



ANNUAL REPORT

2021



The front cover photographs acknowledges the Centre's volunteers over the past twenty-five years of operations.

The cover depicts the inaugural President, the late Mr Robert Fisher and the current President, Ms Anna Farmer together with the Centre's three life members, Ms Lauren Farrelly, Ms Adrienne Jackson and Mr Wayne Jones and Ms Joan Brady a founding member of the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Central Queensland Community Legal Centre Inc recognises that its operations are situated on country for which Aboriginal people have been custodians for many centuries. In acknowledging this, the Centre pays its respects to the Elders, past present and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the cultures and hopes of Indigenous Australia.



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FUNDING SOURCE

Funding to operate the Centre was provided by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and the Queensland Department of Justice and the Attorney General through the Community Legal Service program for the 2019/2020 financial year.

OUR HISTORY

In December 1995, members of the public held a public meeting to discuss the demand for a Community Legal Centre. The proposal was unanimously adopted, and a committee was appointed to oversee the establishment and incorporation of the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre.

The Centre was granted incorporation status under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 on the 22 February 1996. With funding received from the Commonwealth Government, the Centre commenced operations in March 1996 providing generalist legal advice. Initially staffing at the Centre consisted of a Director/Principal Solicitor, a Community Legal Education Officer and an Administrator.

The footprint of the Centre was from Mackay to Gladstone and west to Emerald. Since the inception of the Centre there have been changes to its footprint and office co-location and after 25 years of operations, the Centre now has offices from Rockhampton to Gladstone and west to Emerald with operations to commence in Mount Isa from the 1 July 2021.

From 1996 to today the Centre has assisted over 26,000 clients and provided in excess of 50,000 advices in the Central Queensland region through the provision of legal support services. The Centre's focus has been and continues to be on the provision of a generalist legal service for a wide range of clients. The main services provided include legal advice, legal task and minor casework. The diversity of its demographic area has seen the growth of outreach centres to include residents in rural, remote and regional areas who now have enhanced access to free legal support services.

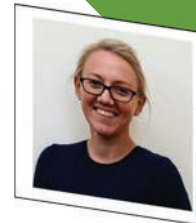
Community Legal Education activities are undertaken to increase awareness and understanding of various areas of law which sequentially assists in circumventing legal disputes arising.

In 2012 the Centre registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission. It entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with CQUniversity 2015 to establish a teaching clinic, the Robert Fisher Pro Bono Legal Centre that provides access to work experience across a number of spheres for law students that provides law students with work experience and placement opportunities.

In a statement that continues to epitomise, the Centre's operations today, the late Robert Fisher in his inaugural President's Report stated *"the Community Legal Centre will thus be an agent for social change, the only issue unresolved is the extent of change it will engender. The future of the Centre therefore looks exciting as the Centre progresses to the next stage of its development"*.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The 2020-2021 reporting period has been another milestone year for the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre. Significant highlights include the Centre's successful tender to provide legal advice and services to the Mount Isa region, re-accreditation with CLC Australia, and the marking of 25 years of the CQCLC's operations.

Over the past five years, the Centre's main focus has been towards improving the provision of legal services across an expanded geographical area. This year we have continued to add to our existing services in Yeppoon, Gladstone, Biloela, Emerald and Rockhampton with a monthly outreach service in Agnes Water. In addition, the Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG) contracted the Centre to provide services in Mount Isa for the next four years, commencing in July 2021. Long-time CQCLC volunteer and CQU Law alumni, Justin French, has been appointed to the role of solicitor in Mount Isa. The Centre has considerable experience working in regional, rural and remote areas of Central Queensland and our new office in Mount Isa will enhance access to legal services in Western Queensland.

This year the Centre exceeded its service deliverables in most areas. In addition to services provided under our funding agreements the Centre has continued its work with Legal Aid, providing Duty Lawyer services in Rockhampton, Gladstone, Emerald and Blackwater. The Centre has also continued to provide legal services for Relationships Australia for their Elder Abuse Prevention and Support Service in Rockhampton and Gladstone. In early 2020 the Centre received a grant from the Commonwealth Government via DJAG for additional Frontline Legal Assistance Services in response to COVID-19 which allowed us to continue additional legal advice services into this year. Funding was also received from Commonwealth and State Governments for improving IT capabilities for virtual service delivery. This funding has enabled the Centre to update equipment and to transition to cloud-based operations.

