

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

In the spirit of reconciliation, JusticeNet SA acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their continued connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

This report was released at the Annual General Meeting on 27 November 2024, held on the traditional lands of the Kurna people.

Always was, always will be.

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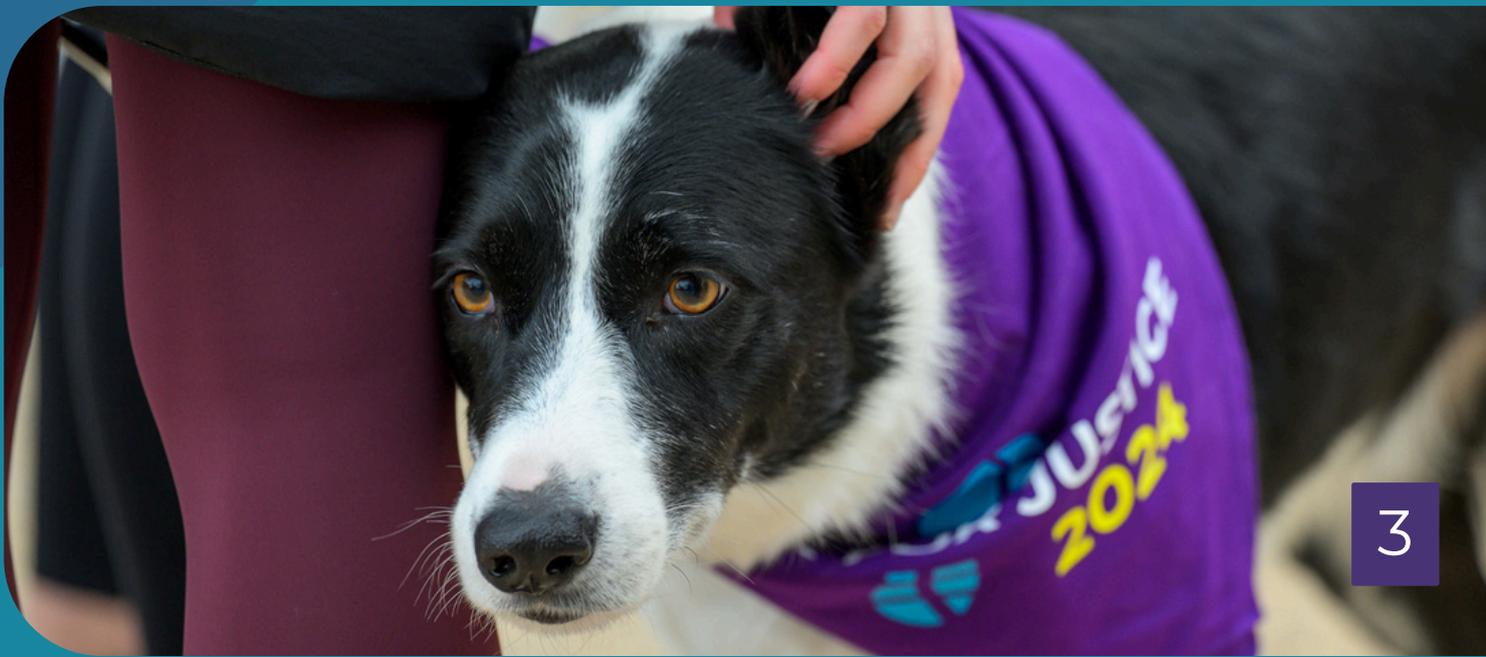
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A WORD FROM THE CEO AND THE PRESIDENT



JUSTICENET CEO AND PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR, REBECCA PLUMMER

We are pleased to present this **Annual Report**, highlighting JusticeNet's key activities and achievements for the 2023-2024 financial year.

The overall theme of this year has been one of consolidation across the organisation and each of our services, ensuring we continue to provide meaningful, sustainable support in the South Australian community.

A key milestone for us this year was the continuation and success of our **Art for Justice** event, which was held in September 2023 at the Art Gallery of South Australia. An exceptional evening unfolded as our Artist for Justice, Dave Court, created an artwork live, while Guests were treated to a private tour of the gallery led by the exceptional Dr. Lisa Slade.

It was a remarkable evening, not only as a fundraising initiative but also as an opportunity to connect with our Homeless Legal donor circle and other supporters.

In February 2024, we hosted a **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)** day at the newly opened Flinders University Law School campus. Huge thanks to Tania Leiman, Dean of Law at Flinders University, for providing the venue and enabling our audience to learn from a diverse range of speakers addressing critical topics, including the ethics of AI, human rights approaches to inclusive business practices, and strategies for bridging gaps in mediation practice.

(continued)



JUSTICENET PRESIDENT, TANIA SULAN

May saw the return of our **Walk for Justice** during National Pro Bono Week, our most successful in 16 years. We welcomed 517 walkers and over 1,500 donors, exceeding our fundraising goal by raising over \$160,000. This achievement reflects the dedication of our volunteers, staff, and community.

As we reflect on these successes, we **thank our incredible team**, including Rebecca Plummer, CEO and Principal Solicitor; Hannah March and Phoebe Richards, from Pro Bono Connect; Angela Hastings and Cassandra Altman – who celebrated 10 years of the FCSRS service this year; Antonia Kloss who heads up our Homeless Legal Program, which runs out of 4 sites; and Tracey Press our Operations & Business Manager, who keeps the organisation ticking.

