



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



community legal centre

Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre, formally Murray Mallee Community Legal Service, commenced operating in 1996 and supports communities across more than 120,000 square kilometres and includes ten Local Government Areas, in the northern and southern Mallee of Victoria and south west New South Wales.

Co-located with Mallee Family Care, the Community Legal Centre uses a Health Justice Model to work collaboratively with over sixty other programs delivered by Mallee Family Care, addressing the common legal issues confronting people in the region. With a commitment to meaningful stakeholder engagement and advocacy, the Community Legal Centre actively works to build and support community development initiatives, while ensuring it is equipped to meet the current and emerging needs of the communities within the catchment.



## Contents

- 2 Vision, Mission, Objectives
- 3 Postcodes Visited
- 4 CEO and Principal Solicitor's Report
- 7 Our Team
- 8 Board of Directors
- 10 Community Legal Education
- 14 Youth Solicitor Report
- 16 Family Violence Legal Unit
- 18 Intervention Order Support
- 20 Auditor's Report
- 22 Financial Statements



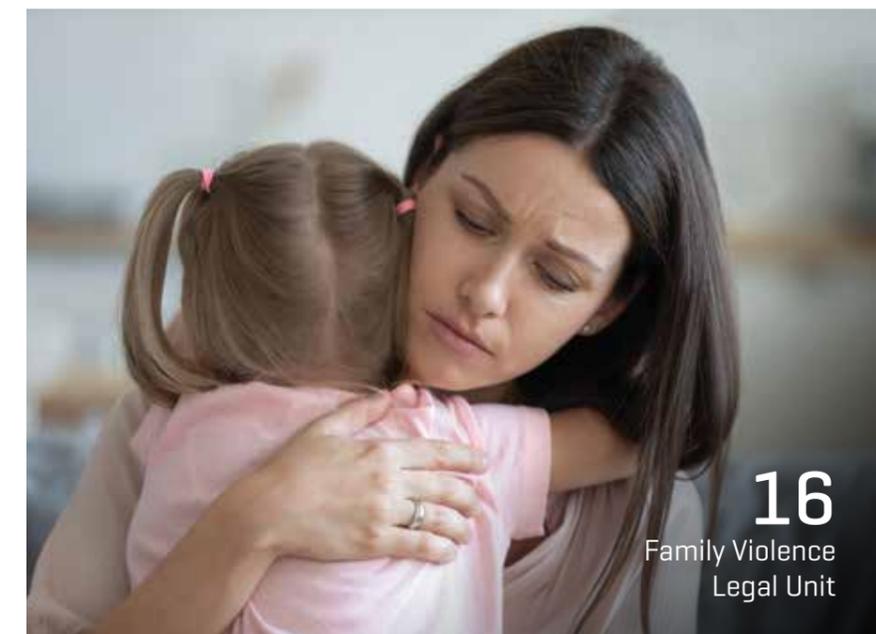
3 Roads Most Travelled Postcodes Visited



4 CEO and Principal Solicitor's Report



10 Community Legal Education



16 Family Violence Legal Unit

## Vision

Empowering the vulnerable and disadvantaged in our communities

By this we want:

- Communities where vulnerable children will be protected;
- Communities where disadvantaged families and individuals will be supported;
- Communities that are committed to supporting those in need.

## Mission

To enrich lives and to increase opportunities

We will do this through Services, Education, Research and Advocacy

## Approach

Our approach to achieving this strategic intent will demonstrate:

- We are focused on the resolution of issues and will be flexible and adaptive in our approach;
- We understand our communities, we are informed by practice and our focus is on outcomes that matter;
- We work in partnership with stakeholders;
- We consult broadly and engage with our communities

## Values

- Accessibility
- Equity
- Trust
- Inclusivity
- Safety and Accountability



## CEO and Principal Solicitor's Report

We have seen our communities endure significant hardships over the past four years, impacted by drought and floods and in recent times, by the pandemic. This year has highlighted the incredible resilience of our communities and emphasised the dedication of our staff.

Working across an expansive catchment that encompasses rural, regional and remote communities has always influenced the way we operate, on the ground and within the office. The pandemic has meant that we've been able to refine our service delivery provision; not once did we lose line of sight of many of our vulnerable and disadvantaged community members who required our support; our doors may have been closed, but we diligently continued our seamless approach to service delivery during this very difficult time.

Advocacy for our community remains a priority and we have been fortunate to collaborate with many Organisations across the Sector. During the course of the year, we welcomed the Energy and Water Roundtable and participated in the community forum in conjunction with the Energy and Water Ombudsman's Office. We also hosted a visit from three Judges who were in Mildura for two sittings of the Court of Appeal; Justice Emilios Kyrou, Justice Karen Emerton and Justice Mark Weinberg.

Our Community Legal Education sessions are a testament to our engagement and we were able to deliver a significant portion of our work-plan during the first six months of the financial year. To be invited to some of the most remote parts of the Mallee region, and facilitate five sessions to the Wedderburn P12 College is

an indication of the quality and success of our Community Legal Education program.

