NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Recently published...

In May 2013 the Centre launched its new resource **Pro Bono Partnerships and Models: A Practical Guide to What Works** which provides practical information on what makes collaborative pro bono projects work well.

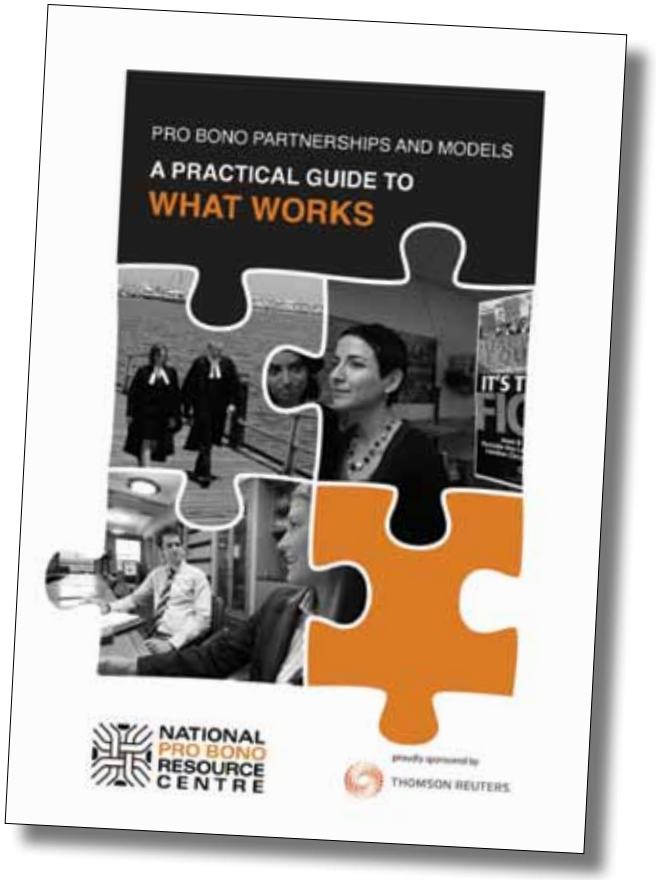
What Works aims to promote a better understanding across the legal profession, the community and government as to how pro bono legal services work with a view to enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of pro bono legal support. Those who find it useful include firms looking to improve how they manage their pro bono legal program, lawyers looking for ways to become involved in pro bono work, and community organisations who might benefit from pro bono assistance.

What Works has been well received and positive feedback has been come from different perspectives both nationally and internationally.

"A concise and well thought out resource that provides a wonderful back up for pro bono lawyers and law firm pro bono coordinators who are guiding their firms towards developing strategic opportunities and more innovative pathways. I will be able to use this resource to demonstrate what is possible to achieve in pro bono."
Jillian Mitford-Burgess, Pro Bono Senior Associate at Henry Davis York

"As a review of pro bono in Australia today, this guide goes into unparalleled detail to give an in-depth and genuine account of the state-of-play. It would be a mistake to think that it is only applicable to the Australian context though. Many of the lessons, challenges and tensions expressed in it are just as relevant in jurisdictions across the globe and are consistent with A4ID's experience of brokering international pro bono to fight global poverty. I would encourage anybody with an interest in legal pro bono, whether as a provider or NGO looking to establish pro bono links, to read and digest it."
Yasmin Batliwala, CEO of A4ID

"What Works is an incredibly useful publication – it sets out why Pro Bono services are so fundamental to the NFP sector. For NFPs it gives an easy to understand guide on who is doing what and where to find help. Similarly for law firms who might be considering taking on pro bono work, it is a great guide as to what might be involved and what helps NFPs the most."
Katie Wood, Legal and Governance Manager at Amnesty International Australia



Cover image: From *Pro Bono Partnerships and Models: A Practical Guide to What Works*, available at www.nationalprobono.org.au

Index

Chair's message	3
Director's report	4
State/Territory based activities	6
Projects & programs	7
Staff & interns	13
Board & Advisory Council	14
Centre Media Mentions and Articles	16
Financial reports	17

The Centre has adopted the following principles in relation to pro bono services:

- ***Pro bono should operate to complement and not be a substitute for properly funded government funded legal services.***
- ***The planning, design and provision of pro bono services should be determined by reference to the needs of socially and/or economically disadvantaged people.***
- ***Pro bono work should always be done to the same standards of attention, priority and professional performance as fee paying work.***
- ***Pro bono practice is a voluntary activity.***
- ***Government has a vital role in encouraging, supporting and facilitating pro bono initiatives.***

Graphic design: Imminent Media Design Pty Ltd, Sydney. www.imminent.com.au
Cover design: Adriana Simonin

Chair's message

Since the beginning of this Century the Australian pro bono sector has become increasingly organised, dynamic, and sophisticated. New models of pro bono service delivery have emerged, the large and medium law firms have become more strategic in how they manage their growing pro bono programs, the state-based pro bono clearing houses have grown and developed, and in-house lawyers are increasingly looking for ways to engage in pro bono legal service. At the same time many small firms and sole practitioners strive to respond to unmet legal need in the areas where they practice.

However, while I have said this before,we must never lose sight of the importance and responsibility we have as lawyers and human beings, to provide pro bono legal assistance to the poor, vulnerable and marginalised in order to strive for fairness and equity within our community.

This year the Centre adopted a new mission statement that captures its role as an independent centre of expertise. The Centre's central aim is to grow the capacity of the Australian legal profession to provide pro bono legal services that are focused on increasing access to justice for socially disadvantaged and/or marginalised persons, and furthering the public interest in this area.

The Centre's research indicates that the Australian legal profession is doing more pro bono work and this work is playing an increasingly important role in providing access to justice for those who would not otherwise be able to obtain it. An increasing number of hours per lawyer was reported in the Centre's biennial National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey. There has also been a sharp increase in the number of firms signing up to the National Pro Bono Aspirational Target. A key factor influencing the decision of many firms to sign up to the Target was the inclusion of the pro bono requirements in the application process for the Commonwealth Legal Services Multi-Use List (LSMUL).

However pro bono is a limited resource. The pro bono community in Australia has been built around the fundamental premise that the primary responsibility of ensuring access to justice is within the reach of every Australian lies with the government, Federal and State. The voluntary nature of pro bono legal assistance means that it cannot be a substitute for adequate government funding of the legal assistance sector.

To make a real difference with the limited pro bono resources available, pro bono legal service providers need to constantly strive to be strategic about targeting unmet legal need. With the release of the results of the Legal Australia-Wide (LAW) Survey, conducted by the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW, we have more information available about legal need in Australia than ever before. The challenge for the pro bono community in Australia is to use that information when developing new projects and programs to ensure they are responding to a real unmet need, in a way that provides positive outcomes for clients and communities. This is easier said than done.