We are **grateful for the support of our members, law firms, sponsors, donors, and funders**, whose generosity enables us to provide better access to justice. Our volunteers' time and commitment are vital to our success.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to **thank the Management Committee** for their ongoing service and the many hours of voluntary work they contribute to the organisation. It is a privilege to serve alongside such a dedicated team and to be part of the leadership of JusticeNet, an organisation that plays a vital role in **connecting legal skill to social need**.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our mission of improving access to justice for those experiencing vulnerability and disadvantage. With the ongoing support of our partners and the community, we are excited for what the future holds.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Tania Sulan, JusticeNet President,
Rebecca Plummer, JusticeNet CEO & Principal Solicitor.**

OUR TEAM

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Tania Sulan (President)
Ben Opie (Treasurer)
Scott Foreman (Secretary)
Lucinda Byers
Michelle Ford
Stephen McDonald SC

STAFF



Cassandra Altmann
Solicitor, Federal
Court Self
Representation
Service



Codi Buckskin
ACCO Connect
Law Clerk (casual)



Angela Hastings
Managing
Solicitor, Federal
Court Self
Representation
Service



Antonia Kloss
Managing
Solicitor,
Homeless Legal



Hannah March
Managing
Solicitor, Pro Bono
Connect



Rebecca Plummer
CEO and Principal
Solicitor



Tracey Press
Operations &
Business Manager



Phoebe Richards
Managing
Solicitor, Pro
Bono Connect

OUR TEAM

JusticeNet is staffed by a small group of dedicated part time employees and governed by a generous and skilled volunteer Management Committee. In FY 23/24 we also had the assistance of 16 volunteers ranging from law students to secondee lawyers.

VOLUNTEERS AND SECONDEES

Anis Gul Ehsani

Christopher Power

Dilusha Halahakoon

Ellie Vivlios

Flynn Wedd

John Hayek

Jonathan Parsalidis

Kate Hurford

Korneliya Somuncic

Mashenka Fernando

Sumati Chakravarti-Cook

Tayla Power

Thangam Verghese

Wei Liu



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To improve access to justice for vulnerable and disadvantaged South Australians by building strong partnerships with pro bono legal professionals, ensuring equal representation and support for those who need it most.

WHO WE ARE

JusticeNet is an independent, not-for-profit legal service for South Australians who cannot afford a lawyer or get the legal help they need elsewhere.

WHAT WE DO

We leverage the expertise of our pro bono network to help our clients secure just outcomes, that improve their quality of life.

SERVICE REPORTS



PRO BONO CONNECT

Phoebe Richards &
Hannah March



FEDERAL COURT SELF REPRESENTATION SERVICE

Angela Hastings &
Cassandra Altmann



HOMELESS LEGAL

Antonia Kloss

PRO BONO CONNECT

Pro Bono Connect (PBC) is the pro bono clearing house for South Australia. Connecting eligible applicants with our member law firms and barristers, our aim is to **improve access to justice by connecting social need to legal skill**. The Pro Bono Connect program also includes JusticeNet's Refugee and Asylum Seeker Assistance: specific assistance to coordinate pro bono legal help for refugees and asylum seekers who are applying for judicial review in the Federal Courts.

This financial year, applications **remained at a steady level with Pro Bono Connect receiving 256 new general applications** (252 general applications were received for 2022 – 23). Pro Bono Connect received 21 new applications from individuals seeking assistance through the Refugee and Asylum Seeker Assistance Program (RASP).

Of those new general and RASP matters, 115 were found eligible for pro bono assistance with an eligibility rate across the service of 41.4%. Remaining matters provided with an assessment where commonly referred to alternative funded services as applicable (i.e. Community Legal Centre, the Legal Service Commission, the University clinics, as well as non-legal pathways such as advocacy and community services).

PBC Applicants were referred to JusticeNet by:



PRO BONO CONNECT

As pro bono work continues to increase in scope across Australia, this year Pro Bono Connect saw the **increasing interest and involvement of our South Australian legal colleges in pro bono work**. This financial year was marked by **increases in JusticeNet membership** and developments such as changes to the Treasurer's Instruction 10 (TI10) requiring private firms undertaking South Australian Government legal work to sign up to the National Pro Bono Target.

We are excited to see the continued growth of pro bono work in South Australia and what this means for improved access to Justice for South Australians.

REFERRALS 2023-24

136 referrals made for pro bono assistance (to either a solicitor or a barrister)