Our case work continued to underscore the increased vulnerabilities being experienced by our clients. Of notable concern, especially during the height of the pandemic, was a series of matters relating to clients who were on temporary visas and alarmingly all involved family violence.

As our service provision becomes more integrated with external service providers, the need for our legal services is becoming increasingly apparent. Every community legal education session highlights a new issue, every new network we develop improves our warm referral pathways for clients and critically, what this means is an improved service system for people requiring legal assistance.

The incredible work of our service and the great outcomes for our clients does not occur without the investment of our most important asset, our staff. With a new strategic plan on the horizon, a new team invested in our service provision, a new look was also in order. We have listened to the voices of our community and have rebranded our look and our name, now known as the Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre, we are committed to providing local people with our known quality of local care and we are pleased to present our Annual Report 2020.



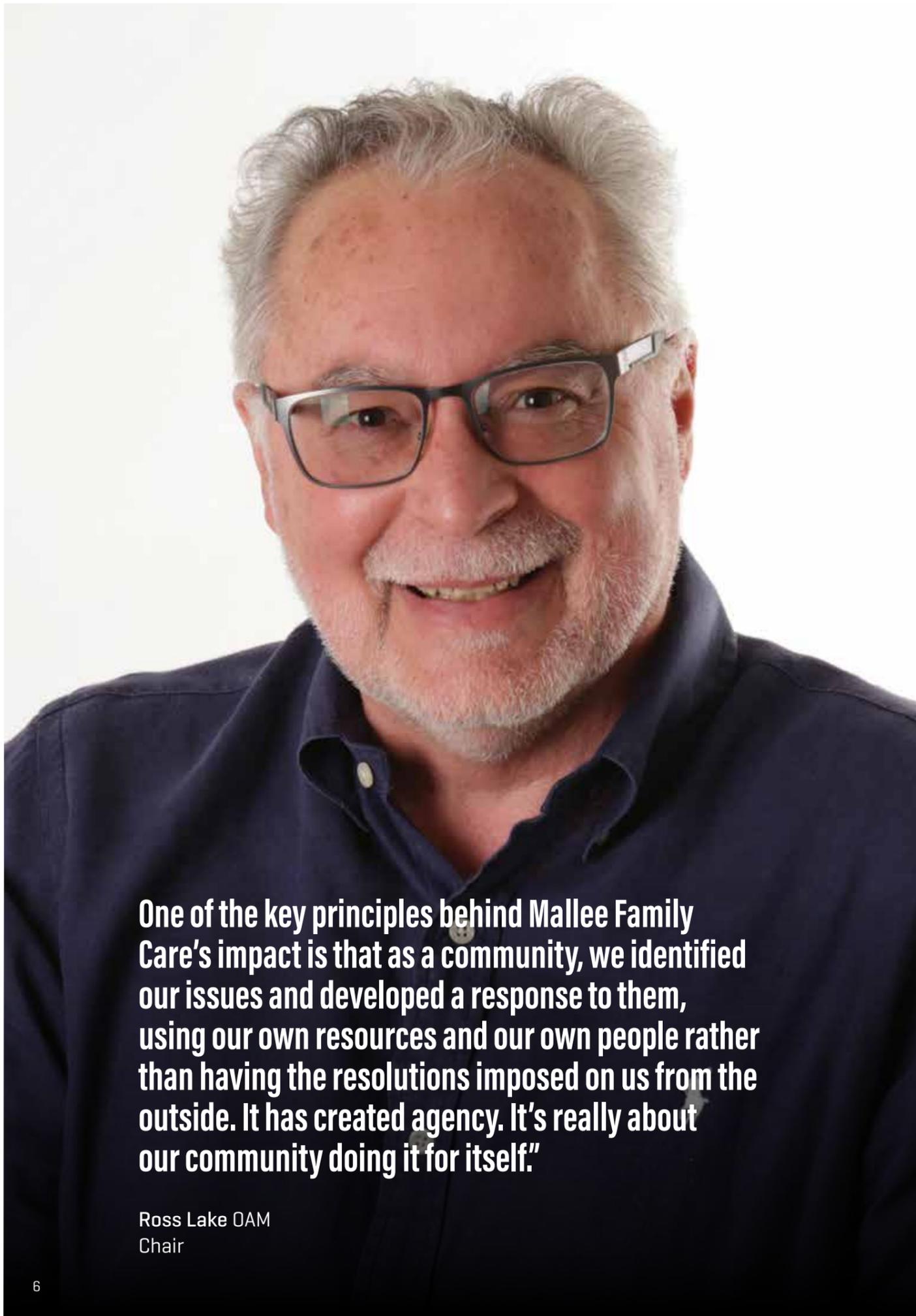
Teresa Jayet  
CEO



Lauren Dinning  
Principal Solicitor

**We have listened to the voices of our community and have rebranded our look and our name, now known as the Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre.**