This is where the Centre, as a national centre of expertise, plays an important role. This year, the Centre published a new resource *Pro Bono Partnerships and Models – A Practical Guide to* ***What Works***, which showcases a variety of innovative and effective pro bono projects being undertaken by Australian lawyers in pro bono partnerships. *What Works* draws on the expertise of over 80 stakeholders, including those who work directly with the need and can help pro bono providers to link to it, and it encourages best practice in the provision of pro bono legal services.

This work and the Centre's other policy and research activities, as outlined in John Corker's report, have continued to facilitate the focused development of the pro bono capacity of the Australian legal profession.

I wish to thank the Centre's Director, John Corker, and the staff Leanne, Maria and Daniel, for their contribution to the Centre. I do this each year. However the current team is an outstanding team of focused talent and understanding of legal pro bono. Their dedication, capabilities and hard work have enabled the Centre to produce a number of excellent resources this year. I also wish to thank my fellow Board members for their competence and commitment to the Centre, and the Advisory Council members for their valuable input into the ongoing strategic planning processes of the Centre.

Peter Stapleton
December 2013

Peter Stapleton, Chair of the NPBRC, and John Corker, Executive Director, at the Welcome to the Fourth National Access to Justice & Pro Bono Conference, Government House, Melbourne.

Director's report

John Corker with The Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria welcoming delegates to the Fourth National Access to Justice & Pro Bono Conference at Government House, Melbourne (photo by David Johns, courtesy of Law Institute of Victoria)

In the 2012-2013 year, the Centre produced a significant new resource aimed at encouraging best practice in the provision of pro bono legal services in collaborative partnerships and a broader understanding of how different models of delivering pro bono really work. This resource, *Pro Bono Partnerships and Models: A Practical Guide to* ***What Works*** has been well received on all fronts, with positive reviews coming from community legal centres and not-for-profit organisations using it to help them obtain assistance through a pro bono partnership, as well as pro bono providers and brokers. I have been particularly pleased to obtain feedback from some mid-size firms that they have found this publication useful in seeking to strategically develop and expand their pro bono programs.

What Works carefully details the lessons learned from the experience of pro bono partnerships and projects from different perspectives, and identifies the features that make these effective. It confirms the idea that good relationships are at the heart of good pro bono programs. If you are reading this report we welcome our relationship with you and request that you actively promote this resource and our other resources. It is through this word-of-mouth collegiate approach, being open to developing better ways of doing pro bono, that the pro bono culture in Australia will continue to be strengthened.

Perhaps surprisingly, in a year when the legal services market in Australia was subject to increased competition, mergers, new entrants and a difficult economy, our *National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey* results and Aspirational Target report both indicated the Australian legal profession's strong and growing commitment to pro bono work. Congratulations to all of you who have worked so hard to achieve this result.

However, the Centre believes that there is still considerable scope to increase the pro bono performance of the Australian legal profession. Our work in this regard continues, with a focus on the parts of the profession where we believe there is the greatest potential for growth, mid-size firms being one of these areas. While there are some great examples of mid-size firms improving their performance this year, there are also examples of firms that have not progressed. Our work to encourage best practice in the provision of pro bono legal services is not just about an increase in the amount of pro bono hours, but also about encouraging increased effectiveness in strategically targeting unmet legal need.

The Centre's biennial *National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey* provides a longitudinal picture of the pro bono performance and participation of law firms with 50 or more lawyers and also evidences important trends in practice and policy. One interesting finding from the survey report published this year was that on average 63% of all pro bono work is being done for organisations with only 37% being done for individual clients. This finding highlights the need for pro bono providers to remain open to the possibility of pro bono legal assistance in matters where an individual has suffered an acute injustice. Such cases still go to the heart of the underlying reason why lawyers should provide pro bono legal services, that is to provide access to justice to individuals who cannot obtain it elsewhere.

This year marked the fifth anniversary of the Centre's flagship program, the National Pro Bono Aspirational Target. Since the publication of the First Annual Aspirational Target Performance Report in 2008, the number of legal professionals covered by the Target has almost trebled and the number of hours of pro bono legal work undertaken by signatories has almost doubled. This is a great result. It should also be acknowledged that the significant increase in the number of signatories to the Target this year is an indication that the pro bono conditions in the application process to be on the Commonwealth Legal Services Multi-Use list (LSMUL) have had a positive effect in encouraging firms to sign up to the Target.

The Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria, welcomes guests to the Fourth National Access to Justice & Pro Bono Conference, Government House, Melbourne (photo by David Johns, courtesy of Law Institute of Victoria)

Director's report

The Centre made submissions to various inquiries and provided policy advice to the Commonwealth Attorney General on a range of measures that the government could take to further promote the development of pro bono legal services for those experiencing disadvantage. The government was responsive to this advice; for example it changed the LSMUL conditions to require firms with 50 or more lawyers to become signatories to the Target from 1 July 2014. This will further strengthen the Target's role in growing the pro bono performance of Australian lawyers.

I was proud to co-chair the fourth biennial Access to Justice and Pro Bono Conference held in Melbourne in March 2013 with the theme of "communicating justice". This conference continues to grow in stature and size. What makes it unique, but also presents its key challenge, is that it brings together such a diverse range of participants from law firms of all sizes, legal aid commissions, professional legal associations, government, the judiciary, the bar, community legal centres, universities, as well as international visitors. The conference sessions are planned with a view to providing value to all. However, like many other conferences, much of the value is obtained from the networking between delegates that provides opportunities to form relationships that lead to working cooperatively and collaboratively with colleagues across the legal assistance sector.

One highlight of my year was the opportunity to give a speech on the state of pro bono in Australia in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of Queensland in Brisbane during Law Week. I would like to thank QPILCH and the UQ Pro Bono Centre for this opportunity and inviting me to Walk for Justice with them the following morning. The Walk for Justice, now in its sixth year, continues to provide a great opportunity in Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane and Townsville to celebrate the pro bono work undertaken by the Australian legal profession. The Centre continues to advocate that other Australian cities should join the Walk for Justice.

The Centre continued to work closely with all stakeholders within the legal profession to obtain information on pro bono legal service provision. This informs the work of the Centre, enabling it to identify opportunities for pro bono legal services to effectively respond to unmet legal needs and work to address constraints to pro bono service delivery. A collaboration strategy with pro bono clearing houses was established this year with a view to greater collaboration and efficiency (see below).

Throughout the year, the wonderful staff of the Centre attended many meetings, conferences, seminars and workshops where we chaired sessions, made presentations and participated to support and promote pro bono legal services in Australia. The information on the following pages explains in greater detail the range of activities in which we have engaged in the past year.

I would like to thank my staff for all the hard work, enthusiasm and dedication they have shown in the past year.

Board and Advisory Council

I would also like to thank all Board and Advisory Council members for their contribution during the year. The Centre's annual face-to-face Board and Advisory Council meeting was held in November 2012. These meetings make an invaluable contribution to focussing the Centre's work and adjusting priority areas in accordance with the Centre's Strategic Plan.

I would also like to thank the Centre's Chair, Peter Stapleton for his leadership and support.