Average pro bono hours reported by members: **45 hours***

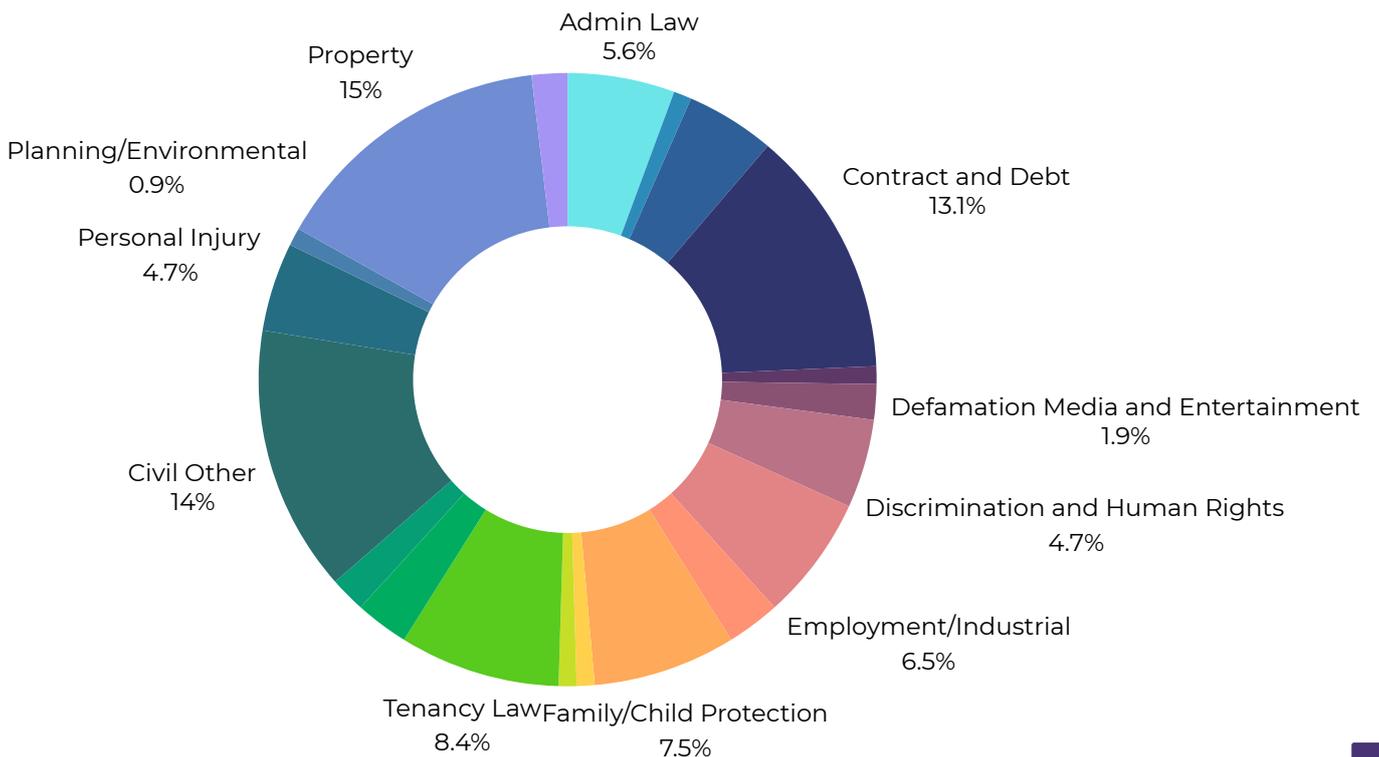
Average legal fees reported by members: **\$19,440***

Estimated total pro bono work that otherwise would have gone unaided:

\$2,643,840

*NB: these are estimates based on End of Financial Year Reporting collected and averaged by JusticeNet SA

AREAS OF LAW - ELIGIBLE MATTERS



WHAT OUR APPLICANTS SAY

“Thank you JusticeNet for helping me out in a crisis, providing a legal path that has been resolved and making my life much stable and happier.”

“Answered all my questions, listened to any concerns I raised when other party provided incorrect details as evidence and got an excellent outcome.”

CASE STUDY

A not-for-profit environmental organisation was fighting hard to support a local community to protect a nature conservation area. It was a difficult area of planning and environmental law.

JusticeNet referred the matter to several members (solicitor and Counsel) to assist the not-for-profit. The legal matter was complex, and the application for works was eventually withdrawn after the pro bono legal team spent more than 50 billable hours working on the matter. The not-for-profit are confident that, because this application was scrutinized by an experienced legal team, in future people will be on notice that that applications relating to the sensitive nature conservation area will not just be rubber stamped.

FEDERAL COURT SELF REPRESENTATION SERVICE (FCSRS)



307

PEOPLE ASSISTED



211

FILES OPENED



755

LEGAL SERVICES



174

APPOINTMENTS

The Federal Courts Self-Representation Service (FCSRS) assists clients with matters commenced, or to be commenced, in the general federal law jurisdiction including bankruptcy, Fair Work, migration (excluding refugees and asylum seekers who are assisted by JusticeNet's Pro Bono Connect), appeals, judicial review, anti-discrimination, competition and consumer law.

The FCSRS continues to participate in the Fair Work Commission's Workplace Advice Service (FWCWAS) by facilitating one-off appointments for eligible applicants to the FWCWAS.

The FCSRS was staffed by Angie Hastings (Managing Solicitor - FCSRS) and Cassandra Altmann (Solicitor - FCSRS) during the 2023/2024 financial year.

The FCSRS is grateful for the support of **11 participating law firms** during the 2023/2024 financial year:

COWELL CLARKE
DENTONS
DMAW LAWYERS
FINLAYSONS
HALL & WILCOX

HWL EBSWORTH
MINTER ELLISON
O'TOOLE LAWYERS
PIPER ALDERMAN
SPARKE HELMORE
BARRY NILSSON

FEDERAL COURT SELF REPRESENTATION SERVICE (FCSRS)

48 lawyers from the participating law firms provided either telephone or face-to-face appointments to FCSRS Service Users during the financial year.

JusticeNet SA extends its sincere gratitude to those lawyers and law firms.

This was in addition to the hundreds of hours spent by the FCSRS staff lawyers to provide legal advice and task assistance to clients, and to brief the solicitors who volunteered to provide appointments to the FCSRS clients.

The FCSRS has continued to receive invaluable assistance from volunteer law students and secondee law graduates from HWL Ebsworth Lawyers who have undertaken placements with the FCSRS during the financial year.

Funding

The FCSRS is funded until 2025 by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.



10 YEARS OF FCSRS

In June 2024, we were thrilled to celebrate a significant milestone - the 10th anniversary of our Federal Court Self Representation Service. The FCSRS started operations in 2014 funded by a Commonwealth Government grant. In the past decade, the Service has hired six lawyers: Kate Denton, Claire Benn, Angela Hastings, Joshua Schultz, Ngoc-Han Ha, and Cassandra Altmann.

During the past 10 years the Service has opened files for 1,603 people in a range of areas of law in the general jurisdiction of the Federal Courts, but primarily in the areas of Fair Work, bankruptcy, anti-discrimination and migration. This is a remarkable achievement given that the Service has never been open full-time. The success of the Service has been dependent on the generosity and willingness of the Adelaide legal profession to donate their time and provide appointments to clients on a pro bono basis.