**One of the key principles behind Mallee Family Care's impact is that as a community, we identified our issues and developed a response to them, using our own resources and our own people rather than having the resolutions imposed on us from the outside. It has created agency. It's really about our community doing it for itself."**

Ross Lake OAM  
Chair



## Our Team

**Ann Killen**  
General Manager  
Concluded 30/06/20

**Mark Boreham**  
Principal Solicitor  
Concluded 18/10/2019

**Lauren Dinning**  
Principal Solicitor  
Commenced 16/03/20

**Anna O'Sullivan**  
Generalist Solicitor

**Blessing Keabilwe**  
Specialist Family  
Violence Solicitor

**Catherine Cousins**  
Family Law Solicitor

**Jeri Fung**  
Generalist and Youth  
Law Solicitor

**Ana Nusrat**  
Generalist Solicitor

**Nicole Woods**  
Social Worker

**Brandon Lyell**  
Specialist Family  
Violence Social Worker

**Allison Collyer**  
Community Legal Education

**Renee Mailes**  
Administration Officer

**Alana Pollard**  
Administration Officer

## Directors



### Ross Lake OAM Chair

Board member for most of the period since the inception of Mallee Family Care in 1984 and appointed Chair in 2011. Mr Lake holds a number of other directorships including the Mallee Regional Innovation Centre Strategic Advisory Panel, Institute of Post Colonial Studies Board Member.

#### Qualifications

Bachelor of Law, Bachelor of Economics, Diploma of Education.



### Jenna Yetman Deputy Chair

After becoming a Board member in 2018, Ms Yetman was appointed Deputy Chair in 2019. Ms Yetman also holds a number of other directorships including Madec Australia and Country Fire Authority - Patchewollock Brigade.

#### Qualifications

Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting), Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice, GAICD.



### Dr John Cooke

Board member since 2010. Dr Cooke holds a number of other directorships including the Mallee Catchment Management Authority and the Regional Advisory Board La Trobe University Mildura Campus.

Dr Cooke is the Chair of the Finance Audit and Risk Committee.

#### Qualifications

PhD, Bachelor of Science, Diploma of Agriculture.



### Geoff Dea

Board member since 2019. Mr Dea is the CEO of Sunraysia Institute of TAFE and a member of the Board and Audit Committee of Mildura Regional Development.

#### Qualifications

Bachelor of Business (Accounting), CPA, GAICD.



### Lauren Dinning

Board member since 2019. Ms Dinning is the Principal Lawyer of Dinning and Co. Family Lawyers. She holds a number of other directorships including the Regional Liaison Committee with the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia and St Paul's Primary School Advisory Council.

#### Qualifications

Bachelor of Law with Honours, Bachelor of Arts, Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice.



### Christine Cottrell

Ms Cottrell has spent 20 years working in Not-For-Profit Services including Australian Institute of Company Directors, Australian Sonographers Association and Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators. Ms Cottrell currently holds a directorship with Mildura Community House.

#### Qualifications

Graduate Certificate in Business Administration.



### Dr Andrew Kremor

Dr Kremor has held various directorships with multiple private and public companies including Zero Emissions Water, Babcock and Brown Finance, Alinta Energy and Allgas Networks. Dr Kremor is a General Manager at the Murray Darling Basin Authority and has extensive senior management experience in the energy and water sectors.

#### Qualifications

PhD, Master of Business Administration, GAICD.



### Teresa Jayet CEO Secretary

Ms Jayet has been an employee of the Agency, in various positions, since 1994 and is currently the Chief Executive Officer. She was appointed Company Secretary on 11 March 2020 when the Agency was first incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee.

#### Qualifications

MBA, Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Education, Diploma of Financial Counselling, Graduate Diploma Family Dispute Resolution.



### Don Wall Independent Member, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee



### Greg Gooch Independent Member, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee

## With thanks and recognition to our out-going Directors

### Margaret Thomson

Board member since 2008, Mrs Thomson retired in October 2019.

### Julia Morgan Audit, Finance and Risk Committee Treasurer

Board member since 2016, Ms Morgan retired in December 2019.

### Adam Stevenson

Appointed February 2020, resigned March 2020 due to his work re-location.



# Community Legal Education

**1,955 people attended  
62 Legal Education sessions**

- Your Family Law Options
- Sexual Consent
- Cybersafety, Cyberbullying, Social Media and Sexting
- Family Violence and Intervention Orders Support Service
- Powers of Attorney and Advance Care Directives
- Avoiding Credit Traps
- Workplace Rights
- Buying a Car
- Youth Expo
- Naidoc Week
- Law Week

**Our Community Legal Education program provides information sessions that aim to help people to avoid common legal problems, to act quickly if they do occur, and to know who to contact to get help.**

Community Legal Education also boosts the capacity of community workers with information sessions provided to help them identify their clients' legal issues and to be able to make appropriate referrals.

