advocacy:

A direct partnership with residential care providers, embedding an advocate on-site every fortnight for consultations and participation in resident meetings.

After the evaluation of the program was complete, we were gratified to see feedback that the program exceeded expectations. Our original target was to have one residential facility sign on to the program, however all three providers in Darwin decided to participate.



THE ADVOCACY PROJECT STATISTICS



12
ONSITE VISITS CONDUCTED



3
RESIDENTIAL
FACILITIES SIGNED UP

RESIDENTS INFO SESSION



45
ATTENDEES



80%
WOULD USE AN ADVOCATE
IN THE FUTURE



90%
FOUND IT EASY TO UNDERSTAND
AND FOLLOW

STAFF INFO SESSION



31
ATTENDEES



80%
WILLING TO RECOMMEND
AN ADVOCATE IF NECESSARY



95%
FOUND IT INTERESTING, AND
INFORMATIVE



SDRS - DISABILITY RIGHTS TEAM

Our disability advocates play an indispensable role as champions of justice, equality, and empowerment. Their expertise is instrumental in navigating the often complex and challenging landscapes that individuals with disabilities and their families encounter.

Our advocates serve as the voice, support, and driving force behind positive change, ensuring that the rights and well-being of those with disabilities are upheld and advanced. In this vital role, advocates not only provide assistance to individuals but also contribute to the broader mission of building a more inclusive and accessible society for all. We focus on not just solving problems but also building the capacity of each person we assist. Whether it's NDIS planning, Territory Housing, service provider issues, or insurance claims, our team is committed to working towards meaningful outcomes.

Throughout the year, we've witnessed a significant increase in the number of clients seeking advocacy

services. This growing client base not only speaks to the effectiveness of our advocacy on an individual level but also fuels our systemic advocacy for broader change.

As we analyse our statistics and engage with the experiences of our clients, we gain insights into the challenges they face within complex systems like NDIS, Centrelink, and healthcare. These real-life experiences serve as a cornerstone for our systemic advocacy efforts. By understanding the hurdles our clients encounter and the barriers they navigate, we are better equipped to advocate for change at the policy and systemic levels. We advocate for reforms that can lead to fairer, more accessible, and more just systems.

Networks and Stakeholders

DCLS advocates are valuable members of many local, NT-wide and national networks such as;

- Darwin Aged and Disability Services Group
- Disability Housing Community of Practice
- National and NT NDIS Appeals Network
- NT Disability Advocacy Collective
- Disability Advocacy Network Australia (DANA)



VETERANS' LEGAL SERVICE

It has been a busy year with meeting with the Federal Minister of Veteran's Affairs, the Honourable Matt Keogh MP, Member for Solomon and fellow Veteran, Luke Gosling OAM MP, and the NT Minister for Veteran's Affairs, the Honourable Paul Kirby to discuss the future of the service and the benefits it has to the large community of both serving members and veterans in the Northern Territory.

This year marks the first full year of running the Veteran's Legal Service.

There have been numerous meetings with other Ex Service Organisations (ESOs) to discuss how our service can complement the needs of their members and our continuing relationship with Mates4Mates (M4M).

Our service attended the opening of their new premises at Stuart Park and continue to have sessions available for all Veterans, Serving Members and their families, both at M4M Stuart Park and M4M Palmerston on alternate Thursdays.

We had a stall at the Defence Member and Family Support (DMFS) Welcome to the Top End Expo where we engaged with new defence members and their families who have been relocated to the Darwin region.

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veterans Suicide

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veterans Suicide had hearings in Darwin. Our involvement with the Royal Commission into Defence and Veterans Suicide remains steadfast. We continue to collaborate with the Defence and Veterans Legal Service, an entity specially funded to assist in submissions to the Royal Commission. In addition to our involvement in the Commission's proceedings, we continue to receive referrals for various legal matters further reinforcing our dedication to supporting the needs of veterans and serving members.