Thank you to everyone who has been involved in this remarkable journey; there are currently 12 law firms in Adelaide whose staff regularly donate their time and expertise to provide advice and task assistance to the clients of the FCSRS - thank you - you are a vital part of our community: **MinterEllison, Sparke Helmore, Finlaysons, Dentons, Cowell Clarke, Hall & Wilcox (Perth), HWL Ebsworth, Barry Nilsson, DMAW Lawyers, O'Toole Lawyers, Piper Alderman, Clayton Utz (Sydney).**

We are delighted to acknowledge JusticeNet's current staff - Angela Hastings and Cassandra Altmann. Their unwavering commitment, expertise, and compassion have been instrumental in shaping the success of our program - thank you for your hard work, we are incredibly grateful to have you as part of our team.

The value of the Service shines through in the feedback received from a client who said *"I can only provide the highest commendation for the service. Consistent communication, empathy when needed, and clear guidance when necessary. Without this service to self-represented litigants available to me, I would have found navigating the federal system impossible and I would have no doubt created more problems in terms of legal process than the legal issues I brought with me. Thank you."*

CASE STUDY

The following case studies highlight the role of the FCSRS in helping self-represented litigants to present their cases, but also to facilitate the early resolution of matters and to discourage unnecessary litigation. Names have been changed to protect privacy.

Vince* operates a small business with his wife in the building industry. Vince came to the FCSRS when he was served with a general protections with dismissal claim that had been filed in the Federal Circuit and Family Court (FCAFC) by one of his former employee, Marty*. Marty was alleging that he had been dismissed because he exercised a workplace right not to be stood down without pay, whereas Vince maintained that Marty had been dismissed for poor workmanship and excessive absences during his probation period. The FCSRS assisted Vince to prepare a Response form to file in the FCAFC, and helped Vince and one of his supervisors to draft affidavits detailing the circumstances of Marty's dismissal. After being served with the Response and the affidavits, Marty discontinued his action.

Bernard* is in his 90s. About 10 years ago he had transferred his interest in a property to his friend Cara* on the basis of a verbal agreement that Bernard could continue to use the property until he passed away, or that if the property was sold the proceeds of the sale would be split 70/30 in favour of Bernard. Bernard found out that Cara had sold the property without his consent, and had kept all of the sale proceeds. Bernard brought a claim in the Magistrates' Court seeking his share of the sale proceeds, but the action was dismissed on the grounds that the Supreme Court had jurisdiction, not the Magistrates' Court. A costs order was made against Bernard in the Magistrates' Court. Bernard sought help from the FCSRS when he was served with a Bankruptcy Notice relating to the Magistrates' Court costs. The FCSRS arranged an appointment for Bernard with a volunteer solicitor who provided him with advice about his legal options and assisted him to write a letter to Cara's solicitor submitting that it would be futile to pursue a sequestration order against Bernard. Cara has not taken further action against Bernard.

HOMELESS LEGAL

In 2023/24, JusticeNet SA's Homeless Legal program continued to provide vital pro bono legal services to South Australians experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Operating from four outreach clinics - **Hutt St Centre, Catherine House, Baptist Care SA, and SACAT** - the service managed **523 appointments** and helped **203 clients** with **240 legal matters** during this financial year.

The contributions of our volunteer lawyers were outstanding, with **1,684 hours** of pro bono legal assistance generated, conservatively valued at **\$727,488**. These efforts reflect the deep commitment of our partner law firms - **MinterEllison, Dentons, JWS, and Gilchrist Connell** - and the individual lawyers who generously staffed the clinics.

By embedding legal clinics within trusted community spaces, Homeless Legal provides more than just legal advice. It forms an essential part of a broader health, justice, and social support network, helping clients navigate complex legal issues while addressing the broader inequalities faced by one of our most vulnerable and marginalised populations.

Led by Managing Solicitor, **Antonia Kloss**, and supported by JusticeNet's CEO, Operations Manager and dedicated law student and graduate volunteers, the program's impact is far-reaching.

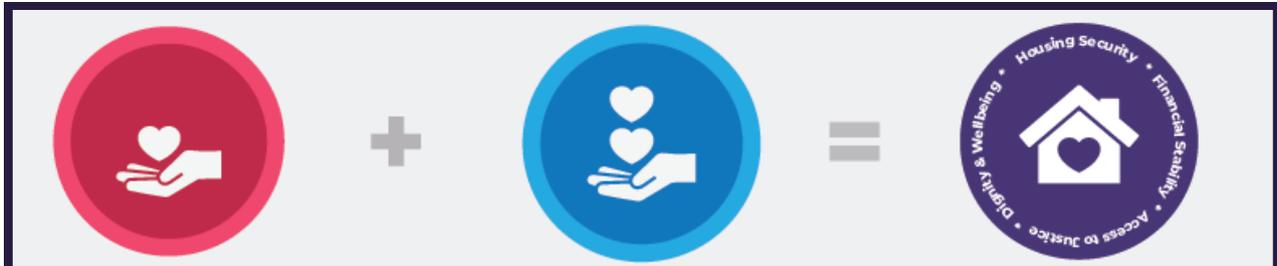
Homeless Legal not only delivers legal advice but also offers considered referrals and targeted discrete task assistance, aimed at bridging the justice gap.

The continued success of Homeless Legal would not be possible without the financial backing of the **Homeless Legal Donor Circle**, led by Patron **The Hon. John Sulan KC**, and its Members and Champions. Their annual contributions, donor matched by **LK Law** and the **Day Family Foundation**, are critical to sustaining this program and ensuring that Adelaide's most vulnerable citizens can access the justice they deserve.