**This year has certainly presented some challenges.**

All scheduled presentations for 2020 were postponed when COVID-19 restrictions were implemented and we adapted to a new way of delivering our service, to support the most vulnerable members of our community.

Part of this adaption saw our Community Legal Education worker, Allie Collyer, take an intake role with the Mallee Family Care financial counselling team, which enabled her to triage clients quickly, make appointments and provide them with information and referrals to the Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre, where appropriate.

**Prior to COVID, we held 46 Community Legal Education presentations**

and participated in several community events and forums. We visited towns across five local government areas including; Mildura, Robinvale, Swan Hill, Dareton, Wedderburn, Nhill and Boort.

A further 27 information sessions scheduled up to June 2020 were postponed and many more sessions that were in the planning stage, could not proceed.

Stakeholder engagement is very important in fostering relationships with other local service providers, promoting our services, sharing information and keeping up to date with local community issues and events. We attended 26 meetings during the year including the Local Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee [LAJAC] meetings in Mildura and Robinvale, Court User Meetings, Wentworth

Shire Interagency meetings, Robinvale Community Safety, Aged Care Planning & Advisory Network, Swan Hill, Gannawarra and North Central School Wellbeing networks and Family Violence Network meetings. Our attendance at these meetings is an impactful way that we can connect our service with other service providers. In addition to these meetings, we also participated in 49 other stakeholder community activities during the year.

If there is a silver lining to be found out of the COVID-19 crisis, perhaps it is that it's motivated us to reconsider how we perform our roles, particularly in regards to participation.

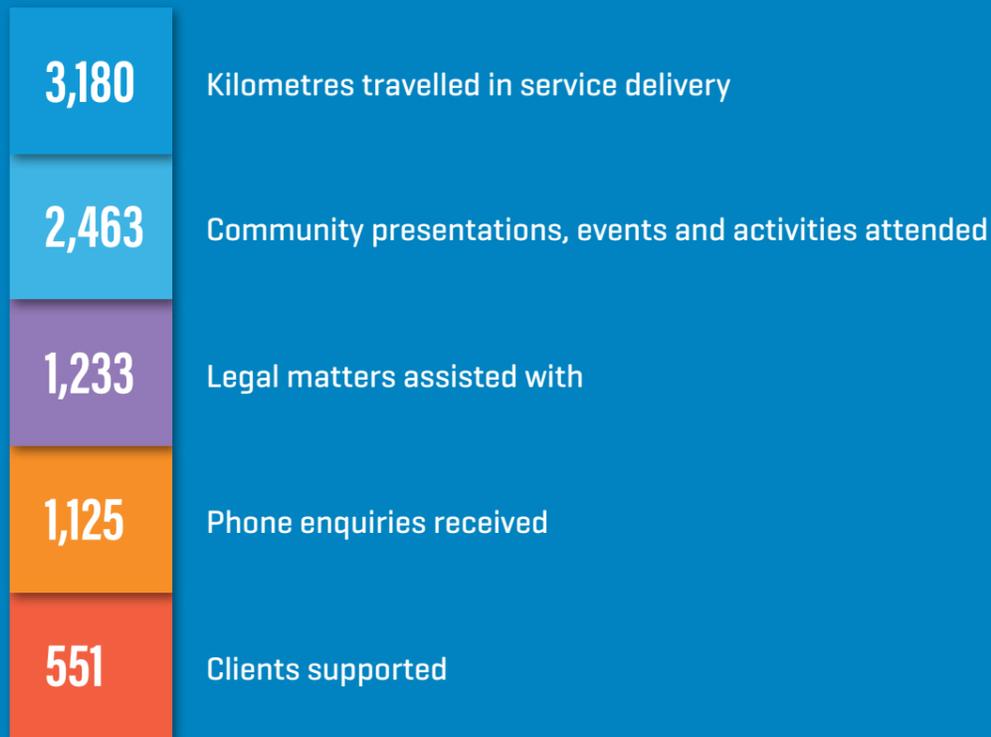
**With most networking events transitioning to online platforms, we have been able to attend more meetings in the remote areas of our catchment.** Meetings, that prior to the adaptations forced by COVID, we may have only participated in once a year

because of the distance, are now readily accessible to our team. The online engagement has helped us to develop stronger relationships and also enabled us to pursue professional development opportunities, that, had they been conducted in person, we wouldn't have been able to attend. Recognising the value of online engagement, we've harnessed the ZOOM platform as a means of delivering information sessions and the success of these presentations means we will continue to offer them as part of our normal service delivery, going forward.