John Corker
Director

John Corker and Themis (the Greek goddess of Justice) played by Karen Dyhrberg, Referrals Coordinator, QPILCH at the Brisbane Walk for Justice.

State/Territory based activities

Themis (Karen Dyhrberg, Referrals Coordinator, QPILCH), The Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Chief Justice of Queensland and The Honourable Jarrod Bleijie MP, Attorney-General of Queensland at the Brisbane Walk for Justice

A state by state report is provided, recognising the funding that the Centre receives from each State and Territory through the National Justice CEOs' forum. Our activities in various states and territories inform the Centre's national perspective and allow us to identify where there are opportunities to share knowledge, increase efficiencies, and avoid unnecessary duplication.

Consultations undertaken during the process of conducting research for the Centre's major projects included meetings with key stakeholders in every state and territory. The Director also presented on the results of the Centre's biennial *National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey* in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

In **NSW**, the Director presented with Michelle Hannon, Partner for Pro Bono Services and Corporate Responsibility at Gilbert + Tobin, on pro bono and ADR at a NSW Law Society breakfast event, the NSW Law Society President's charity event. The Centre's staff also attended meetings with the pro bono coordinators from large law firms, and the Legal Information and Referral Forum hosted by the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW. The Centre maintained its relationship with the NSW based pro bono clearing houses, PILCH NSW (now merged with PILCH Victoria to form Justice Connect), The NSW Law Society pro bono scheme, and the NSW Bar Legal Assistance Scheme, as well as the Cancer Council NSW legal referral service and Salvos Legal.

In **Victoria**, the Centre co-hosted the fourth National Access to Justice and Pro Bono Conference in Melbourne (see report below). The Centre maintained its close relationship with PILCH Victoria (now merged with PILCH NSW to form Justice Connect), and met with various organisations and firms including the Federation of Community Legal Centres and the Department of Justice. The Director attended the National Children's and Youth Law Awards at Mallesons in Melbourne.

In **Queensland**, the Director had the privilege of giving a speech on the state of pro bono in Australia in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of Queensland in Brisbane, and walked with Queenslanders the following morning in the Walk for Justice. The Centre continued to work closely with QPILCH on various matters.

In **South Australia**, the Director attended and presented at the National Australian Lawyers Alliance Conference held in Adelaide and Centre staff visited Welfare Rights Centre SA's Housing Legal Clinic. The Centre maintained its close relationship with JusticeNet SA.

In **Tasmania**, the Centre project-managed one of the NBN Regional Legal Assistance Program pilot projects, in partnership with Hobart Community Legal Service (HCLS) and DLA Piper, for the purpose of documenting and sharing lessons learned about use of high-speed internet to deliver legal assistance. The NBN-based legal assistance service was located at HCLS's outreach office in Sorell, with lawyers from DLA Piper providing advice to clients referred by HCLS, and delivering training and mentoring assistance to HCLS solicitors, using Skype video-conferencing technology. Centre staff attended the launch of the service by then Attorney-General, Nicola Roxon, in Hobart. Again the Centre maintained its relationship with the pro bono clearing house based at the Tasmanian Law Society.

In **Western Australia**, the Director provided input for the feasibility study on the establishment of a new pro bono clearing house in WA being conducted by Kalico Consulting for the Law Society of Western Australia and attended a forum with practitioners in Perth to discuss various options.

In the **ACT**, the Director attended and presented at the Public Sector In-House Counsel Conference in Canberra, conducted a radio interview with Louise Maher on drive time Canberra ABC radio following the media release of the Centre's biennial *National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey* results, and met with the ACT Law Society in relation to operation of their pro bono clearing house.

Projects & programs

John Corker with the winners of the 2012 Pro Bono Partnership Award: Anna Cody, Director, Kingsford Legal Centre and Annette Bain, Pro Bono Counsel, Herbert Smith Freehills and Executive Director, Freehills Foundation at the 2012 Justice Awards, Parliament House, Sydney (photo courtesy of Law and Justice Foundation of NSW)

Reports of the Centre's projects and programs are grouped according to the key objectives of the Centre, as detailed in its Strategic Plan.

1. Promoting pro bono work throughout the legal profession

- **National Pro Bono Aspirational Target ('Target')** – This year was the fifth anniversary of the Target. The Target now covers 7,672 full-time equivalent (FTE) lawyers, or approximately 13% of the Australian legal profession. The number of signatories increased from 66 to 95 during the financial year (an increase of 44%). The pro bono conditions included in the application process to be included in the Commonwealth Legal Services Multi-Use list (LSMUL) was a significant factor influencing the decision of many firms to become signatories. Collectively, signatories to the Target undertook 262,662 hours of pro bono work, equating to an average of 34.2 hours per lawyer per year.

  The key aims of introducing the Target were to raise the profile of a lawyer's professional responsibility to enhance access to justice for those who would not otherwise access legal assistance, to highlight the shared nature of that responsibility across the legal profession, and to provide a benchmark for the conduct of pro bono work. Since the publication of the *First Annual Performance Report on the Aspirational Target* in September 2008, the number of legal professionals covered by the Target has almost trebled and the number of hours of pro bono legal work undertaken by signatories has almost doubled.

- **National Access to Justice and Pro Bono Conference** – The Centre co-hosted the fourth National Access to Justice and Pro Bono Conference in Melbourne in March 2013. Over 350 delegates attended the conference to discuss issues facing the access to justice sector. Delegates heard from 60 speakers including international guests from the United Kingdom, Japan, South Africa, Brazil and New Zealand, as well as the then Commonwealth Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus QC and current Attorney-General George Brandis SC (then shadow Attorney-General). The Conference sessions focused around the overarching theme of 'communicating justice' in the delivery of legal assistance, and included a stream dedicated to the discussion of pro bono legal work.

- **Pro Bono Partnership Award NSW** – Once again the Centre sponsored the Pro Bono Partnership Award as part of the annual Justice Awards of the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW. This year, the Pro Bono Partnership Award was presented to the 20 year partnership between Kingsford Legal Centre and Freehills Foundation (part of Herbert Smith Freehills). This partnership has modelled pro bono services to future generations of lawyers, delivered long-term benefits to Kingsford Legal Centre in their provision of clinical legal education and services to disadvantaged clients, and set a benchmark for the evolution of pro bono work over the past twenty years.

- **Walk for Justice** – The Walk for Justice, initiated by the Centre and QPILCH in 2008, was held for the sixth time on 14 May 2013, simultaneously in Sydney, Newcastle, Melbourne, Brisbane, Townsville and Adelaide. Over 2,000 members of the legal community participated in the event, up from 1,700 walkers last year. Walkers around the country included Attorneys-General, Members of Parliament, Judges, Magistrates, lawyers and staff from private firms, legal aid, pro bono clearinghouses and community legal centres, law students and many others. Approximately $120,000 in funds was raised across Australia to support the work of the pro bono clearing houses.

(From the left) Malathi Das, President, Law Asia and Lim Tanguy, Director of Pro Bono Services, Law Society of Singapore at the 1st South East Asia/Asia Pro Bono Conference, Vientiane, Laos.