Although COVID-19 remains an ongoing community concern, the Centre staff and volunteers have taken any additional demands and social distancing requirements in their stride. In June, the Centre underwent the process of re-accreditation with CLC Australia, with the Centre's accreditation being renewed for an additional three years. This process is no mean feat, and as recognised by the report, our re-accreditation is a testament to the great work being done by staff and volunteers on a daily basis.

The Centre's partnership with CQUniversity continues on strong footing, and I offer my thanks to the University and School of Business and Law for its continued support of our endeavours. This year, the Centre has continued to provide experiential learning opportunities for students within the Legal Practicum unit, with three CQU law students volunteering at our Gladstone and Rockhampton offices. We are delighted that two Rockhampton students have stayed on as weekly volunteer support officers after their participation in the unit. Law Lecturer Dr Luke Price, in partnership with the Centre, also received research funding from DJAG for the Digital Research Project "Breaking barriers to video conferencing by assessing client digital inclusion". In June, Dr Price presented the preliminary research findings at the Queensland Community Legal Centres Annual Conference. Work on the research project will continue over the next year.

The 2020 Annual General Meeting saw Rick Palmer step down from the role of President and myself appointed to the role, with Bridget Young appointed Vice-President, and Prue Saxby continuing her appointment as Treasurer. Three new members were appointed to the Management Committee with

Laurel Mason, Damien Martin, and Dr Luke Price joining the team. Continuing members were Janice Moriarty, Matt Dunlop, Justin French and Rick Palmer. Justin resigned from the Committee in July 2021 after accepting the position of Solicitor in our Mount Isa office. I offer my thanks to Justin for his time and energy as a Committee member.

The 2020 AGM also marked the retirement from the Management Committee of our former Vice President and Treasurer, Wayne Jones. Wayne made a particular contribution to the Committee as an energetic and strategic thinker, who came up with solutions to any challenges, and was instrumental in forging the partnership between the CQCLC and CQUniversity. In recognition of Wayne's work, the Management Committee was pleased to award him life membership.

The Centre's 25th Anniversary year was commemorated in May with the unveiling of the Wall of Honour. The Wall of Honour pays homage to Robert Fisher and Joan Brady, founders of the CQCLC, and recognises the Centre's Lifetime members and Volunteer and Student Volunteer of the Year. Special guest the Honourable, Justice Crow, along with Marilyn Fisher and Wayne Jones via Zoom were in attendance. Wayne received a Lifetime membership award and Justin French received the Volunteer of the Year award. A special thanks to both Rick Palmer and Nick Mundy for bringing the Wall of Honour to life from initial idea to an enduring legacy within the Centre's space.

Of course, none of the Centre's achievements and milestones would be possible without the ongoing efforts of Principal Solicitor and CEO Fay Tzioutzias, and Business Manager Judy Wright leading the organisational team. The Centre continues to flourish under their commitment to the strategic vision of the CQCLC and their hard work in undertaking the less glamorous duties involved in running the Centre. I offer my personal thanks to them both.

I would also like to thank our team of solicitors and administrative staff for their hard work and commitment to their roles during the reporting period. Kate Wright, Kim West, Kelly Latham, Jasmine Smith, Kasey Wilson, Ruth Siganto, Kajol Kannan, Sue Woodfield and Nick Mundy, without your contributions the Centre would have been unable to provide its high level of service to disadvantaged and vulnerable Central and Western Queenslanders.

I also extend my thanks to all of our hard-working volunteer support officers and volunteer solicitors for their contribution to the Centre over the year. Our Thursday night and specialist clinics remain an integral part of our service delivery model and would be impossible without the support of the local profession. While COVID-19 has had an impact on student and volunteer numbers within the Centre, we remain hopeful that as the pandemic abates, our student and volunteer participation will once again increase.

Finally, I thank my fellow Management Committee members for their time and support over the last 12 months. The Centre is extremely fortunate to have such a committed and experienced team of professionals helping the Centre to achieve its vision. It is an honour to chair the Committee.

Without doubt, the CQCLC has made significant progress in increasing access to justice in our service areas in 2020-21. While there is no doubt a good deal more to strive towards, the Centre is well placed to continue its provision of advice to residents in Central and Western Queensland whose circumstances might otherwise exclude them from accessing legal services.

Anna Farmer
President 2020 -2021

2020/2021 EXECUTIVE

President:

Name: Ms Anna Farmer
Position: Psychology Graduate Student
Academic Qualifications: BA LLB (Hons), LLM, GDLP, GCert Psych

Current Employer: -
Experience: Anna has had 15 years experience as a legal academic in Australia and the UK. She is currently completing graduate study in psychology. Anna has been involved with the Centre for five years and was elected to the Management Committee in 2016. She was elected as Vice-President at the 2017 Annual General Meeting and President at the 2020 Annual General Meeting.



