

Moree CLSD Meeting

17 May 2024 10am online

MINUTES

Present: Kristie Burge (Aboriginal Child and Family Advocacy Service ALS NSW/ACT), Julianne Elliott (Legal Aid NSW), June Golland (Legal Aid NSW), Ben Graham (A/Principal Solicitor North & North West Community Legal Centre), Annabel Nolan (Disability Advocate ACFAS Moree), Nikolai Haddad (ALS NSW/ACT), Katja McPherson (Legal Aid NSW), Holly Graham (Legal Aid NSW), Blossom Pitt (Regional NSW), Darrel Smith (Miyay Birray Youth Service), Kate Halliday (Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT), Winnecke Baker (Legal Aid NSW), Judy Duncan (CLSD Regional Coordinator (ALS NSW/ACT)), Jeremy Mills (Dept Education), Sam Shipman (Northcott), Paula Jackson (ACFAS, Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT), Lucinda Walder (Legal Aid NSW), Denise Ranby (Thiyama-li Family Violence Prevention Legal Service), Kellie Ward (Flourish Australia), Shirley May Swan (Thiyama-li), Angelia Graham (Aboriginal Community and Client Support Officer - ASU), Angie Swan (Thiyama-li), Anthony Cowan, Kate Bromley (Legal Aid NSW Tamworth), Michelle Rimmington (FamAC).

Apologies: Denise Haines (NSW Health), Laura Lombardo (G & T Law), Sean Suey-Thorne (NSW Revenue), Jemima McCaughan (ALS), Rachel Palmer (DCJ), Kristy Martland (Flourish Australia), Glen Crump (Miyay Birray), Kelly James (IDRS), Anne Edwards (Healthwise), Kerry Macey (Bamara), Jenee Smith (Flourish Australia), Louise Coady (ALS), Jessica Trappel (ALS), Gail Simpson (NSW Tafe), Tori Dixon (Centacare), Helen McWilliams (NSW Police), Ann Holden (AFCAS), Bianca Mills (Pius X), Rachel Missen (Regional NSW), Dominic Holles (ALS), Elizabeth Taylor (Dept Education), Nibesh Maharjan (Healthwise), Wendy Blaker (Dept Education), Kylie Stirling (Asuira), Kerri Anne Dettmann (Best Employment), Toni Johnston (AA), Bubby Hippi (Winangali Infusion), Toni Ann Hart (AHO), Alex Baker (Dept Education), Crystal Robinson (Community Corrections), Bernadette Terry (DCJ), Bianca Dufty (NSW Legal Aid), Tamara Kenny (CLSAC), Russell Cook (Byamee), Lloyd Munro (Community).

Agenda item	Discussion	Action/Outcome
Opening and purpose	Judy opened the meeting acknowledging elders and Country.	

<p>Guest Speakers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT Child and Family Advocacy Service (ACFAS)</p> <p>Kristie Burge (Program Manager) and Kate Halliday (Managing Solicitor)</p> <p>Service Aim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide early advice to parents or carers when DCJ has had contact with a family. • To support families during latter stages of involvement with DCJ, for example during Family Group Conferences, formal negotiations, restoration applications/procedures or litigation. <p>Location</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service works out of the Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT offices in Dubbo and Moree. • Footprint extends much further afield to Mudgee, Lightning Ridge, Tenterfield and surrounds. <p>Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kate is based in Dubbo and travels to Moree. • Working to recruit 4 more solicitors. • There are several advocates who have come from social service work and 3 admin staff. <p>Contact Details Reception: 02 6841 6969 Legal enquiries: Kate.halliday@alsnswact.org.au 0459 050 730</p> <p>Meeting with DCJ in Moree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kate and Kristie had a casual meeting with staff from DCJ in Moree this week. One issue that came up was the legal needs of young people aged 16-17 who 	<p>All - Kate will do a follow-up email to DCJ and include information about civil law referrals, if you want to include</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority clients include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, people with disabilities, young people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. <p>Community Legal Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Organisations have a positive duty to eradicate sexual harassment in their organisation.</i> • Solicitors can provide training for groups (including school groups), organisations and community workers. • They can also speak to you or your staff about sexual harassment and discrimination, what it is and how the law can help. • The workshop for community workers is a morning – would love to deliver this in Moree before the end of this year or early next. • Use the referral form on this webpage to contact the team. <p>Other referral options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT Employment Law Service can assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with these issues. Phone: 1800 765 767 or Email: civil@alsnswact.org.au • North and Northwest Community Legal Service can help too: 1800 687 687 	
<p>Updates</p>	<p>NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sittings will recommence in Moree in September this year. <p>Community Legal Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julianne is available to deliver training about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal issues related to education, and - Support person training, for people who would like to act as support people for young people who are arrested by police and don't have an adult in their lives to contact. 	