103
INFORMATION & REFERRAL



60
LEGAL ADVICE



75
NUMBER OF NEW CLIENTS



LAW REFORM SUBMISSIONS



DCLS submission to the Inquiry into the Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Repeal of Cashless Debit Card and Other Measures) Bill, 14 August 2022



DCLS submission to the NT Department of Attorney-General and Justice on the Exposure Draft Anti-Discrimination Amendment Bill 2022, 12 August 2022



DCLS submission to the Senate Select Committee on Work and Care, (submission 76), 13 September 2022



DCLS submission to the Joint Standing Committee on the NDIS – Capability and Culture of the NDIA Inquiry, 15 November 2022



DCLS submission to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, 31 December 2022



DCLS submission to the Department of Social Services consultation on Proposed changes to the Disability Support Pension (DSP) Impairment Tables, 22 November 2022



DCLS submission to the NT Law Reform Committee's Wage Theft Inquiry, 13 December 2022



DCLS joint submission with the Rights Information Advocacy Centre to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Culture and Capability of the National Disability Insurance Agency Inquiry, about Supported Independent Living (submission no 113), 16 December 2022



DCLS submission to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, 'DCLS support for DANA submission on Independent Disability Advocacy, and matters of particular concern', 22 December 2022



DCLS submission to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, 31 December 2022



DCLS submission to the NT Office of Youth Affairs towards development of the NT Youth Strategy 2023-2033, 15 January 2023



DCLS Submission to Community Affairs References Committee on the Worsening Rental Crisis in Australia, 27 August 2023

VOLUNTEERS

Darwin Community Legal Service strive to achieve legal and social justice and the protection and expansion of rights, fairness and wellbeing in the NT.

With the help of our Legal Volunteer Team, Darwin Community Legal Service is able to provide legal help, advocacy and support to the residents of the NT with an afterhours Free Legal Advice Service.

Our after hours advice service provides free legal advice on matters such as consumer and tenancy issues, civil and employment Law.

Our volunteers play an important role in the DCLS mission to secure justice and human rights and our success to provide legal services to those in need. Our volunteers do many different tasks and roles. The participation of DCLS volunteers means that our clients are able to access the services and assistance they need.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

This year Volunteer week theme was "The Change Makers." This theme celebrates the volunteers at DCLS; it salutes and acknowledges their contributions to making lasting change in our community. Their participation is a valuable contribution to the success of our organisation.

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS



Darwin Community Legal Service was the proud winner of the 2022 INPEX Community Volunteer Organisation/Team of the Year Award.

Congratulations to all our wonderful Volunteer Supervisors, Lawyers, Legal Assistants and Board Members. This award recognises the outstanding contribution that all of our volunteers make to our organisation and community, and stands as a reminder of the high standard of professional excellence that we strive to achieve every day.

"DCLS would like to recognise all of our volunteers. Thank you for volunteering your time and knowledge to help those in our community, your contributions do make a difference to those in need."



Sarah Moses, Volunteer Coordinator



FREE AFTER-HOURS LEGAL ADVICE SESSIONS



116
TOTAL SESSIONS ACROSS 3
LOCATIONS



463
CLIENTS ASSISTED



1160
VOLUNTEER HOURS



75
VOLUNTEERS IN 2022/23



15
NEW VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED



TESTIMONIALS



“Being part of the DCLS volunteer roster is an enriching learning experience in the application of the law and also in diverse community life in general.”

- Shannon Rice, Volunteer Lawyer

“If you are interested in social justice, volunteering at Darwin Community Legal Service should be at the top of your list. Give it a go! – I guarantee you won’t regret it”

- Chris Cooper, Volunteer Lawyer



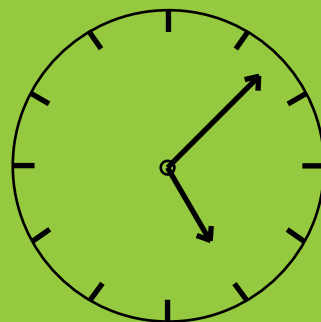
VOLUNTEERS FOR 2022/23

- Adam Stencil
- Adelle Offerman
- Aine Buckley
- Alistair Wyvill
- Alyssa Cabry
- Anne-Marie Chin
- Annelise Willis
- Ben Slade
- Breathe Hasson
- Cameron Kiely
- Christopher Cooper
- Christopher Lam
- Clarinta Gardiner
- Corrin Demeo
- Daniel Pietryka
- Daniel Robins
- David Ninan
- Eesha Raut
- Elisha Harris
- Elsa Adshead
- Emma Farnell
- Emma-Jane Cook
- Georgia Treasure
- Harley Purnell
- Harriet Murphy
- Harrold Holingsworth
- Ian Grant
- Jackie Fryar
- James Bowyer
- Jamie Love
- Jeff Thompson
- Jesse-Lee Taylor
- Jessica Black
- Jessica Brugmans
- Jessica Cornish
- John Garrick
- Jorja Costello
- Kailey Coble
- Kelly Stephenson
- Kerrie-Anne Selwyn
- Laura Burfit
- Mahima Ann Jacob
- Mark Hibbins
- Matthew Barsden
- Matthew Gardiner
- Melanie Ralph
- Melisa Coveney
- Michael Halkitis
- Michelle Duggan
- Michelle Ganzer
- Murry Stubbs
- Nabila Majid
- Nik Dakis
- Rafael Szumer
- Ramnik Walia
- Ramona Long
- Rebecca De Zylva
- Richie Cardenas
- Riley Boughton
- Ron Lawford
- Ros Vickers
- Ruby Kelly
- Rufus Coffield-Feith
- Samantha Hendry
- Samara Carroll
- Sarah Cumming
- Sarah Strzelecki
- Simon Pickering
- Solomon Berhane
- Stella Noor
- Tanisha Cubillo-Latzer
- Taylah Cramp
- Tia Broadhead
- Tom Malone
- Winnie Chen