Vice-President:

Name: Ms Bridget Young
Position: Conciliation & Human Rights Officer
Academic Qualifications: BA, LLB, GDLP
Current Employer: Queensland Human Rights Commission, Rockhampton

Experience: Bridget completed her undergraduate study at the University of Queensland in 2014 and is now undertaking her Masters of Law through UQ. Following admission as a solicitor in 2015 Bridget has worked in both commercial private practice and in government handling discrimination and human rights complaints. Bridget is a member of the Rockhampton Regional Legal Assistance Forum and has previously served on the QLS Access to Justice/ Pro Bono Committee.



Treasurer:

Name: Ms Prue Saxby
Position: Managing Director, Indigo Gold
Academic Qualifications: BBus(Mktg), Cert III in Investigative Services
Current Employer: Indigo Gold Pty Ltd
Experience: After 26 years working in the public and private sector, Prue commenced Indigo Gold Pty Ltd. The company provides grant and business writing services for non-profits and SMEs. Prue was elected to the Management Committee in 2018 and was appointed Treasurer at the 2019 Annual General Meeting.



OUR SERVICES

2535



The number of legal advices provided during the period

311



The Centre undertook 311 legal tasks including court documents and letters.

154



During this period we opened 154 cases.

720



We provided assistance through 720 information services.