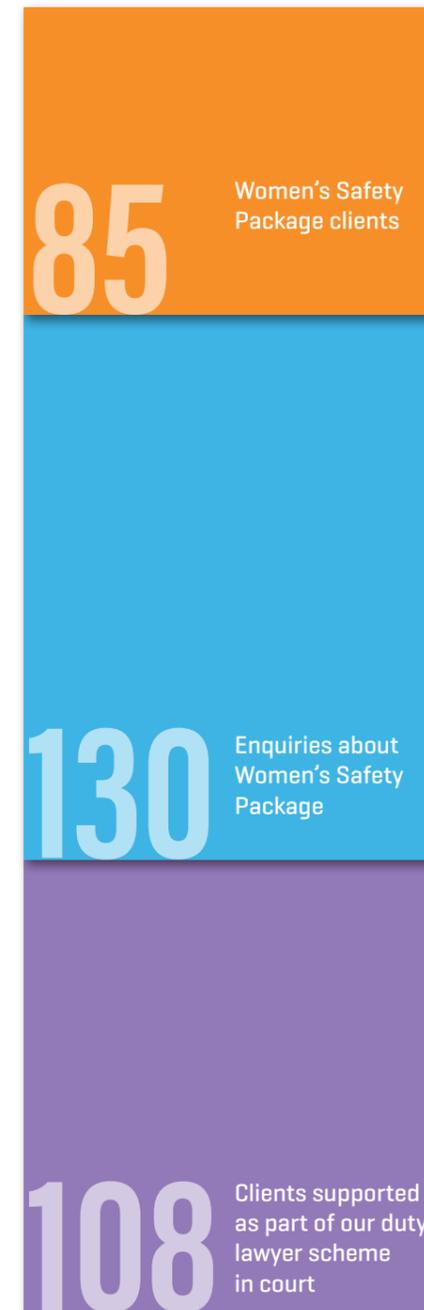
Despite some limitations, we have been able to meet our yearly targets and continue our important work and we are looking forward to being able to travel throughout our catchment area once again, ensuring legal advice is accessible for all members of our community.

**Online engagement has helped us to develop stronger relationships and also enabled us to pursue professional development opportunities.**

# Snapshot of 2019-2020



## Number of people at events



**97.46%**  
of our clients were based in regional and remote areas

## Top 10 Legal Issues assisted with





# Youth Solicitor Project

## Case Study Bullying

After many years struggling to cope with ongoing and extensive bullying at school, a young person and their parents sought advice from our service. Repeated attempts had been made by the family to have the bullying addressed but all had failed and the bullying behaviour was escalating.

In light of this, we assisted the family to apply for a Personal Safety Intervention Order through the Court. Ultimately, while applying for such an order is a serious step, the result was a positive one. The young person who had been the victim of the bullying was empowered and had a renewed sense of safety, while the other party was provided with counselling in order to help them change their behaviour.

## Our Youth Solicitor Project aims to educate young people on a variety of legal issues regarding their rights and responsibilities.

Providing legal education and advice, we facilitate connections between young people and the statewide Youth Law Service and assist young people to understand what legal resources are available to them.

**Legal issues more commonly faced by young people include family violence, workplace rights and responsibilities, cyberbullying, fines and debts and issues around underage consensual sex** and this has been reflected in the advice we've provided over the course of this twelve month reporting period. Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre is proud of the work it does in our communities and we remain committed to achieving the best outcomes for our young people.

However, like all service providers, our model of delivery and engagement has been

significantly impacted by COVID-19 and we have had to explore new avenues for providing advice and support.

We are aware that maintaining relationships is critical to the work we do, regardless of the environment in which we find ourselves. As part of our response to this, we have continued to participate in the local Youth Network Service Providers meetings on a monthly basis. This network brings together youth sector community workers, including representatives from Mildura Rural City Council, the Department of Education and Training, local secondary schools and Sunraysia Community Health, for the purpose of strengthening the youth sector in the region, through information sharing and the fostering of partnerships. We have found these meetings offer a valuable opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience, in a truly

collaborative setting. As a network we have discussed the impacts of COVID-19 on at-risk young people and shared ideas for effective youth engagement.

Prior to restrictions limiting our activities, our Youth Lawyer, Jeri Fung regularly attended the Sunraysia Institute of TAFE, where he facilitated outreach appointments for students facing a range of challenges and he also provided a number of community legal education sessions, which were both well received and well attended.

In collaboration with our Community Legal Education worker, Allie Collyer, Jeri Fung also delivered tailored presentations to local community groups on a range of everyday issues that people confront. Topics included the common pitfalls of purchasing a car and how to avoid them, making an enduring power of

attorney and how to manage debt and credit repayments.

In his role as our Youth Solicitor, Jeri Fung also presented to headspace and attended the Youth Expo in September 2019, an event that serves to connect young people living in the Mildura region with the services that have been developed specifically to support them.

**It is generally acknowledged that young people are among the hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic** and as the consequences of this are felt, the Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre will be ready to provide the support they need to negotiate their way back through the recovery process.

## Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre will be ready to provide the support they need to negotiate their way back through the recovery process.