OUR INTERNS

- Christopher Cooper
- Leah Jane Debuque
- Rebecca Richardson
- Katie Tighe
- Anna Stone-Stacy
- Lindsey Moldenhauer
- Sarah Kazi
- Joseph Kettle
- Daniel Robins
- Alice Tilleard



INTERNS HAVE PROVIDED OVER

1,225

HOURS OF SERVICE

COMMUNICATIONS & EVENTS

The year 2022 - 23 was a very successful year which saw an increase in both our community and online presence.

In the interest of our mission to “strengthen access to justice” it is important to make our organisation visible within the community at a number of different cultural and inclusive events throughout the year. These have included events such as:

- Darwin Islamic Soc. Eid Celebrations
- Vietnam Veterans Day
- International Tenants Day
- International Women’s Day Walk
- No Woman Left Behind Conference
- NTCOSS Conference
- IdA All Abilities Expo
- Youth Homeless Matters Day - Couch Surfing
- COTA NT’s Seniors Expo
- Reconciliation Week
- Melalueca Australia’s Refugee Week - World Music Festival
- NAIDOC Week
- India@Mindil
- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
- PRIDE Week
- All Youth Expo

All of these events, along with the several internal events and projects have provided us the opportunity to interact and collaborate with like-minded organisations and the community we aim to assist.

The Commuciations and Events team also played an integral part in securing media coverage for various issues that Territorians are currently facing, such as cost-of-living pressures and the rental crisis, bringing a voice to change.





RIGHTS ON SHOW

DCLS' 26th Rights on Show Art Awards and Exhibition opened on 1 December 2022 with around 120 people in attendance at the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory.

The exhibition is open to all Territorians and people of all ages and skill levels; 'preschool to professional'.

The event was continues to evolve and generate greater exposure. Event Coordinator Erin O'Connell welcomed guests to the event, introducing The Youth Mill to perform their emotive Welcome to Country. CEO Rachael Bowker took to the stage to welcome the guests, thanking the artists for such a great calibre of work.

ENTRIES

We were pleased to receive 120 artwork entries into the exhibition from 95 local artists, these included people experiencing homelessness, several organisations such as Top End Mental Health Consumers Organisation (TEMHCO), STEPS Education and Training and Melaleuca Australia who assisted their clients to enter artwork. Also very pleasing this year was the increase in participation from young people in both primary and secondary schools. We received a mix of mediums including paintings, photos, pottery, textiles and sculptures using upcycled materials.

THEME

The 2022 theme was 'The Future We Want.' Affirming the importance of freedom, peace & security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, including the right to food, the rule of law, gender equality, women's empowerment and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development.

"The future depends on what you do today." - Mahatma Gandhi

THE VENUE

The venue for this event was the Northern Territory Supreme Court. This offered a prestigious, relevant ('justice/human rights') venue, at no cost. The security service extended to the night and were generous in allowing us set up and pack down time after hours. The venue also meant that the exhibition was attended by those attending the court, extending the usual audience reach.

THANK YOU

Erin O'Connell, Rights on Show Coordinator, would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to staff and organisation volunteers; without their help, the event would not be as successful as it is!