1274

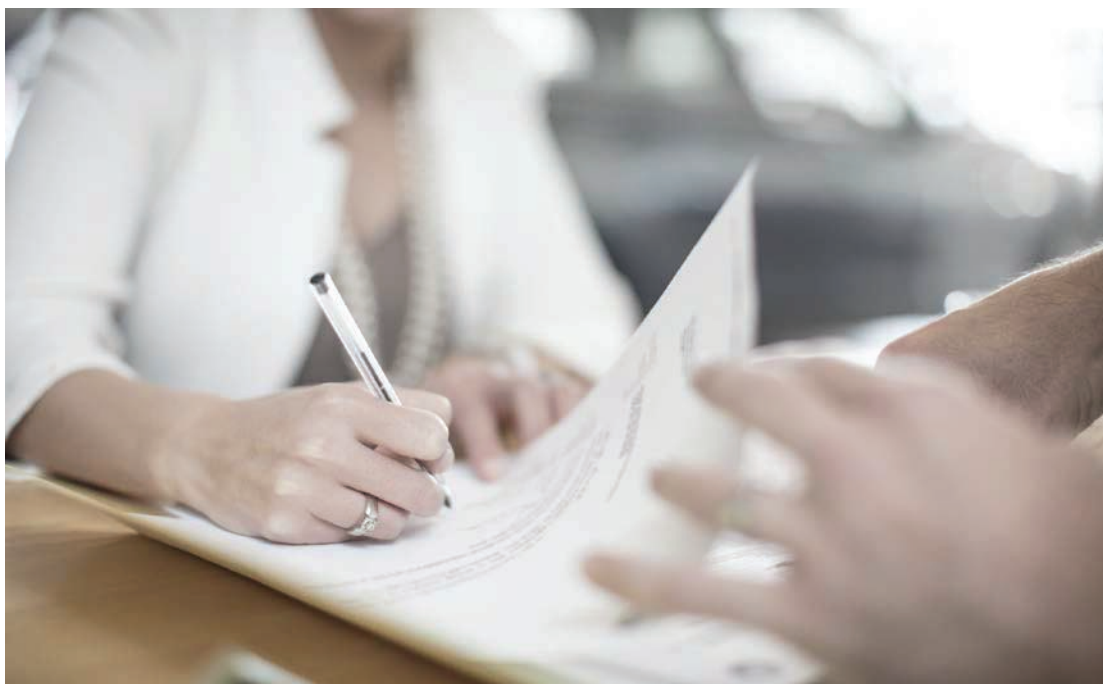


The centre gave 1274 referrals

2053

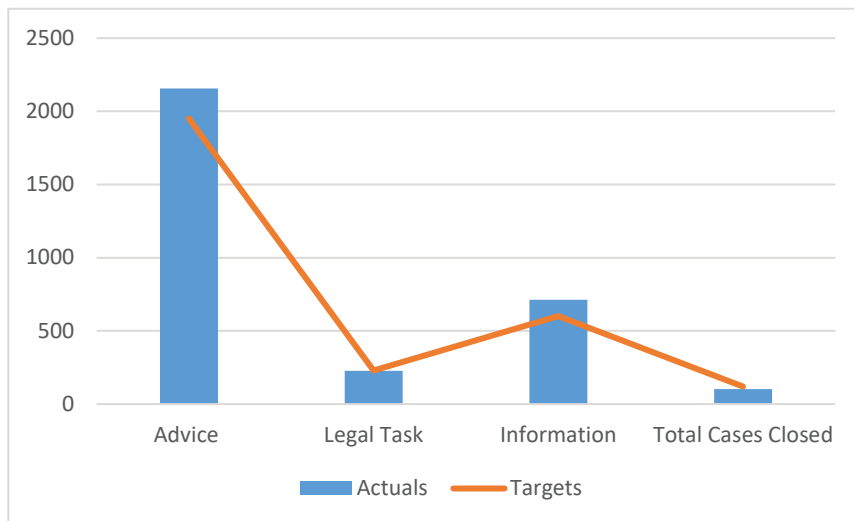


The Centre assisted 2053 clients, 74% were new clients.



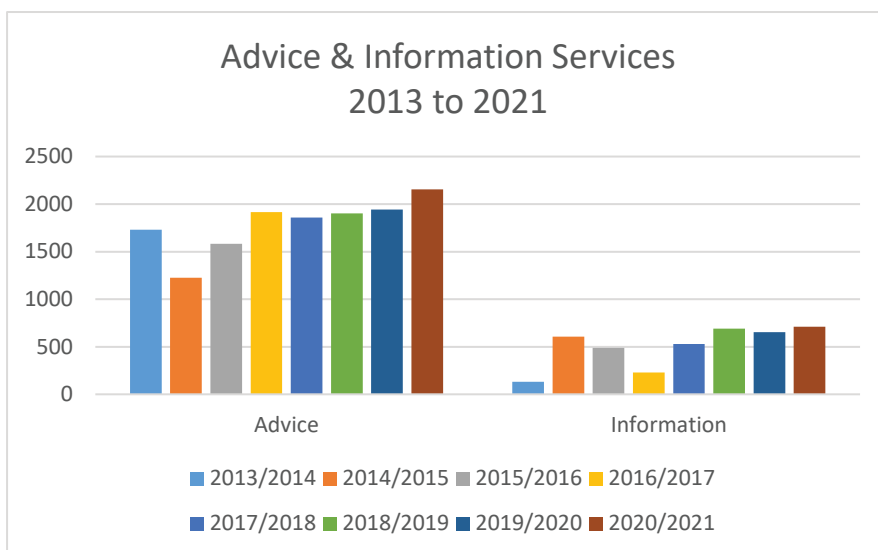
The figures presented on these pages provide an overview of 2020/2021 operations. They are relative to our Service Level Agreements with the Commonwealth and State Government. The figures for COVID-19, Duty Lawyer and EAPSS funds are reported separately.

Advices formed the major area of service with approximately 61% of advices undertaken by Rockhampton based staff, 19% in Gladstone, 7% in Emerald and 13% by volunteer solicitors.

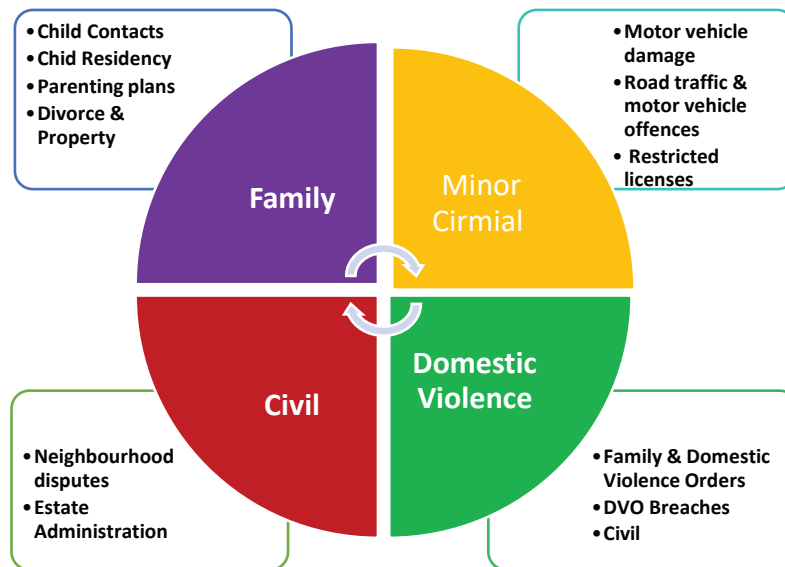


The graph to the left highlights the CQCLC exceeded targets in the areas of advice, legal tasks and information and was slightly under target for total cases closed.