## Family Violence Legal Unit

Our Family Violence Solicitor, Blessing Keabilwe, and Senior Social Worker, Brandon Lyell provided assistance to 85 women during the 2019/2020 financial year. They have continued to provide a legal advice and support service to victims of family violence at the Mallee Domestic Violence Service (MDVS) in both Mildura and Swan Hill. This has included providing advice and support for women seeking Intervention Orders in Court, as well as assisting women with child recovery orders, immediate parenting plans, property recovery and/or immediate property issues. Examples include transferring vehicle registrations and altering housing lease arrangements, as well as assisting directly with debt matters or making warm referrals.

**As part of our Women's Safety Package partnership with MDVS, we have begun to expand our provision of financial counselling service to the MDVS.**

This facilitates opportunities for family violence survivors to see a financial counsellor, either at the Mallee Family Care or MDVS offices, and since November 2019, we have been able to offer financial counselling at the Swan Hill MDVS.

The team has also worked with Community Legal Education Worker, Allie Collyer, to deliver family violence awareness training to MDVS, Orange Door, Family Relationship Centre and Mallee Family Care Staff.

In August, five members of the Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre visited other community legal services, also delivering integrated service, located in Melbourne and Geelong. In these centres, social workers and lawyers work together for the benefit of vulnerable clients, while still successfully addressing the differences in approach and statutory and accreditation and ethical requirements of their respective professions. This model is one that we are also embracing, having identified that it enables better

service delivery and outcomes for our clients.

**As a part of our community engagement program, the team participated in the Mildura City Council's Walk Against Family Violence, collaborating with the MDVS and Orange Door Hub to provide an information booth in the park, at the Walk's end.**

Mildura and Swan Hill have a strong partnership approach to human service delivery in the Mallee, with this Network feeding into a leadership network and into the broader Mallee Family Alliance. The team has also participated in the family violence networks for Robinvale and Dareton, which is primarily an Indigenous community.

The team continues to provide family violence information sessions for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities through their association with Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council (SMECC) and has

helped to provide service information that has been translated into a number of languages, including Swahili, Tongan, Vietnamese and Dari that in common use across the region. This connection has led to our participation in the Mallee Community of Practice Network for CALD communities, with the team hosting the meeting and workshop in March 2020, and inviting the Victorian Women's Legal Service to present around the issue of misidentification of family violence perpetrators.

A new collaboration with the Communities of Practice (COP) with CALD communities has meant we have developed a closer link with SMECC, as well as strengthening our relationships with the other COP members, including the Sunraysia Community Health Service, Department of Education, Victoria Police, Victoria Legal Aid, Department of Health and Human Services, Robinvale District Health Service, In-Touch, Orange Door and of course the MDVSA, with whom we are already in partnership.



**While COVID-19 has presented the team with many challenges in terms of how we deliver support services, we have adapted quickly to ensure that we continue to provide the advice and help that our clients need.**

Until COVID-19 restrictions were in place, these agencies had been meeting regularly to discuss ways of engaging with migrant communities to ensure they can access necessary family violence and other related services.

Our Senior Social Worker has collaborated with MDVS staff to deliver the Mental, Emotional and Social Health (MESH) Group Work Program for children (aged 10-12) who have been exposed to family violence and also provided therapeutic mental health counselling to children up to 12 years of age experiencing or escaping from family violence.

What has been apparent in the last year has been an increase

in the complexity of matters for family violence victims. This may be attributable to the impact of an integrated service approach, with further opportunities to identify and address social, emotional, financial and psychological issues related to the immediate legal issues being addressed.

During early 2020 we continued to regularly travel to our Swan Hill office to provide a fortnightly Intervention Order Support Service. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions we had to cease travel and instead, we began providing ongoing legal support to Swan Hill and surrounding areas through the use of phone and zoom appointments.

This included the provision of the Intervention Order Support Service as the courts have allowed us to represent clients in this way, when required.

The Women's Safety Package staff and other Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre staff have continued to attend and actively participate in monthly Family Violence Operations Network meetings in Mildura and Swan Hill, where agencies have an opportunity to share activities, concerns, plans, up-coming events and to contribute to service development across the region. These meetings changed from monthly to bi-monthly during this period and have utilised zoom conference call facilities.

The Federal Circuit Court sat in Mildura in February 2020, and the WSP team provided support to clients with listed Family Law matters. The Federal Circuit Court sits three times per year in Mildura and usually takes up several days.

While COVID-19 has presented the team with many challenges in terms of how we deliver support services, we have adapted quickly to ensure that we continue to provide the advice and help that our clients need.

**We have been able to respond to the increasing demand for assistance from women living in our communities, with limited disruption.**

**Throughout the year, all members of the team have actively participated in the Mallee Family Violence Network meetings.**



# Intervention Order Support Service

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on how the Intervention Order Support Service (IOSS) operates for the latter part of the reporting period.