JusticeNet SA thanks all who contributed to the program's achievements in 2023/24 and looks forward to building on this foundation to further increase access to justice in South Australia in the future.

HOMELESS LEGAL DONOR CIRCLE

During 2023/24 Homeless Legal was funded with the generous support of:



Donor Circle Champions & Members

Donor Matching from LK Law

Double the impact in the community

Founding Ambassadors

- Kieren Chester
- Tom Cox KC
- Julia and Marcus Dreosti
- Chris and Kate Gray
- Associate Professor William Griggs AM ASM and Dr Maree White
- Christopher Legoe KC AO
- Skip Lipman
- Mark Livesy KC
- Tom and Kate McFarlane
- Alice Rolls
- John and Ali Sulan
- Tania Sulan and David Bentley
- James and Tiffany Young

Supporters

- Gilchrist Connell
- JWS

23/24 Champions

- Don and Veronica Aldridge
- John Brimacombe
- Laura Butcher
- Kieren Chester
- Tom Cox KC
- Megan Ferris
- Scott and Caroline Foreman
- Associate Professor William Griggs AM ASM and Dr Maree White
- Skip Lipman
- Tom and Kate McFarlane
- Angelica Mesisca
- Carolyn Mitchell
- Stuart Price
- Prue Reid
- John and Ali Sulan

23/24 Members

- David Bleby SC
- Paula Davies
- Ben Doyle
- David Fabbro
- Brian Hayes KC
- Mark Hoffman KC
- Stephen McDonald SC
- Jo O'Callaghan
- Claire O'Connor
- Damian O'Leary
- Belinda Randell
- Ian Robertson SC
- Joanne Staugas
- Tania Sulan and David Bentley
- Stacey Thomas
- Emma Thornton
- Kate White

Proudly sponsored by LK Law and The Day Family Foundation

OUR IMPACT

Homeless Legal's pro bono lawyers have assisted people in relation to a wide variety of legal issues throughout 2023/24, including:

TENANCY DISPUTES,
EVICTION,
PERSONAL INJURY AND MVA,
CONTRACT/DEBTS,
FINES,
WILLS AND ESTATES,
POLICE COMPLAINTS,

DISCRIMINATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS,
CRIMINAL LAW,
FAMILY LAW AND CHILD PROTECTION,
IMMIGRATION,
INSURANCE,
NEIGHBOURHOOD DISPUTES AND
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW.

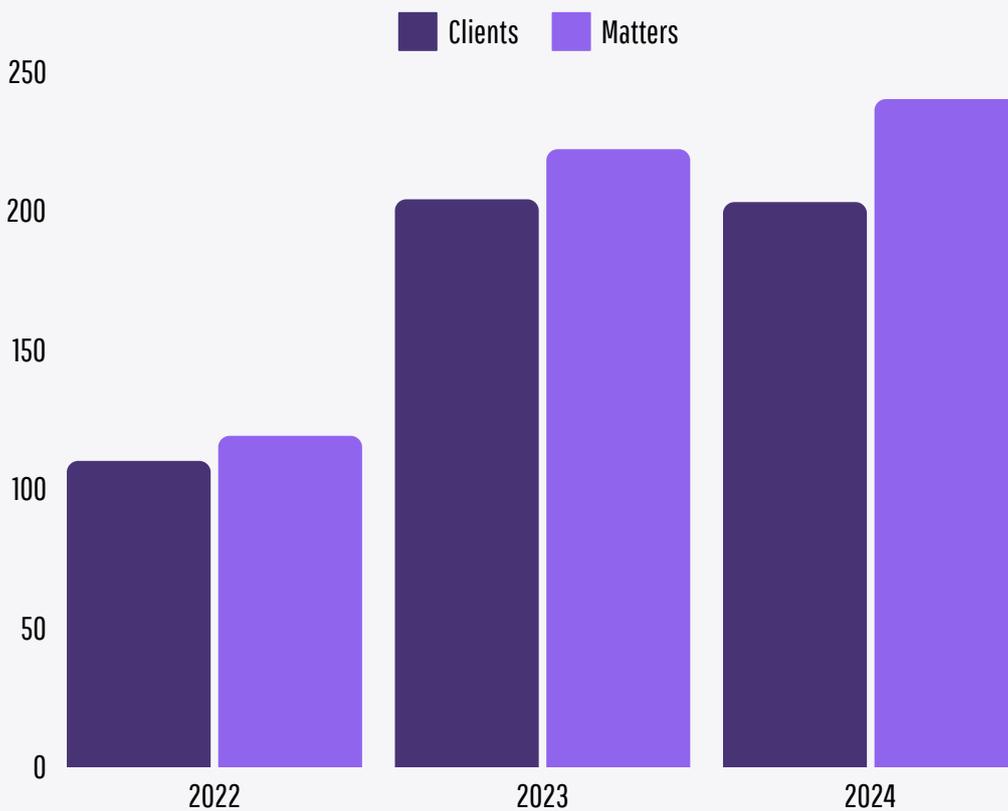
During 2023/24, our volunteer lawyers donated over
1,684 hours generating **\$727,488**
of pro bono legal support.

WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY

"After years of unhappiness in a difficult relationship I wasn't sure if I was going to be heard. What I found was that I was completely heard, supported and safe. I got the ball rolling from the hard work the lawyers set out for me to do.

Forever grateful for your support and service in this space."

DEMAND FOR SERVICES



Since 2022, the number of clients serviced per year has increased by **85%**

Since 2022, the number of new matters opened per year has increased by **102%**

In FY 2023/24: **523 appointments** were booked, with an attendance rate of **74%**

CASE STUDY

Assisting Jane to overcome insurmountable debt:

Jane* lived in South Australian Housing Trust (SAHT) rental accommodation with her children for many years, always paying her rent in advance.