The graph below provides a comparative view of advice and information numbers for the period 2013 to 2020. Note information numbers in 2016/2017 were impacted by database reporting issues.



The Centre provided 655 duty lawyer services in Rockhampton, Gladstone and Emerald.



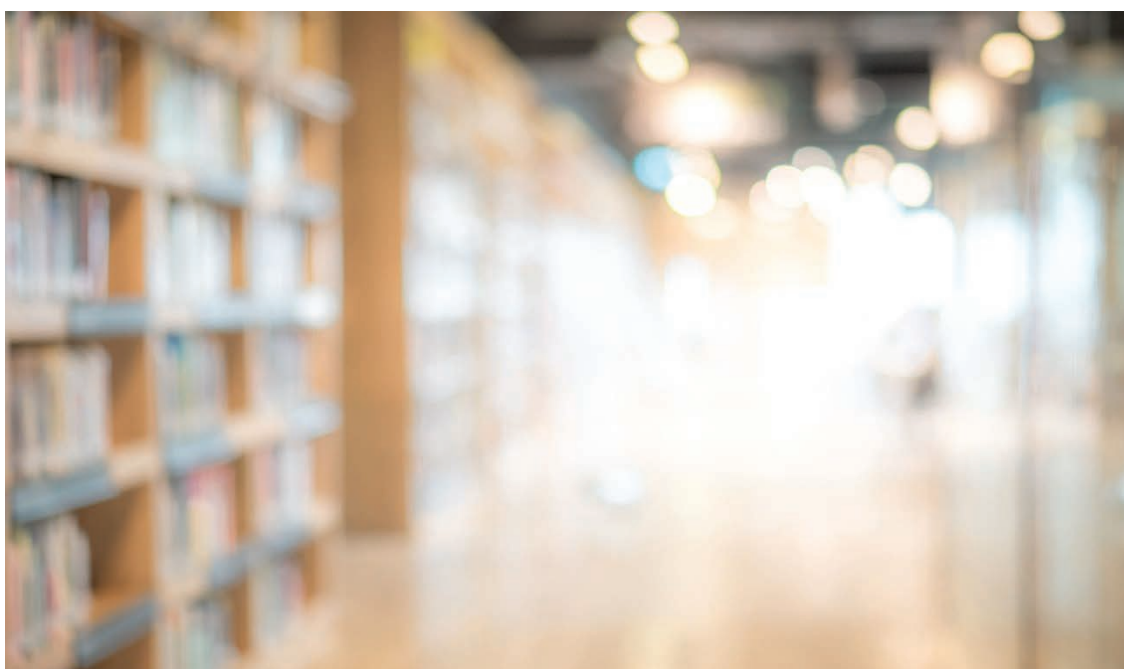
Top 4 areas of legal advice 2020/2021

Other Representation

Whilst the Centre's service focus on legal advice, legal tasks and casework are provided to Centre clients, at the discretion of the principal solicitor.

Legal tasks are defined as assistance provided to complete forms, draft letters etc with no expectation of ongoing assistance. In 2020/2021 the Centre assisted clients through undertaking 228 tasks for clients.

Casework provides ongoing assistance to a client with the majority being within the family law area. In 2020/2021, case work (other representation) comprised 66 carry forward cases with 132 new cases opened and 103 cases closed in the reporting period. Of the cases closed 96% were provided to clients experiencing financial disadvantage.



Covid-19 Frontline Legal Assistance Funding

In July 2020, the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre (the Centre) was awarded funding for 12 months to provide front-line legal assistance services to respond to increased demand as a result of COVID-19.

The aim of the project was to support those experiencing domestic and family violence issues and associated flow-on matters, including but not limited to child residency, parenting plans and property. The core deliverable within the project was the allocation of 40% of the services to domestic violence matters. Legal Assistance Services provided included Legal Advice, Legal Task, Other Representation, Referral and Information.