- **Pro Bono in the Asia Pacific region** – With a number of Australian law firms joining and merging with international law firms, there has been an associated rise in interest in pro bono opportunities, and the development of a pro bono culture, in the countries of the Asia Pacific region.

  The Centre helped organise and participated in the inaugural South East Asia Pro Bono Conference held in Vientiane, Laos on 28 and 29 September 2012 bringing together over 150 delegates from 20 countries. The conference highlighted the importance of pro bono legal work and the pro bono ethos, especially in countries still in the early stages of working to strengthen the rule of law and the culture of the legal profession.

  The Centre maintains its role as a member of the organising committee of this conference, with the second conference being held recently in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and the third planned for October 2014 in Singapore.

- **Law student and law school pro bono** – The Centre continued to update and promote **Social Justice Opportunities** – *A Career Guide for Law Students & New Lawyers*, which was produced in collaboration with the Australian Law Students Association in August 2011 with seed funding from the Law & Justice Foundation of NSW and Victoria Law Foundation, in partnership with Young Lawyers' Committees of Law Societies across Australia and the National Association of Community Legal Centres.

  Social Justice Opportunities is the first national social justice careers resource that lets students and new lawyers know about opportunities in one easy to access guide, with opportunities both within and outside university, and at every stage from being a first year student, through to PLT and graduate positions. While most students and new lawyers are aware of the opportunities that law firms offer, with many firms having a strong presence at universities and careers fairs, information about social justice opportunities is not always so visible. This is particularly true at smaller universities and in regional areas.

  The guide has proven to be very popular, with almost all of the 10,000 guides distributed across the country. The companion website (www.sjopps.net.au) provides further information and resources and also lists current job and volunteering opportunities, updated 3–4 times per week. The site had 15,960 unique visitors in 2011–12 (up from 5,331 the previous year) and 50,815 pageviews (up from 16,741). **Social Justice Opportunities** was launched on Twitter (@SJOpps) and Facebook in March 2012, and as at October 2013 had almost 1,100 Twitter followers and over 450 individual 'likes' and 40 organisation 'likes' on Facebook.

- **Other conferences and meetings** – Other Australian conferences and meetings in which the Centre participated include: the National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC) Conference in Adelaide in August 2012, where the Centre again presented the report on its research into pro bono and helping people who are experiencing disadvantage in alternative dispute resolution (ADR), and the National Rural/Regional Law and Justice Conference in Coffs Harbour in November.

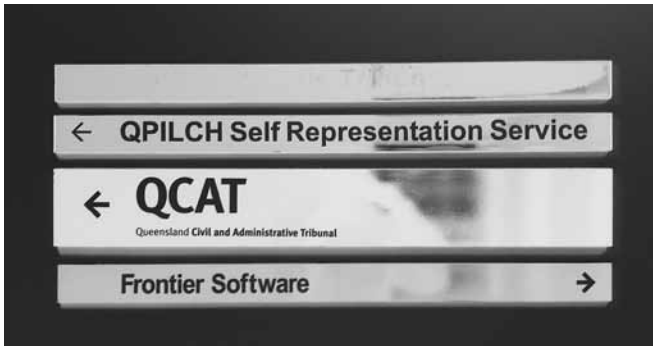
  The Centre staff also attended meetings with the NACLC, Victorian Federation of Community Legal Centres, CLCNSW, Commonwealth Attorney-General's International Pro Bono Advisory Group, Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, individual law firm pro bono coordinators, Public Interest Law Clearing House NSW (PILCH NSW), Public Interest Law Clearing House (Vic) (PILCH), Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House (QPILCH), JusticeNet South Australia, Australian Corporate Lawyers' Association (ACLA), Australian Lawyers Alliance (ALA), Victorian Pro Bono Secretariat, Legal Information and Referral Forum NSW, Legal Aid Commissions, and Law Societies in Queensland, South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania as well as the offices of many law firms in various states.

- **Collaboration with pro bono clearing houses** – Australian pro bono clearing houses and referral schemes ('clearing houses') facilitate the efficient provision of pro bono legal advice by acting as an intermediary between people or organisations needing legal assistance and lawyers prepared and able to assist. A clearing house's role is focused on engaging their members (or participating lawyers) in client service delivery.

  By contrast, the Centre does not provide pro bono legal services, nor does it serve as a client referral agency for such work. Its focus is on growing the capacity of the Australian legal profession to provide pro bono legal services through activities such as research, advocacy, conferences, the Aspirational Target, publications and guides.

Projects & programs

The Centre and the clearing houses share the common goal of building the pro bono culture across the profession. At times they undertake common activities that require liaison and provide opportunities for collaboration. For example, this year the Centre liaised with QPILCH in relation to an application for Australian Research Council funding to study self-represented litigants.



Directions to the QPILCH Self Representation Service at the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal

This year, the Centre developed a structured collaboration strategy ('the strategy') with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of its liaison and collaboration with the Australian pro bono clearing houses to maximise the use of public resources by avoiding any unnecessary duplication of functions.

The strategy identifies and explains the forms of structured collaboration between the Centre and the clearing houses. These are:

- **Governance** – Justice Connect, the Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House (QPILCH) and JusticeNet SA have the right to jointly appoint a director to the Centre's board. The Law Society of Western Australia, being a founder of the Centre, and manager of the WA Law Access pro bono scheme has a right to appoint a director.
- **Meetings** – the Centre attends regular meetings with Justice Connect, QPILCH and JusticeNet SA, and visits the staff of other clearing houses on a periodic basis particularly if Centre staff are visiting the relevant state or territory for any other reason.
- **Information exchange** – the Centre routinely collects information from a broad variety of sources during the course of its work. Clearing houses are a key source of information for some projects. The Centre aims to publish its newsletter monthly which is sent to each clearing house. It receives newsletters and other regular public communications from each clearing house where they exist.
- **Joint activities** – the Centre will seek to plan and implement joint activities with clearing houses where appropriate, such as jointly hosted seminars, publications, submissions or events.
- **Cross-promotion** – Both the Centre and the clearing houses have resources, projects, programs and events that should be promoted in order to build pro bono culture in the Australian legal profession and to make lawyers aware of the support and opportunities that exist for them to be involved. In order to do this, the Centre maintains an up-to-date awareness and knowledge of clearing house operations, projects, programs and events and brings these to the attention of lawyers and law firms as appropriate. The Centre has requested clearing houses to do the same in respect of the Centre's operations, resources, projects, programs and events.

Further, the strategy identifies three key areas where liaison with the clearing houses will occur. These are: advocating for law reform to address constraints on pro bono service delivery; providing practical advice to lawyers and law firms to support their efforts to increase the quantity, quality and impact of their pro bono work; and the development of new and innovative pro bono projects and partnership models.