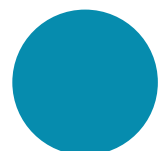
We must also highlight and say thank you to event sponsors and supporters:

SPONSORS

- NT Government
- Supreme Court of the NT
- Darwin Visual Arts
- Nicole Brown - Following in their Footsteps
- NT Legal Aid
- City of Palmerston
- Tactile Arts
- Eva Lawler, MLA
- Lauren Moss, MLA
- Starwin

SUPPORTERS

- The Exhibitionist
- Channel Nine Darwin
- AIIIM Photography
- The Youth Mill
- The Cav
- SLM AV



RIGHTS ON SHOW 1ST PLACE

Eva San Yen Keng
*Let's Make Our Future
a Sanctuary*



PRIMARY SCHOOL AWARD

Haileybury-Rendall School
Save Our Marine Life



RIGHTS ON SHOW 2NDPLACE

Marianne Foster
The Future We Want



SECUNARY SCHOOL AWARD

Allaine Palos
Finding Equality



RIGHTS ON SHOW 3RD PLACE

Tina Trudgen
Oceans Worth Fighting For



INDIGENOUS ARTIST AWARD

St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Reconciliation



JUDGES AWARD

NT Lived Experience Network
*Knowing our Rights has
Supported our Heaing:
We want you to know
Your Rights Too*

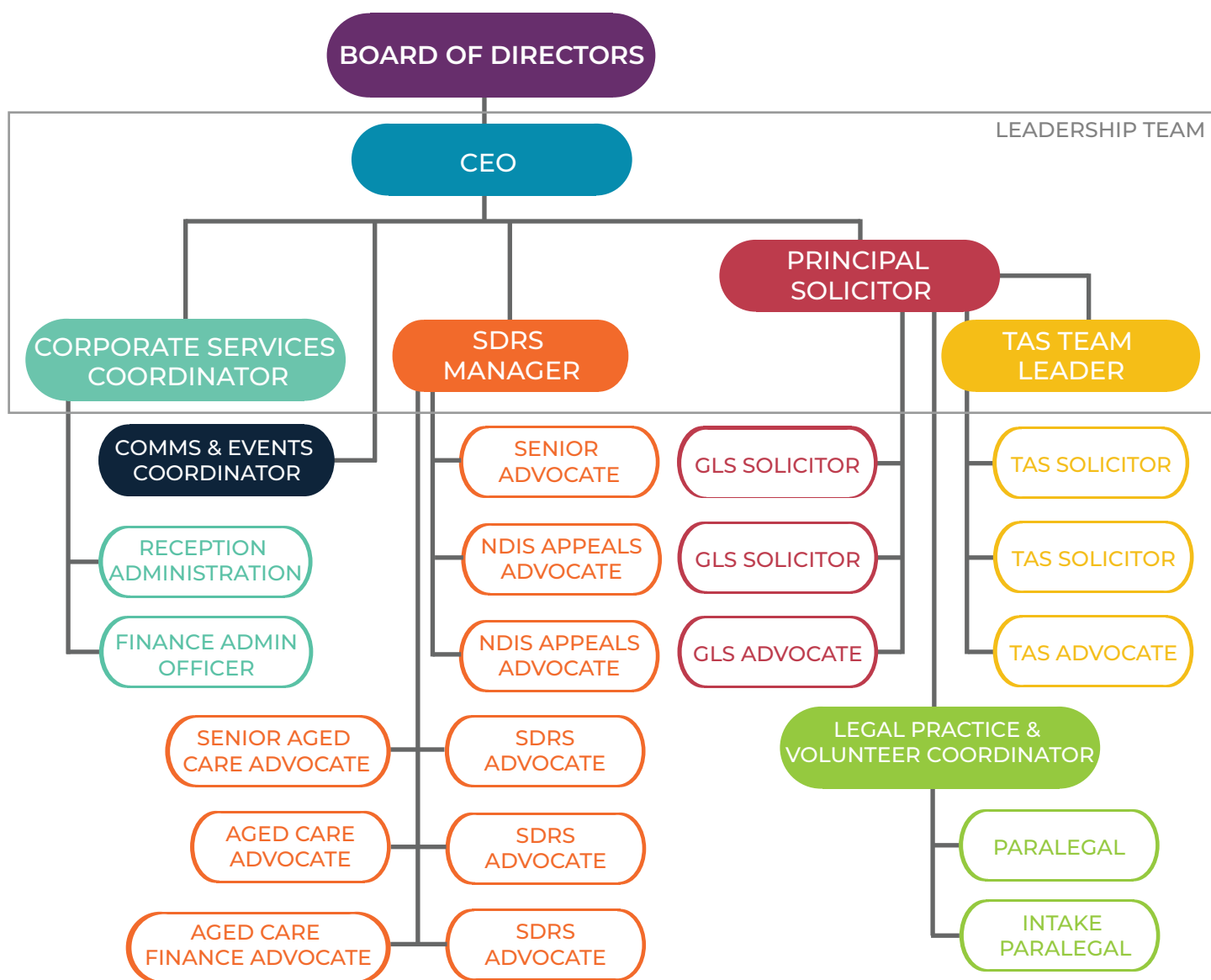


PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

David Dela Vega-Dela Pena
Beautiful Mind



ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



DCLS STAFF 2022/23

EXECUTIVE TEAM

- CEO Rachael Bowker
- Principal Solicitor Judy Harrison
- Principal Solicitor Melisa Coveney

LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Corporate Services Alana Coulson
- SDRS Team Leader Kellie Streeter
- TAS Team Leader Matthew Gardiner

CORPORATE SERVICES

- Receptionist Jessie-Lee Taylor
- Corporate Services Jasmin Carlton
- Finance Admin Brooke Meredith
- Reception Admin Maureen Wright
- Communications & Events Coordinator Erin O'Connell

LEGAL PRACTICE

- Legal Practice & Volunteer Coordinator Sarah Moses
- Project Officer Tanisha Cubillo-Latzer
- Intake Paralegal Michelle Burchill
- Intake Paralegal Breathe Hasson
- Trainee Admin Officer Teale Meredith

GENERAL LEGAL SERVICE

- Community Solicitor Lucy Quinlan
- Community Solicitor Bridget McDermott
- Community Solicitor Solomon Berhane
- Community Solicitor Harriet Murphy

TENANTS ADVICE SERVICE

- Tenancy Solicitor Phil Andrews
- Tenancy Solicitor Al Cabry
- Tenancy Solicitor Rachel Shearer
- TAS Advocate Matthew Barsden

SENIORS AND DISABILITY RIGHTS SERVICE

- Senior Disability Advocate Jessica Brugmans
- Senior Aged Care Advocate Ramnik Walia
- Advocate NDIS Appeals Jessica Cornish
- Advocate NDIS Appeals Chrissy Sherley
- Disability Royal Commission Krisha Ketchell
- Aged Care Advocate Hayley Webb
- Aged Care Advocate Anne McKinstry
- SDRS Advocate Theresa Kagayo
- SDRS Advocate Jamie Phelan
- SDRS Advocate Anika Alam
- SDRS Advocate Leisa Bagley
- SDRS Advocate Sheiraj Batiste
- SDRS Advocate Michael Campbell
- Financial Advocate Melissa Bentivoglio
- Intake Officer Elina Beswick

BOARD MEMBERS LIST FOR THE 2022/23 PERIOD

- Chairperson Julie Davis
- Secretary Peggy Chong
- Treasurer Kimmy Jongue
- Director Hugh Bond
- Director Alastair Shields
- Director Clarissa Phillips
- Director Tom Korecki
- Director Lucy Markoff
- Director Julie Hanson (resigned Nov 2022)
- Director Michelle Ganzer (from June 2023)
- Director Max Taylor (from June 2023)



FUNDING SUMMARY

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS FIDELITY FUND

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICE

- NDIS Appeals
- National Disability Advocacy program
- Disability Royal Commission
- Decision Support Pilot (Disability)

OLDER PERSONS ADVOCACY NETWORK

- National Aged care advocacy program
- Financial Advocacy program



NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

- Disability Advocacy
- Older Persons Strategic Advocacy program
- NLAP (Legal)
- Tenants Advice Service
- Community Benefit Fund - ROS

AUSTRALIAN RADIO NETWORK

- In-kind Radio Advertising

CHANNEL 9 DARWIN

- In-kind TV Advertising

PRO BONO & SPECIAL MENTIONS

A special thank you to the following individuals and organisations for their ongoing support.

Patron

Her Honour the Honourable Vicky O'Halloran and Mr Craig O'Halloran
His Honour the Honourable Professor Hugh Heggie, PSM and Ms Ruth Jones

Legal

Nola Pearce - Counsel, Quay 11 Chambers, Brisbane
Thomas Liu - Counsel, 7 Wentworth Selborne, Sydney

Higher Education

Charles Darwin University Clinical Law Program
Australian National University College of Law

Community

YiSSA
Anglicare NT
Ozanam House
Wagait Beach Shire Council
Arthritis Association of the Northern Territory
Multicultural Society of the Northern Territory
East Arnhem Regional Council, East Arnhemland
Mala'la Healthcare and Disability Services, Maningrida
Belyuen Community Government Council and Belyuen Aged Care





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