In 2021 SAHT conducted an annual rent review in accordance with its policies and procedures, and sought evidence of Jane's children's income, despite several of her children having left home by this time.

While Jane attempted to comply with SAHT's evidentiary requirements for the rent review, Jane's past traumatic experiences and health conditions created barriers to her ability to communicate effectively with SAHT. Due to the inflexible application of SAHT's policy requirements, Jane's subsidised rent reverted to a high market rate for over two years, generating arrears of \$30,000.00, which Jane would never be able to repay, and which placed her tenancy with SAHT at risk.

Following an internal review by SAHT which affirmed its decisions to charge Jane market rent for that period, Jane applied to SACAT for a review of SAHT's decisions.

The volunteer lawyers in JusticeNet's Homeless Legal SACAT Clinic assisted Jane by working with her across several appointments to draft detailed written submissions for Jane to rely upon during a full hearing of the matter, in support her argument that a subsidised rent decrease should be retrospectively applied.

Ultimately, the Tribunal set aside SAHT's decisions and ordered a reassessment of Jane's rent based on her actual household income at the relevant times, thereby cancelling the crushing rent arrears, stabilising her housing situation and paving the way for a more secure future.

*Details changed to protect privacy.

EVENTS



ART FOR JUSTICE



LEGAL TRAINING



WALK FOR JUSTICE



**HOMELESS LEGAL
PANEL EVENT**



ART FOR JUSTICE 2023

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Friday 22nd of September 2023: our second annual **Art for Justice** event proved to be an unforgettable evening, bringing together JusticeNet's most dedicated supporters in a unique celebration of art, justice, and community.

The Art Gallery of South Australia - our partner for the event - provided a stunning backdrop for this special event, which served as both a fundraiser and a heartfelt thank you to our supporters.

The evening was enriched by a live jazz performance. We were honored to have AGSA's Associate Director Dr Lisa Slade, who generously conducted an exclusive after-hours tour of AGSA, offering unique insights into the gallery's treasures.



ART FOR JUSTICE 2023

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

A highlight of the evening was watching Dave Court creating his artwork live. His piece, inspired by one of our recent matters, powerfully illustrated the intersection of art and justice, visualising the real impact of our work in the community.

With their ticket, each guest not only had a wonderful experience on the night but received a limited edition fine art print of the piece Dave has created on the night to add to their private art collection - with Kieran Chester successfully bidding on the original.

The event not only strengthened our community bonds but also reinforced the vital connection between art, justice, and social change. We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to making Art for Justice 2023 a resounding success! We'd like to thank our guests for attending and our generous beverage sponsor Silent Noise Wine, as well as Cargo Catering, our team and the Art Gallery of South Australia for their support.

The event was both a successful fundraiser raising just over \$19,196 and wonderful way to thank our regular donors. We sincerely hope to see you next year at the Art for Justice.





LEGAL TRAINING

JusticeNet CPD Intensive 2024

8 March 2024, Venue Sponsor: Flinders University

Event Sponsor: Law Society SA

A full-day legal professional development intensive was held on Friday, March 8, 2024, at the new Flinders City Campus in Adelaide's Festival Plaza. The event, which offered 6 CPD units covered diverse topics including human rights in business practices, overcoming bias, professional ethics in the AI era, mediation strategies, and the judiciary's constitutional role. The program was available both in-person and via webinar, running from 8:30am to 4:15pm.

Session Speakers

- **Natalie Wade** (Founder and Principal Lawyer of Equality Lawyers) and **Dr Sarah Moulds** (senior lecturer in law at UNISA: Justice + Society and co-founder of the Rights Resource Network SA),
- **Leah Marrone** (Barrister, Flinders Chambers),
- **The Hon Robyn Layton AO KC** (former judge of the Supreme Court of South Australia and judge of the South Australian Industrial Court), **Christian Haebich** (Barrister at Anthony Mason Chambers), **Olivia Sharman** (the Human Resource Advisor at Piper Alderman, Adelaide); **Joshua Schultz** (Senior Associate in Dentons' Adelaide office).
- **Paul Gordon** (partner at Wallmans Lawyers),
- **Ruth Beach** (lawyer, mediator and family dispute resolution practitioner)
- **Justice Bleby** (Supreme Court of South Australia and the South Australian Court of Appeal).

Facilitator:

JusticeNet CEO Rebecca Plummer



LEGAL TRAINING

Judicial Development Conference, SA

In October 2023, our Managing Solicitor of Pro Bono Connect, Hannah March, presented to magistrates at their Judicial Development Conference. It was an opportunity to discuss the legal assistance ecosystem in South Australia and how we can work together to make sure that people who need and want legal advice can access it.

CPD: Understanding T110 Amendments and Pro Bono practice

While we were thrilled to hear that all new Treasurer's Instruction 10 engagements require firms to become signatories to the Australian Pro Bono Centre's National Pro Bono Target, we understood that this transition may be challenging for some firms.

In early **November 2023**, our CEO Rebecca Plummer held a free online CPD session with the Australian Pro Bono Centre and a representative from the Crown Solicitor's Office. Our goal was to help these firms find out what the T110 amendments mean for them from April 2024.

Health Justice Australia Conference, VIC

In late November 2023, Antonia Kloss, Managing Solicitor of Homeless Legal, travelled to Melbourne to attend the third national Health Justice Australia Conference. This conference brought practitioners together from around Australia to explore Health Justice collaborations that address intersecting health, legal and social needs.

Left unaddressed, legal problems lead to stress, create barriers to health and well-being, and hold people in cycles of disadvantage and struggle. Health justice partnerships address the link between family violence and poor health; between a neglected mouldy public housing estate and respiratory problems; between debt, fines and increased anxiety.