2. Providing assistance and support to existing and potential service providers

- **Meeting with law firms to discuss current issues and development of their pro bono practice**

The Centre met with a number of firms during the year, particularly mid-tier firms and those who were new signatories to the Aspirational Target. The Centre provided advice to these firms on best practice and opportunities for developing their pro bono practices. The Centre has also liaised or met at some time during the year with each of the national pro bono coordinators of the large law firms.

- **NBN Legal Service – Southern Tasmania**. In partnership with Hobart Community Legal Service (HCLS) and DLA Piper, the Centre project managed one of the NBN Regional Legal Assistance Program pilot projects which involved providing an NBN-based legal assistance service from HCLS's outreach office in Sorell, which is an area of considerable social disadvantage outside of Hobart. Using Skype video-conferencing technology, lawyers from DLA Piper provided advice to clients referred by HCLS when the matter was not within HCLS's expertise and delivered training and mentoring assistance to HCLS solicitors.

  One of the key successes of the project was the use of video conferencing technology by pro bono lawyers to provide mentoring and professional development to build the capacity of HCLS solicitors. DLA delivered highly successful training in industrial relations, privilege and ethics which included some interactive question and answer time, leveraging existing DLA training modules that could be easily adapted to suit HCLS's needs. This interaction helped to build rapport between the HCLS and DLA Piper lawyers which facilitated an ongoing mentoring relationship that has continued the grow since the pilot project was completed on 30 June 2013.

3. Making available information and resources to assist pro bono service providers

- **National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey** – The Centre conducted its third biennial *National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey* of Australian firms with 50 or more lawyers in August 2012 and produced an Interim Report in October 2012 and Final Report in January 2013. Thirty-six of the 51 firms identified in this category responded to the Survey, including all nine of the largest national firms, representing 11,460 FTE lawyers (up 10% from 2010) or approximately 19 percent of the Australian legal profession. The survey aims to obtain a picture of pro bono work in Australia from the perspective of large and mid-size law firms and to elicit information about practice and policy issues. The survey is conducted every two years in order to provide a longitudinal picture of the pro bono work done by law firms in Australia.

  The respondent firms collectively provided 343,058 hours of pro bono legal work in the 2011/2012 financial year, or 29.9 hours per lawyer per annum, up 0.9 hours per lawyer from the 2010 Survey despite the significant structural changes that had taken place in the sector (including 12 firms merging or joining with other firms during the year).

Leanne Ho, Yvette Eddington, Solicitor, Hobart Community Legal Service, John Corker, Jane Hutchison, Manager, Hobart Community Legal Service and Dan Creasy, Asia Pacific Pro Bono Manager and Pro Bono Counsel, DLA Piper on a NBN Legal Service planning day at Hobart Community Legal Service's outreach office in Sorell

The Reports divided firms in to Group A (9 firms with more than 450 FTE lawyers), Group B (11 firms with 201–350 lawyers) and Group C (16 with 50–200 lawyers), which served to highlight the differences between pro bono programs of different sizes and levels of sophistication and maturity. They revealed that 63% of pro bono work undertaken by these firms was performed for organisations rather than individuals, and that 53% of work was sourced outside of pro bono referral schemes, PILCHs and community legal centres.

- **Australian Pro Bono Manual** – The Centre continued to update and promote its flagship publication, the *Australian Pro Bono Manual*. The Manual is available in hard copy and an electronic version is maintained and updated on the Centre's website. Web visits to the Manual were constant throughout the year and the precedent letters and policies were regularly downloaded. The Centre is seeking funding support that would enable it to produce a third edition of the Guide in the next year.

- **Pro Bono Partnerships and Models – A Practical Guide to What Works** – The Centre launched its new resource *Pro Bono Partnerships and Models: A Practical Guide to* ***What Works*** in May 2013. It provides a detailed yet accessible explanation of models used by collaborative partnerships to deliver pro bono legal assistance, discussing the benefits and challenges involved in using each model, and highlighting the features of effective projects using each model. Drawn from consultations with over 80 stakeholders with extensive experience in pro bono partnerships, the included case studies not only bring each model to life with real life experiences, but also showcase the extent and variety of innovative and effective pro bono projects being undertaken by Australian lawyers. The resource is intended to provide helpful tips to those seeking, providing and brokering pro bono legal assistance on how to attract and maintain effective pro bono partnerships and to encourage best practice in the use of each model.

Projects & programs

Brisbane policeman on a bicycle with Joel Moss, Ashurst Australia during the Brisbane Walk for Justice 2013.

- **Research into pro bono legal services in family law and family violence** – This year, one of the Centre's major research projects focused on the provision of pro bono legal services in family law and the area of family violence. The aim of this research project was to identify, specifically in the areas of family law and family violence: 1) what pro bono work is currently being done in these areas; 2) what are the reasons for pro bono service providers not taking on matters in family law/ family violence; 3) where pro bono assistance may be appropriate in responding to legal need in these areas; and 4) what the limitations of and opportunities for pro bono assistance are in these areas. The research report *Pro Bono Legal Services in Family Law and Family Violence: Understanding the limitations and opportunities*, was published in October 2013.

  The purpose of the research is to contribute to policy development in the area of family law and family violence by providing a resource that increases the understanding of stakeholders of the nature, possibilities and limitations of pro bono legal services. The research included structured interviews with over 60 stakeholders with a direct involvement in pro bono and/or the family law system, including specialist family law practitioners, community legal centres, legal aid commissions, large and mid-size law firms, the federal family courts, pro bono clearing houses and referral schemes, the police, government bodies and legal academics.

- **Professional Indemnity Insurance for In-house Lawyers** – The Centre continued to approve applications for professional indemnity insurance under its National Pro Bono PI Insurance Scheme (the Scheme) with more than 40 projects approved as at 30 June 2013. The Scheme facilitates the involvement of in-house counsel in pro bono work by insuring lawyers and paralegals who do pro bono legal work on projects approved by the Centre. The Scheme removes one of the key constraints to pro bono, namely the need for in-house lawyers to have professional indemnity insurance to cover them for any civil claims arising from such work. The policy, underwritten by LawCover, is now accepted as appropriate PI insurance in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia. Details of the projects covered by the Scheme can be found on the Centre's website.

- **Centre's website** – The Centre continued to promote and enhance its website. The website contains current pro bono news and resources such as information for the public on how to find legal help, information for pro bono lawyers (including the law firm directory, the *Australian Pro Bono Manual* and the National Pro Bono Aspirational Target), CLCs, Legal Aid, ATSILs, and law students. It also contains many publications and research reports. During the financial year, the website had 31,345 visits up from 29,073 the previous year. There were 94,185 page views, up from 92,712 the previous year.

- **National Pro Bono News** – The Centre assembled and published a range of materials on its website and in the Centre's e-newsletter, *National Pro Bono News*, to make information available to the profession on pro bono practice in Australia and overseas. During the year, seven editions of *National Pro Bono News* were distributed to approximately 850 subscribers.