Our solicitors, supported by our social work team, have continued to attend Court to provide assistance. However, face to face contact with clients has been markedly reduced due to changes made to Court procedures and consequently, provision has been made for telephone contact, should a Court user require our IOSS. Court users attend at the Registry and notify if seeking our assistance. They are then directed to leave the Court precinct after providing a contact number. Our IOSS

then phones the client, provides advice and seeks instructions in relation to the client's matter and then proceeds to represent them in Court if necessary. As COVID-19, and the restrictions associated with it, have impacted our communities, we have also identified a significant increase in culturally and linguistically diverse clients requesting to revoke their Family Violence Intervention Orders. This has been largely due to family and community pressures as well as migration and visa/

residency issues. Our service has provided advice to vulnerable clients and liaised with Police in relation to varying and revoking orders.

Whilst COVID-19 has not placed us in an ideal situation in terms of service delivery, the IOSS has continued to assist clients and provide quality legal services in a new and adaptive approach that has worked effectively given the fluctuating restrictions in place since the beginning of 2020.

## Case Study 1

We assisted a client who identified as a member of the LGBTQI community to obtain a Family Violence Intervention Order and a Personal Safety Intervention Order against her ex-partner and their new partner. The allegations were serious, involving threats of gun violence and physical assaults. The client did not feel comfortable approaching Victoria Police about her fears for her safety given her LGBTQI orientation.

We referred her to the Victoria Police Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer (GLLO) who is a serving member of Victoria Police with the rank of Constable. The client was not aware that such a role existed within the police force and she was pleased to know she could make contact with someone who would understand her family violence perspective. The client felt safer knowing there was a specific tailored police option for her. The client had previously refused to engage with Orange Door, the Mildura Domestic Violence Service or any other services in the area supporting family violence victims, given her identification with the LGBTQI community and the client's perception that a heterosexual family violence worker would not understand her position. Our service believes that family violence in the LGBTQI is an issue that needs to be more widely discussed and addressed within the broader community and service providers.

## Case Study 2

We acted for a client who was experiencing family violence perpetrated by her ex-husband. The parties have 2 children together. The Respondent was using threats relating to COVID-19 to emotionally and economically coerce our client to facilitate 'spend time' arrangements with the children when it was not in the children's best interests to do so. Particularly, the ex-husband had threatened to tell our client's employer,

the children's school, and her other children's childcare centre that she had tested positive for COVID-19 and was a danger to the community.

With our assistance, our client provided the Court with oral evidence and was able to obtain an Interim Family Violence Intervention Order, protecting her and her children from her ex-husband's family violence.

## Case Study 3

We provided advice to a client who was a protected person in a Police Application for a Family Violence Intervention Order. The Police made serious allegations of family violence in their Application, however, our client wanted to revoke the Family Violence Intervention Order. The Police approached our service to provide the client with

further advice in terms of her safety and protection, should the order be revoked.

After advising the client, and discussions with Police, the Police supported a Final Order that protected the client from Family Violence but permitted contact between the parties.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MALLEE FAMILY CARE INC.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements ["the Statement"] of Murray Mallee Community Legal Service for the financial year ended 30 June 2020. The Statement has been prepared by management using the basis of accounting as outlined in Note 1 of the Statement.

### Managements' Responsibility for the Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation of the Statement in accordance with the basis of accounting as outlined in Note 1, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a Statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Statement 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 Statement is free from material misstatement.

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

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

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS  
Level 6, 211 Victoria Square  
Adelaide SA 5000  
GPO Box 11050  
Adelaide SA 5001  
Telephone: +61 8 8409 4333  
williambuck.com

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MALLEE FAMILY CARE INC.

### Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of Murray Mallee Community Legal Service for the financial year ended 30 June 2020 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of accounting as outlined in the Note 1.

### Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the terms and conditions of the Agreement between Commonwealth of Australia, Victoria Legal Aid and Murray Mallee Community Legal Service, which describes the basis of accounting. The Statement has been prepared to assist Murray Mallee Community Legal Services to meet the requirements of the Service Agreement. As a result, the Statement may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for Murray Mallee Community Legal Services, Mallee Family Care Inc. and Victoria Legal Aid and should not be distributed to any other parties.



**William Buck**  
ABN: 38 280 203 274



**G. W. Martinella**  
Partner

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS  
Level 6, 211 Victoria Square  
Adelaide SA 5000  
GPO Box 11050  
Adelaide SA 5001  
Telephone: +61 8 8409 4333  
williambuck.com