JusticeNet SA's Homeless Legal outreach program is one of South Australia's few current Health Justice partnerships and we were proud to have Antonia represent JusticeNet SA in such an important forum

HOMELESS LEGAL DONOR CIRCLE PANEL EVENT

Twenty-five supporters of Homeless Legal, including **our Patron, the Hon. John Sulan KC**, convened at JusticeNet SA's **third annual Homeless Legal Donor Circle Panel event**, held on 18th of April 2024 at the Hutt Street Centre.

The event began with a tour of the Hutt Street Centre, providing attendees with insights into the daily operation of the Centre and the ways in which the Centre is achieving improved outcomes for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness, including through access to legal assistance via Homeless Legal's co-located outreach clinic.

The Panel discussion, moderated by JusticeNet SA's CEO, Rebecca Plummer, featured speakers including volunteer clinic lawyers, Alex Skuse-Fildes from MinterEllison and Debrah Mercurio of Dentons, Carolyn McNarlin the General Manager of Wellbeing at Hutt Street Centre, Linda Fisk, the founding member of Seeds of Affinity, and the Managing Solicitor of Homeless Legal, Antonia Kloss.

Attendees of the event were offered new and diverse perspectives of the impact that Homeless Legal's outreach clinic program has on the legal and social needs of Adelaide's vulnerable residents.

The Panel event was also a chance to meet and thank the Homeless Legal Donor Circle, and to inspire supporters of social justice to join the Donor Circle's ranks. We are incredibly pleased to welcome Stuart Price, CEO of CASL Management Pty Ltd, as the newest Homeless Legal Donor Circle Champion, whose donation will be **matched by LK Law for four years**, as well as David Fabbro of Elliot Johnston Chambers, as a new Member of the Donor Circle.

For those of you who were unable to attend in person, please see the recording of the Panel discussion from the event [HERE](#).





WALK FOR JUSTICE 2024

26%

Increase in the total raised from the previous Walk for Justice

\$5,000

Record breaking, largest individual donation

17%

Increase in the number of participants, from the previous Walk for Justice

9,954

Views on the fundraising website, raising awareness and engagement.



Tuesday **21 May 2024**

This year, we held our 16th annual Walk for Justice on May 21st – and we're thrilled to share that it was our biggest year yet!

We'd like to congratulate:

- 🏆 Dentons for taking out the top team prize with a record-breaking \$25,166
- 🏆 Debrah Mercurio for raising the most funds EVER as an individual at \$10,020
- 🏆 Adelaide Law School for claiming the title of top university with \$4,805

And a special mention to:

- 💜 Leah Marrone for being the first to raise \$1000
- 💜 Tim Bourne for winning the lucky dip
- 💜 LK Law for beating their own previous PB with a whopping \$19,482!

We're blown away by your fundraising hustle, and we can't thank you enough for the hard work you've put in for the people who need it most.

Thank you to everyone who walked for justice this year!

[#LegalProfession](#) [#Lawyers](#) [#AccessToJustice](#) [#WalkForJustice](#) [#W4J2024](#)

WALK FOR JUSTICE 2024

This year, we held our **16th annual** Walk for Justice on May 21st – and we're thrilled to share that it was our biggest year yet, exceeding the target of \$150,000 with **a huge \$160,007 raised by our walkers.**

The gathering united legal professionals, court staff, political leaders, judicial representatives, independent commissioners, and passionate advocates for social justice.

The Walk started with a few words from Attorney General Kyam Maher, and a ribbon cutting by The Honourable Chief Justice Kourakis.

Every year the Tuesday morning of National Law Week is set aside for the Walk for Justice to be held in capital cities across the country, generally hosted by the relevant jurisdiction's Pro Bono Public Interest Legal Clearing House.



The fundraising efforts once again demonstrated the community's extraordinary generosity, with proceeds directly supporting JusticeNet's vital programs. These funds will continue to make a tangible difference for individuals facing legal challenges, including those experiencing poverty, at risk of homelessness, and navigating complex legal systems without representation.

The event remains a powerful reminder of the legal community's collective commitment to justice, showcasing the strength of community collaboration and the enduring spirit of altruism that drives pro bono work.

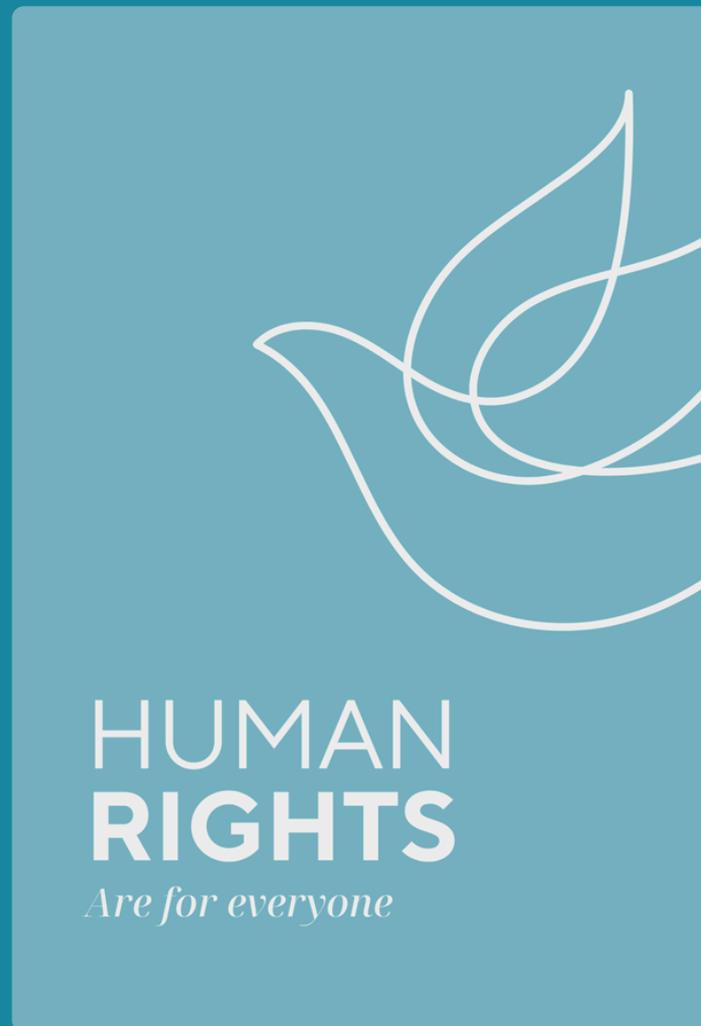
We'd like to thank our sponsors for making Walk for Justice 2024 possible: Sofitel Adelaide, Lang Family Foundation, The College of Law Australia, Cowell Clarke, Law Society of South Australia, University of Adelaide, Pernod Ricard Winemakers and Botten Levinson Lawyers, as well as our philanthropic supporters - Day Family Foundation and Van Diemen Foundation.