- **Social Needs Directory: socialneeds.net.au** – The inspiration for this resource arose from a desire to provide pro bono legal service providers with a research tool that could assist them in reviewing and developing their programs, and in prioritising limited resources to meet unmet legal need. Following production of a *Social Needs Report* published in July 2010 and considering the feedback on that publication, it was decided to develop an online database in collaboration with the Australian Council of Social Service. The interactive database, used by both the community and legal sectors, provides an easily navigable and searchable directory of over 500 key reports and submissions concerning social needs in Australia since 2007.

socialneeds.net.au

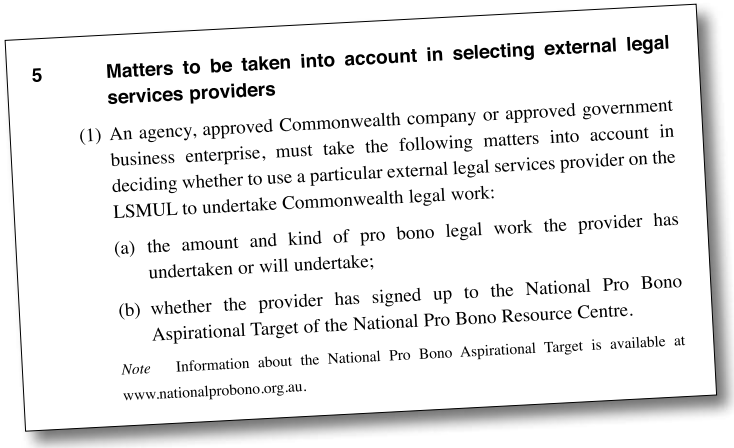
4. Promoting pro bono law to government, community organisations and the general public

- **Raising the profile of pro bono** – The release of the National Pro Bono Law Firm Survey results, the launch of the *Fifth Performance Report on the National Pro Bono Aspirational Target* in September 2012, the publication of the *Pro Bono Partnerships and Models – A Practical Guide to* ***What Works*** and other media, presentations and discussions during the year (see media mentions) increased community awareness and generated discussion in the media on pro bono services. Centre staff also presented at the national CLC conference that resulted in new productive pro bono networks being formed.
- **Raising awareness about pro bono legal services** – The Centre continued to raise awareness of pro bono legal services by updating its Guides and Directories and by writing articles for several publications. The Centre has also contributed information to the *Australia and New Zealand CLC Directory* on pro bono services, and continues to participate in many cross-sector networks including CLCs, Legal Aid and Indigenous Legal Organisations (ILOs) to raise awareness about pro bono services and any relevant issues.
- **CLC Volunteers** – The Centre, in collaboration with NACLC, continues to maintain and update the CLC Volunteers website (located at www.clcvolunteers.net.au). This site provides information on the volunteering opportunities available at 226 community legal centres and other legal services around the country. The number of unique visitors to the site was 27,917 (up from 23,898 the previous year) with 183,698 pages viewed (compared with 155,518 the previous year). The Centre provides a 5–day service guarantee for any requested updates from CLCs.
- **Addressing systemic constraints and participating in policy development** – The Centre provided a submission to the *Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs Inquiry into the Impact of Federal Court Fee Increases since 2010 on Access to Justice in Australia*, advocating for changes to relevant legislation and court rules to support and encourage Australian legal practitioners to undertake pro bono work. The Centre recommended that a fee exempt category should be added to court rules for those 'that are being acted for on a pro bono basis', in order to provide greater efficiency for the courts and save time in reducing the need to complete and assess fee waiver applications in pro bono cases.

The Centre also provided a follow-up submission to the *NSW Law Reform Commission on Consultation Paper 13: Inquiry into costs and associated costs orders*, in response to a request for the Commission requesting further information on a number of issues raised in the Centre's submission to the inquiry made in 2011. The Centre's submission restated the need for law reform to give courts express powers to make public interest costs orders. The NSW Law Reform Commission's Report to the inquiry was tabled in Parliament in March 2013.

- **Pro bono conditions in government tender for legal services** – The Centre continued to provide policy advice to the Commonwealth government regarding the pro bono provisions in the application process for the Commonwealth Legal Services Multi-User List (LSMUL). The pro bono provisions require agencies to consider each applicant's pro bono contribution when awarding tenders, and each applicant must include either a) confirmation that the Applicant subscribes to the National Pro Bono Resource Centre's Aspirational Target; or b) A nominated target value of Pro Bono Work over a financial year.

In accordance with the Centre's policy advice to the Commonwealth Attorney-General's department, as of 1 July 2014, firms with 50 or more lawyers will no longer be able to nominate a target value and will be required to select option a) and ensure that they have signed up to the Target.



5 Matters to be taken into account in selecting external legal services providers

(1) An agency, approved Commonwealth company or approved government business enterprise, must take the following matters into account in deciding whether to use a particular external legal services provider on the LSMUL to undertake Commonwealth legal work:

(a) the amount and kind of pro bono legal work the provider has undertaken or will undertake;

(b) whether the provider has signed up to the National Pro Bono Aspirational Target of the National Pro Bono Resource Centre.

Note Information about the National Pro Bono Aspirational Target is available at www.nationalprobono.org.au.

Clause 5 of Appendix F of the Commonwealth Legal Services Directions 2005.

Staff & interns

John Corker, Executive Director, Leanne Ho, Senior Policy Officer and Maria Twomey, Policy and Research Officer at the 2013 Justice Awards, Parliament House, Sydney (photo courtesy of Law and Justice Foundation of NSW)

John Corker has had a diverse legal career as judge's associate, barrister, Aboriginal Legal Aid lawyer, General Counsel for the Australian Broadcasting Authority and senior associate with Clayton Utz before joining the Centre as Director in 2004. His broad experience across the profession equips him to lead the Centre into its 12th year of operation.

Leanne Ho joined the Centre as Senior Policy Officer and Project Manager in November 2010. Leanne previously worked as a legal advisor to the United Nations Mission in Liberia, and as a legal officer of the Human Rights Advisory Panel and Department of Justice, United Nations Mission in Kosovo. Prior to working at the United Nations, Leanne worked at the Welfare Rights Centre in Sydney as a community education officer and caseworker, and managed publishing projects at legal publisher, Lexis Nexis. Leanne has managed many of the Centre's key projects, policy initiatives and publications, including *What is Social Justice, Alternative Dispute resolution: Assisting People Experiencing Disadvantage* and *Pro Bono Partnerships and Models: A Practical Guide to* ***What Works***.

Maria Twomey joined the Centre as a Policy and Research Officer in March 2008 having worked as a corporate lawyer and pro bono coordinator in her native Finland. Maria has been responsible for designing and conducting many of the Centre's research projects including the *National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey* in 2008 and 2010 and has managed many of the Centre's key projects, policy initiatives and publications, including *Pro Bono Practices Guide – A national guide to the pro bono practices of 30 Australian Law Firms*, *Pro Bono in Australia: an introduction to practical legal training students*, and *Pro bono legal services in family law and family violence: Understanding the limitations and opportunities*.