Work and Development Order Service Legal Aid NSW

June Golland (Community Engagement Officer) and Lucinda Walder (Solicitor)

- Moree is top priority for this financial year as it has closest to the highest fine debt per capita in the state, \$3,657,933 (shared between 1,543 customers).
- Most concerning part for Legal Aid is that most people are managing fines through Centrepay, which is money coming directly from people's Centrelink payments.
- June and Lucina aim to raise awareness of the WDO scheme, connect with sponsors, recruit sponsors, and really try and get to the bottom of why there is such low access to the scheme in Moree.
- Have delivered training for WDO sponsors who are inactive or have staff who don't know how the scheme works, which happens readily due to high staff turnover, and approaching services who might want to deliver WDOs.
- Plan to be in Moree in October in same week as FAMAC and CLSAC.
- Blossom noted community connect day in Moree is on Friday 11 October.

Revenue NSW Collaboration – Targeted outreach promotion

- Judy and the CLSD Program Unit met with Matt Baker (Manager Supported Customers and Outreach Fines and Debt, Nathan Murray (Senior Coordinator Outreach Team) and Sean Suey-Thorne (Aboriginal Customer Advisory Officer) in July to discuss our request that they consider how they can help to promote the availability of legal help/solutions to people with fine debt and Transport NSW licence or business restrictions.
- We also asked for data for which people have received those restrictions.
- Mat is looking at whether they have mobile phone numbers and/or email addresses for those people with restrictions which Revenue NSW could use to

Winnie – connect Revenue NSW and ALS Fines Service with WDO team about opportunities to coordinate October outreach

	<p>contact people to encourage them to seek help at legal clinics and pop-up events in Moree.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We agreed to possible events to offer people help with licence and business restrictions at this Q3 meeting. This could be the WDO Service outreach in October. • We also agreed that any direct communications with this target group could be complemented by social media messaging, and that the Legal Aid NSW digital communications team may be able assist here. <p>Legal Aid NSW Office in Moree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have secured a shop front at Suite 3, 25 Auburn Street. The fit out will start on 5 September. • Initially will be used as a base for longstanding visiting services from FAMAC and CLSAC. Have approval to recruit an admin and a community liaison role but want to consult more on these positions. • Need to talk with legal assistance colleagues from ALS, private law firms, CLC about the best mix of services for Legal Aid NSW to provide. • Met with the Premiers Coordination team and have requested to speak with the ACCO-led governance group about the services that Legal Aid should provide. • Initial focus will be on meeting Legal Aid NSW's obligations for representation of people not eligible for, conflicted out of existing services in Moree and/or where services don't exist or are too far away in Tamworth. 	
<p>Emerging issues/legal needs</p>	<p>Youth Crime – Premiers Governance Group/Bail Accommodation Program Operational Advisory Group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Judy will share media release from Government regarding allocation of funds - \$1M for after-hours services for young people. Three organisations have been successful in obtaining that funding, the PCYC, Shae Academy and Miyay Birray. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The bail accommodation is out for selected tender targeting ACCOs. - Judy has secured Pia Van der Zandt and Carroll Thomas from DCJ to talk at the Q4 CLSD meeting. <p>Boggabilla Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transport for elders to access groceries has been raised as an issue. - Judy is going to speak to the local drug arm service that has a bus and the community care sector to see whether there is an opportunity to provide regular transport, so people aren't out of pocket. 	
Next Meeting	15th November 2024 - Dhiyaan Centre - 38 Albert Street Moree 10.00am to 1.00pm includes lunch	