PUBLICATIONS

Earlier this year, JusticeNet made a submission to the South Australian Parliament's Social Development Committee Inquiry into the potential for a **Human Rights Act for South Australia**. We support the enactment of a Human Rights Act, also known as a Human Rights Charter because we believe that it could help improve the lives of every day South Australians.

South Australians want to help build a society based on a culture of respect for human rights across government, parliament, the courts, and our communities. We need a framework that requires the South Australian government to consider everyone's basic rights when it designs new laws, regulations or policies. South Australians also need accessible pathways to resolve any disputes about their rights and achieve effective remedies if their rights have been unjustifiably breached. We want dispute resolution and rights protection that is focused on delivering practical solutions, without involving people in expensive litigation: contrary to the myth that a Human Rights Act would be a 'lawyers' picnic, we hope and expect that a fully realised Human Rights Act for SA would see less demand for lawyers and pro bono legal representation in SA.



To read more see our full submission [here](#).

To see more JusticeNet submissions you can see all our publications at [Who We](#)

CORPORATE MEMBERS

AM Legal
Barry Nilsson
Beger & Co Lawyers
Camatta Lempens
Cowell Clarke
Dentons
DMAW Lawyers
EMA Legal
Equality Lawyers
Estrin Saul
Finlaysons
Gilchrist Connell
Hall & Willcox
HWL Ebsworth
Legal Services Commission
LK Law

Melino Legal
Mellor Olsson
Minter Ellison
Murray Chambers
NDA Law
O'Toole Lawyers
SMB Workplace & Employment
Sparke Helmore
Thompson Geer
Treloar & Treloar
Westside Lawyers
Womens Lawyers SA
Working Women's Centre SA
Wotton & Kearney
Wallmans
Piper Alderman

JusticeNet thanks its 2023/2024 financial members both corporate and individual for their crucial support through membership to support the operation of JusticeNet SA and donation of pro bono hours to assist the South Australian community.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

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Ruth Beach
Samuel Blackman
Tim Bourne
Sumati Chakravarti-Cook
Kerry Clark SC
Nicholas Cooney SC
Jane Cox
Tom Cox KC
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(in order of appointment)

Patrick North
Cath Lester
Paula Stirling
Tim Graham
Nick Linke
Kerry Clark SC
Carolyn Mitchell

Friends of JusticeNet

Patron *The Hon. Robyn Layton KC AO*

Friends of JusticeNet make a monthly tax-deductible donation to support the work of JusticeNet SA. The contribution made by our Friends of JusticeNet provides reliable income, plan effectively and deliver services more efficiently.

Members

Amelia Benn
Kieran Chester
Janet Cheung
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Circle of Friends
Luke Edwards
Scott Evans
Shaun Mercer
SABAR
Claire O'Connor SC
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Homeless Legal Donor Circle

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See page 19 for expanded information on the HLDC.

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Ben Opie

JusticeNet recorded an operating surplus for the year ended 30 June 2024 of \$55,227, following a deficit in FY23 of \$36,878.

Revenue increased by approximately 40% in 2024, principally attributable to additional grant income.

Total salary and wages expenses were 30% higher than last year, commensurate with the expansion in JusticeNet's workforce and its expanding work streams.

The substantial output and commitment of JusticeNet's small team is again to be commended.

Substantial energy continues to be committed to JusticeNet's two primary fundraising events, 'Walk for Justice' and 'Art for Justice'. Monies raised by 'Walk for Justice' in 2024 eclipsed previous years and monies raised from 'Art for Justice' also bettered the inaugural holding of this event.

JusticeNet continues to engage with non-government organisations and other generous supporters to diversify the funding of its services.

The ongoing financial support provided by our Homeless Legal Donor Circle, the Day Family Foundation and LK Law is so important and hugely appreciated.

JusticeNet continues to operate in the absence of ongoing funding for its core operating expenses and flagship Pro Bono Connect service. These costs continue to be funded from various sources including fundraising, memberships and donations. JusticeNet's healthy cash reserves of approximately \$300,000 at 30 June 2024 will enable this search to continue.

I would like to again acknowledge on behalf of the Management Committee all of our members, funders and donors for the generosity of their contributions to JusticeNet, in terms of money, time and effort, which enables the extraordinarily important work that JusticeNet performs to continue.

A copy of JusticeNet's audited financial reports can be found at www.justicenet.org.au.



THANK YOU & KEEP IN TOUCH



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