Daniel Jacobs came in to the Centre as Office Manager in March 2010 but has expanded his duties to become a Project Officer. Dan has many years experience working in government in Melbourne and as Administrator of the Victorian Bar Pro Bono Scheme at PILCH Victoria. In addition to running the office, Dan has been the project manager for the *National Law Firm Pro Bono Survey* in 2012 and for the creation of *Social Justice Opportunities, a career guide for law students and young lawyers* (SJOpps). Under Dan's leadership, SJOpps (in hard copy, on the web, in Facebook and on Twitter), has become an ongoing directory to current social justice jobs and volunteering opportunities around the country.

Interns

The Centre has again been fortunate to have assistance from several interns through its association with the UNSW Law Faculty Social Justice Internship Program, as well as dedicated volunteers ranging from law students to qualified lawyers. Interns and volunteers make significant contributions to the work of the Centre, and in turn gain practical experience in research, writing and advocacy. The Centre thanks all the interns and volunteers who assisted during the 2012–2013 year:

Semester 2 (2012): Emily Tucker, Charles Leung, Jennifer Kwong
Semester 1 (2013): Suzanne Line, Li Lin, Ivana Ukropina

Board & Advisory Council

Board members

Chair: Peter Stapleton

Peter is a Pro Bono Expert on the Board, has been a Board Member since 2004 and was appointed Chair in June 2006. He was instrumental in establishing Blake Dawson Waldron's (now Ashurst's) national pro bono practice, a firm he joined in 1983. He was chair of Redfern Legal Centre for many years in the 1980s and is a Director of Aboriginal Legal Services (NSW/ACT).

Michael Adams

Michael is the nominee of the Council of Australian Law Deans (CALD) on the Board, and was appointed in April 2007. Michael is a Professor of Law and Dean of Law at the University of Western Sydney. Previously, he was a Professor of Corporate Law in the Faculty of Law at the University of Technology, Sydney. Michael has been teaching corporate law in the UK, Australia and USA for over 17 years.

David Bulloch

David is the ACOSS nominee on the board and has been the Managing Lawyer at Westside Community Lawyers since 1993. Westside Community Lawyers is a community legal centre, with four office locations in Adelaide and Port Pirie. David is a graduate of the University of Queensland and worked in two community legal centres in Brisbane in the 1980s. He has served on the Legal Services Commission SA (Legal Aid) as a nominee of the Attorney-General of South Australia, and was a member of the National Legal Aid Advisory Committee in the early 1990s and more recently was a founding committee member of JusticeNet SA.

Andrea De Smidt

Andrea is the nominee of QPILCH, PILCH (VIC), PILCH (NSW) and JusticeNet SA (jointly) and joined the board at the AGM held in November 2011 following the resignation of Fiona McLeay. Andrea is the Self Representation Service Coordinator at QPILCH.

Dominique Hansen

Dominique is the nominee of the WA Law Society and was appointed to the Board in February 2012 following the resignation of Maxina Martellotta. Dominique was a lawyer at Minter Ellison in WA before becoming the Executive Manager – Community Services at the WA Law Society.

Michael Legg

Michael is the University of New South Wales nominee, and was appointed to the board in February 2011. Michael joined the UNSW Law Faculty as a Senior Lecturer in 2009, after more than 10 years in practice in leading Australian and US law firms, and is now an Associate Professor. Michael is an expert in Civil Procedure, Regulatory Litigation, Corporate and Securities Law, the US Legal System and Comparative Civil Procedure, and has represented a number of ASX200 companies in Australia and Fortune 500 companies in the US in compliance, liability, patent and bankruptcy matters.

Michelle Hannon

Michelle was nominated by the Sydney based Pro Bono Coordinators and joined the Board in May 2004 and was reappointed in December 2007 and at the AGM in 2010. Michelle is the Pro Bono Partner at Gilbert + Tobin. She has conducted a number of human rights and discrimination cases and was an executive member of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights for a number of years. She became the founding principal solicitor at the NSW Disability Discrimination Legal Centre, undertaking test case and public interest litigation, as well as policy work and community legal education in the area of disability discrimination.

Board & Advisory Council

Caitlin Perry
Caitlin is the National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC) nominee and was appointed to the Board in April 2005, and at the 2008 and 2011 AGMs. Caitlin is the coordinator of the Darwin Community Legal Service and a member of the NT Law Society's Legal Aid and Pro Bono Committee. Caitlin has a Bachelor of Economics from Sydney University and was previously Coordinator of Redfern Legal Centre.

Robert Reed
Robert was appointed to the Board in February 2007 as a Pro Bono Expert, and reappointed at the 2010 AGM. Robert is a Special Counsel with Minter Ellison in their Brisbane office, where he has worked in the insurance litigation group, and more recently, the employment law group. Robert formulated Minter Ellison's Community Benefits Program in Brisbane and currently coordinates all of the office's community work, including pro bono legal assistance, donations and sponsorships, and staff volunteering.

Ed Santow
Ed is the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) nominee and was appointed to the Board in January 2011. Prior to his appointment as the Chief Executive Officer of PIAC, Ed was an academic at UNSW Law School and the Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law. He has also worked at the Australian Law Reform Commission and as a solicitor in private practice.

Mark Woods
Mark is a nominee of the Law Council of Australia. He is a Barrister and Solicitor and an accredited specialist in family law and criminal law. The former President of the Law Institute of Victoria (1995–96), Mark is very passionate about improving access to the justice system for all Australians. Mark serves as chair of the Access to Justice Committee of the Law Council of Australia, and sits also on the Community Committee for Victoria Legal Aid.

Advisory Council members

Chair: Jane Hutchison
Manager, Hobart Community Legal Service Inc and Coordinator of the Tasmanian Association of CLCs (Ex-officio member of the Board of the Centre)

Priscilla Collins
Director, Northern Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency, Darwin

Julie Hamblin
Partner, HWL Ebsworth

David Fredericks
Deputy Secretary, Civil Justice and Legal Services Group, Commonwealth Attorney General's Department

Denis Nelthorpe AM
Manager, Footscray & Wyndham Legal Services, Melbourne

Trish Price
Office Director, Queensland Legal Aid Commission

David Weisbrot AM
Former President of the Australian Law Reform Commission and Chair of the Attorney General's National Pro Bono Task Force

Kristen Hilton
Deputy Director, Victoria Legal Aid Commission

David Blades
Barrister, John Toohey Chambers, Perth

Centre Media Mentions and Articles

Protecting the people

The two-day access to justice conference explored ways to ensure a fair go for all.