## Murray Mallee Community Legal Service Income and Expenditure Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Consolidated</b>		
<b>Net Surplus/Deficit from previous year</b>		
Surplus/Deficit from previous year	174,248	183,998
Approved Expenditure from Surplus	-	-
Net Surplus Deficit from previous year	<b>174,248</b>	<b>183,998</b>
<b>CLSP Income</b>		
Commonwealth	612,326	593,757
State	213,216	201,144
Service Generated Income	9,113	1,000
<b>Total CLSP Income</b>	<b>834,655</b>	<b>795,901</b>
<b>CLSP General Purpose Income (Total CLSP Income plus Net Surplus / Deficit)</b>	<b>1,008,903</b>	<b>979,899</b>
<b>CLSP Expenses</b>		
Salaries	517,847	503,454
Superannuation	49,674	42,415
On Costs	8,674	7,878
Rent	37,796	18,168
Repairs and Maintenance	6,409	4,823
Other Premises Costs	23,258	15,525
Staff Training	6,352	64,586
Staff Recruitment	60,043	27,797
Communications	6,211	3,774
Office Overheads	45,208	52,434
Insurance	4,041	7,502
Finance, Audit & Accounting Fees	-	1,000
Library, Resources & Subscriptions	6,435	3,180
Travel	28,062	25,843
Programming and Planning	78,890	24,931
Minor Equipment	37,097	2,341
<b>Salary and Related Expenses</b>	<b>576,195</b>	<b>553,747</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>339,802</b>	<b>251,904</b>
<b>Total CLSP Expenses</b>	<b>915,997</b>	<b>805,651</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit for Current Year</b>	<b>(81,342)</b>	<b>(9,750)</b>
<b>Other Income [Not to be added to CLSP Funds Surplus/Deficit]</b>		
Total Funds received from Other Bodies	-	-
Less Actual Capital Expenditure in Current Year	-	-
<b>Surplus /Deficit for Next Year</b>	<b>92,906</b>	<b>174,248</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

## Murray Mallee Community Legal Service Balance Sheet As at 30 June 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
National Australia Bank Operating Account	152,326	259,370
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>152,326</b>	<b>259,370</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		
	<b>152,326</b>	<b>259,370</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditors	-	-
Accrued Wages	3,319	14,198
Employee Entitlements	-	-
Annual Leave	20,795	32,488
Long Service Leave	12,786	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>36,900</b>	<b>46,686</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Employee Entitlements	-	-
Long Service Leave	17,642	33,558
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>17,642</b>	<b>33,558</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>54,542</b>	<b>80,244</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>97,784</b>	<b>179,126</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>		
Retained Surplus/(deficit) at Beginning of Year	179,126	188,876
Surplus/(deficit) for Year	(81,342)	(9,750)
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>97,784</b>	<b>179,126</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**Murray Mallee Community Legal Service Cashflow Statement  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2020**

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Cash inflows [outflows] from operating activities</b>			
<b>Receipts</b>			
Operating grants from Government		908,096	874,391
Other income		10,024	1,100
		<b>918,120</b>	<b>875,491</b>
<b>Payments</b>			
Payments to employees		(601,897)	(537,389)
Payments to suppliers and providers		(373,783)	(277,095)
GST paid		(49,486)	(54,400)
		<b>(1,025,166)</b>	<b>(868,884)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	[a]	<b>(107,044)</b>	<b>6,607</b>
<b>Net increase[decrease] in cash for year</b>			
		<b>(107,044)</b>	<b>6,607</b>
Cash at beginning of financial year		259,370	252,763
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>		<b>152,326</b>	<b>259,370</b>
<b>(a) Reconciliation of net cash from operating activities to surplus from operating activities:-</b>			
Net [deficit] surplus for the year		(81,342)	(9,750)
<b>Add [Less]:</b>			
Increase [Decrease] in employee provisions		(14,823)	20,875
Increase [Decrease] in creditors		(10,879)	(4,518)
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>		<b>(107,044)</b>	<b>6,607</b>

**NOTE 1: BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

[a] Income in these Income and Expenditure Reports is recognised on a cash basis, while expenses are recognised on an accrual basis.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

## Organisation's Certification

I certify that:

1. These financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Murray Mallee Community Legal Service as at 30 June 2020 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1.
2. The financial statements are in accordance with the funding agreement, applicable Australian Accounting standards and are based on proper accounts and records.
3. The Organisation has maintained complete and proper accounting records in respect of the Murray Mallee Community Legal Service.
4. The funds received by Murray Mallee Community Legal Service from Victoria Legal Aid under the funding agreement have been properly spent in accordance with the funding agreement.

Glen Hornsby  
Chief Financial Officer



26-8-2020



**MILDURA  
CENTRAL OFFICE**  
122 Ninth Street  
Mildura VIC 3500

**MILDURA**  
64 Lemon Avenue  
Mildura VIC 3500

**MILDURA**  
105-109 Lemon Avenue  
Mildura VIC 3500

**MILDURA**  
60 Madden Avenue  
Mildura VIC 3500

**ROBINVALE**  
33 Herbert Street  
Robinvale VIC 3549

**SWAN HILL**  
229 Beveridge Street  
Swan Hill VIC 3585

**KERANG**  
22 Victoria Street  
Kerang VIC 3579

**DARETON**  
3 Devenport Street  
Dareton NSW 2717

**WENTWORTH**  
59 Darling Street  
Wentworth NSW 2648

**BALRANALD**  
95 Court Street  
Balranald NSW 2715

[www.mfclegalcentre.com.au](http://www.mfclegalcentre.com.au)

1800 243 002