

## Far West CLSD partnership meeting

16 February 2023 1pm ACST (1:30 AEST) on Teams

### MINUTES

**Present:** Meg Kelly Lifeline, Melissa Callis, Warra Warra FVPLS, Deanna Grocke Warra Warra FVPLS, Danielle Plumb WDO Service Legal Aid NSW, Jonathan Grew Legal Aid NSW, Bridget Byrnes Legal Aid NSW, Vassilia Haralampidou Legal Aid NSW, Steven Wright Legal Aid NSW, Julua Hamel CatholicCare WF, Mark Braes CatholicCare WF, Ruby Langton-Batty Ashurst, Theresa McClaren SHLV, Natalie Hinton SHLV, Lubainah Babuji Warra Warra FVPLS, Joshua Scotland CLSAC Legal Aid NSW, Robert Clayton REDI.E Wilcannia, KerryAnn Pankhurst NEWTAAS, Hilary Kincaid Far West CLC, Narelle Blows Far West WDVCAAS, Loretta Stuart Far West WDVCAAS, Billie-Jo Green Far West WDVCAAS, Buddi Nunn Far West WDVCAAS, Eveleen May Disability Advocacy, Shane Zimmer Housing Plus, Kate Halliday Legal Aid NSW.

**Apologies:** Nina Betts (Far West CLC), Alison Elliott (Ashurst), Natalie Neumann (Legal Aid NSW)

Agenda item	Discussion	Action/Outcome
<b>1. Welcome and opening</b>	Kate opened the meeting, acknowledging the traditional owners of the land that she works and lives on, the Gadigal people, and paying respect to Elders and to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues joining the meeting.	
<b>2. Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme NSW</b>	The NSW Stolen Generations reparations scheme is closing on <b>30 June 2023</b> and is unlikely to be extended. Josh Scotland from the Civil Law Service for Aboriginal Communities at Legal Aid NSW joined the meeting to remind partners about referring people for advice on a potential claim. The age group affected by the SG removal policies is 50 years +, even if the person is not sure whether they are eligible or not it is a good idea to get some legal advice. Successful claims have been made by people who were placed into employment such as domestic work or farm work under removal policies. A legal service can help the person get their records so they can consider their options. Link to resources: poster, podcasts, factsheets <a href="#">Legal Aid NSW - Listen on Spotify - Linktree</a> . Referrals for legal advice and help from CLSAC at Legal Aid NSW on Stolen Generations Reparations can be made by sending an email to <a href="mailto:clsac@legalaid.nsw.gov.au">clsac@legalaid.nsw.gov.au</a> .	

	For advice on compensation for harm caused by abuse which occurred after removal into an institution contact knowmore 1800 605 762.	
<b>3. Wills clinic for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in Wilcannia</b>	The dates for the wills and future planning documents clinic in Wilcannia are 23 and 24 May. Warra Warra FVPLS has kindly offered to provide coordination and promotion of the event in Wilcannia. Gilbert + Tobin will provide lawyers to advise and draft documents. Melissa of Warra Warra FVPLS advises that her team has discussed the option of offering their art project at the event. People in Wilcannia who would like to have wills and other future planning documents (power of attorney, enduring guardianship) prepared at the clinic can be referred to Warra Warra for registration. Melissa advises they are still looking at venue options. More information will be sent out to partners when the details are settled.	Kate and Melissa to send out further information when details settled.
<b>4.</b>	<p>The Family Advocacy and Support Service has expanded to Broken Hill. It offers legal and social support services for men and women affected by family violence who are involved in cases in the Family Court and Federal Circuit Court of Australia. The social support and duty lawyer services are available in person when the FCFCOA is in Broken Hill. Social support services are available by telephone at other times.</p> <p>Agreed to look at holding a networking event with the FASS social support workers, Legal Aid NSW and the Child Support Service when the FCFCOA is sitting in Broken Hill. Eveleen suggested including Caryn Ferguson from DA as well.</p> <p>FCFCOA circuit sitting dates for Broken Hill 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 to 24 March</li> <li>• 24 to 28 July</li> <li>• 20 to 24 November</li> </ul> <p>FASS telephone contacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social support services for women: 1800 11 FASS (1800 11 3277)</li> <li>• Social support services for men: 1300 00 FASS (1300 00 3277)</li> </ul> <p>For family law legal advice contact Legal Aid NSW Broken Hill 08 8004 9600</p>	Kate to contact FASS workers and Caryn about networking event.
<b>5. Partner updates</b>	Danielle Plumb from Legal Aid NSW reminds everyone to refer people needing help with fines, including help to find a work and development order sponsor, to the WDO Service at Legal Aid	

<p><b>challenges and requests</b></p>	<p>NSW. Referrals can be sent to <a href="mailto:wdo@legalaid.nsw.gov.au">wdo@legalaid.nsw.gov.au</a>, Danielle can also be contacted on 02 4253 6810.</p> <p>Julua Hamel the newly appointed Senior Child Contact Worker at CatholicCare WF and Mark Braes from CatholicCare announce the <b>newly opened Child Contact Centre for Broken Hill</b>. The Centre is operating Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 2pm to 7pm, Saturday 9 to 5 and Sunday 12 noon to 5pm. Parents and extended family can use the Centre for changeover and supervised contact. Contact the Centre on 1800 067 067. Mark and Julua ask everyone to promote the service.</p> <p>KerryAnn Pankhurst from the New England and Western Tenancy Advocacy and Support Service announces that NCAT is now doing face to face hearings of tenancy matters in Broken Hill, and that NEWTAAS has worked with the Tribunal to offer duty services to people with cases in the tribunal by AVL. She encourages people to refer tenants early (before their NCAT date) to their service:1800 836 268 <a href="mailto:newtaas@gmail.com">newtaas@gmail.com</a>  <a href="http://www.newtaas.com.au">New England and Western Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service Inc.   Tenants' Union</a></p> <p>KerryAnn says they are also looking at what support might be offered by NEWTAAS in person as an access point to tenants with tribunal cases at Broken Hill. Eveleen suggests that Caryn Ferguson the Disability Advocate may be able to offer some on the ground support. KerryAnn says getting modifications done to houses is an ongoing challenge in Broken Hill, including for families with DCJ support for their children.</p> <p>Meg advises that the Lifeline financial counsellor Sherrie Wilkins is finishing work at the end of February. Shout out to Sherrie for her support and participation in the CLSD partnership! The role will be filled from June 2023.</p> <p>Shane Zimmer from Housing Plus is working with people who have recently left prison mostly addressing housing, drug and alcohol and mental health issues.</p> <p>Hilary Kincaid from Far West CLC advises that the CLC has limited capacity at the moment as and there are only two part-time solicitors available, the CLC is prioritising traffic law assistance with that service being available by AVL. Clients should be referred to <a href="mailto:legal@farwestclc.org.au">legal@farwestclc.org.au</a>. Hilary can be contacted at <a href="mailto:principalsolicitor@farwestclc.org.au">principalsolicitor@farwestclc.org.au</a>.</p>	<p>Kate to send out the flyer.</p>
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	Narelle Blow from the WDVCS team advises that they are back at court, in Broken Hill, Wilcannia and Wentworth. They also have a new hearing support worker, Michelle, who is available to provide support in ADVO and criminal hearings. Contact the service on 1800 938 227.	
<b>Next meeting</b>	Next meeting is scheduled as an in person meeting for <b>Friday 19 May</b> , may be changed to <b>Thursday 25 May</b> to align with the wills clinic in Wilcannia. Will look into hybrid options for the meeting.	