Why Do Pro Bono: John Corker, National Pro Bono Resource Centre – **The PBEye**, 6 August 2012

Pro Bono in Tasmania – **Law Letter**, Spring 2012

Social Justice – constructions and themes – **Precedent**, September / October 2012

Lawyers devise legal advice plan for any future disasters – **The Canberra Times**, 14 September 2012

Firms setting up pro bono practices are on the rise – **The Australian**, 5 October 2012

Mid-tier practices lag behind larger rivals – **The Australian**, 5 October 2012

Pro bono work increases – **Australian Financial Review**, 5 October 2012

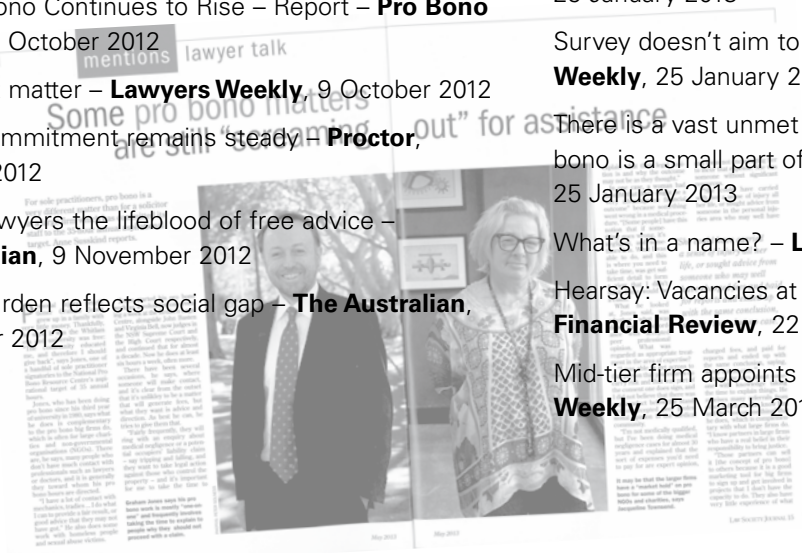
Legal Pro Bono Continues to Rise – Report – **Pro Bono Australia**, 8 October 2012

Size doesn't matter – **Lawyers Weekly**, 9 October 2012

Pro bono commitment remains steady – **Proctor**, November 2012

Individual lawyers the lifeblood of free advice – **The Australian**, 9 November 2012

Pro bono burden reflects social gap – **The Australian**, 9 November 2012


mentions lawyer talk

Some pro bono matters are still "screaming out" for assistance

ALA leads charge for new pro bono committee – **Lawyers Weekly**, 20 November 2012

Awards recognize outstanding service to the law and justice – **Law Society Journal**, December 2012

Firms drop pro bono hours – **Australasian Legal Business**, 10 January 2013

NFPs Top Pro Bono Legal Assistance – **Pro Bono Australia**, 25 January 2013

Not-for-profits gain as pro bono work rises to 30 hours a year – **The Australian**, 25 January 2013

Pro bono work rises to 30 hours a year – **The Australian**, 25 January 2013

'Real work' that meets benchmarks – **The Australian**, 25 January 2013

Survey doesn't aim to name and shame – **Lawyers Weekly**, 25 January 2013

There is a vast unmet legal need in Australia and pro bono is a small part of the solution – **The Australian**, 25 January 2013

What's in a name? – **Lawyers Weekly**, 8 February 2013

Hearsay: Vacancies at the big end of town – **Australian Financial Review**, 22 February 2013

Mid-tier firm appoints pro bono head – **Lawyers Weekly**, 25 March 2013

Mid tier appoints pro bono head – **Lawyers Weekly**, 19 April 2013

Take care in pushing student pro bono – **The Australian**, 26 April 2013

Protecting the people: The two-day access to justice conference explored ways to ensure a fair go for all – **Law Institute Journal**, May 2013

Some pro bono matters are still "screaming out" for assistance – **Law Society Journal**, May 2013

What Works in Pro Bono Legal Partnerships – **Pro Bono Australia**, 30 May 2013

Law leaders believe pro bono should remain a choice – **Lawyers Weekly**, 6 June 2013

NPBRC director John Corker talks pro bono work – **Lawyers Weekly**, 12 June 2013

Law leaders believe pro bono should remain a choice – **Lawyers Weekly**, 14 June 2013

Lawyers Weekly

www.lawyersweekly.com.au

622

Law leaders believe pro bono should remain a choice

Financial reports

John Corker, the Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria, Joseph Catanzariti, former President, Law Council of Australia and Reynah Tang, President, Law Institute of Victoria at the Fourth National Access to Justice & Pro Bono Conference, (photo by David Johns, courtesy of Law Institute of Victoria)

Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2013

	2013 $	2012 $
Revenue from ordinary activities	446,882	402,981
Expenses from ordinary activities		
Employee benefits expense	387,332	377,320
Board and Advisory Council	3,060	5,377
Depreciation expense	1,928	1,662
Audit fees	3,429	3,329
Accounting fees	3,928	4,576
Insurance	7,915	8,994
Computer and Communications	4,885	8,221
Subscriptions	3,267	3,511
Travel and accommodation	14,676	19,099
Design and Printing	1,750	20,969
Affiliations, memberships and conferences	6,707	5,326
Finance charges	575	543
Other expenses from ordinary activities	3,076	7,018
	442,528	465,945
Surplus/(Deficit) from Ordinary Activities	**4,354**	**(62,964)**
Income tax expense relating to ordinary activities	–	–
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	**4,354**	**(62,964)**
Other comprehensive income	–	–
Total comprehensive income	**4,354**	**(62,964)**

Financial reports

Balance Sheet for the year ended 30 June 2013

	2013 $	2012 $
Current Assets		
Cash assets	75,035	126,589
Receivables	300	6,800
Total Current Assets	75,335	133,389
Non-Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	3,295	1,602
Total Non-Current Assets	3,295	1,602
Total Assets	78,630	134,991
Current Liabilities		
Payables	19,065	36,570
Provisions	22,795	18,975
Other	–	49,938
Total Current Liabilities	41,860	105,483
Non-Current Liabilities		
Provisions	21,981	19,073
Total Non-Current Liabilities	21,981	19,073
Total Liabilities	63,841	124,556
Net Assets	14,789	10,434
Equity		
Retained Earnings	14,789	10,435
Total Equity	**14,789**	**10,435**
Total equity at the beginning of the year	10,435	73,399
Surplus (deficit) for the year	4,354	(62,964)
Total recognised income & expense for the year	4,354	(62,964)
Total equity at the end of the financial year	**14,789**	**10,435**

The Centre's financial statements were audited by Pitcher Partners, Sydney who opined on 22 August 2013 that the Financial Report of the National Pro Bono Resource Centre is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001,* including: (a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2013 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and (b) complying with the Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE

The National Pro Bono Resource Centre is an independent, non-profit organisation that supports and promotes pro bono legal services.

The Centre receives financial assistance from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and from the Departments of the Attorney-General in:

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Western Australia

Accommodation and other support is generously provided by the Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales.

UNSW FACULTY OF LAW

Further information about the Centre including details of the Centre's publications, current activities and projects in development is available at ***www.nationalprobono.org.au***

You can subscribe to the **National Pro Bono News** at ***www.nationalprobono.org.au/subscribe.asp***

NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE
Law Centres Precinct
The Law Building
UNSW Sydney NSW 2052
Ph: +61 02 9385 7381 Fax: +61 02 9385 7375
Email: info@nationalprobono.org.au

© National Pro Bono Resource Centre