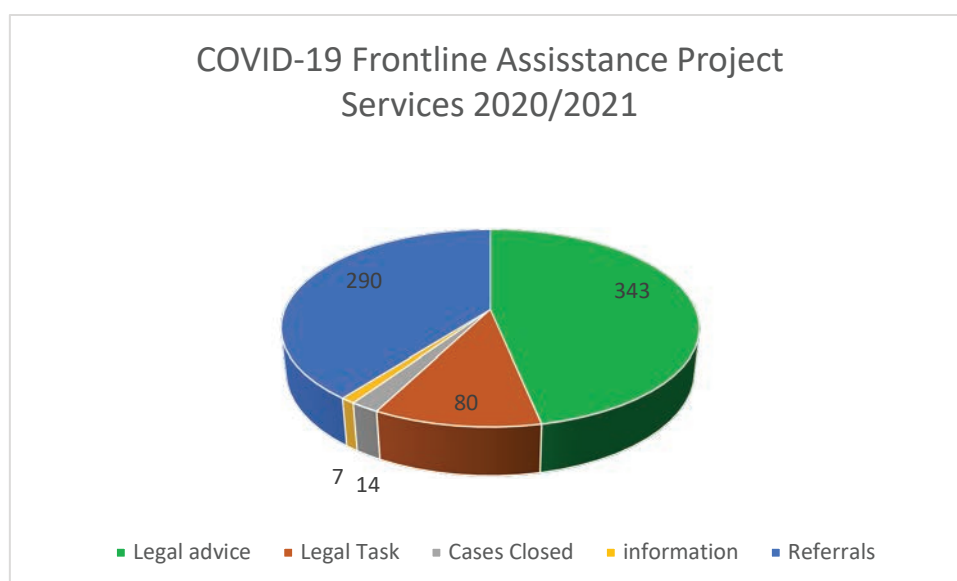
The Centre established a project team to enhance service provision across the geographic footprint of its operations in 2020/2021. The team included the appointment of an additional full-time solicitor together with other current staff to underpin the project in Rockhampton and the allocation of services in Gladstone and Emerald.

Anecdotal evidence from the COVID-19 lock down between March and June 2020 highlighted that in addition to demand for services in the areas of domestic and family violence, a flow-on effect had created need for legal assistance services across the areas of Family, Civil and breach of domestic violence orders.

Additionally the Centre responded to demand from within the judicial system to support aggrieved and respondents at Domestic Violence Court on days that were not supported by duty lawyers. This included Biloela, Yeppoon, and Rockhampton.

The table below provides the number of services undertaken during the period of the project. The Centre exceeded the core deliverable providing 41.54% of the services to those with a Family Violence indicator.

In reviewing the legal problem type, the major problem types were Family or Domestic Violence orders, Family or Domestic Violence and Child Contacts and Contact Orders.



All legal assistance figures contained in this report are based on reports from the CLASS data base.

OUR IMPACT

THOSE WE ASSISTED



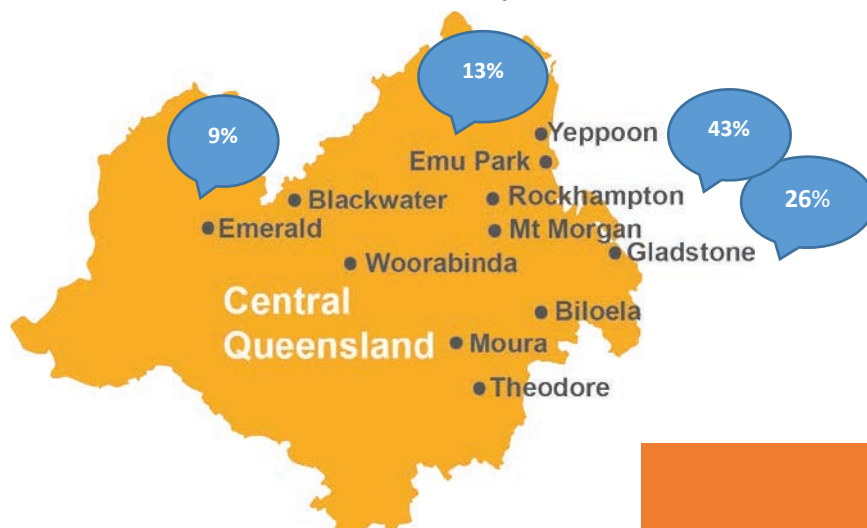
Approximately 75% of the Centre's clients in 2020/2021 were recorded as experiencing financial disadvantage or homelessness.

55% Were aged between 25 – 39 years		36% were aged 50 years and over	
	63% sought in-person appointments		96% of casework clients were experiencing financial disadvantage

WHERE THEY LIVED

The Central Queensland region borders [South Australia](#) and the [Northern Territory](#) and has a vast land area of 497,714 square kilometres (192,168 sq mi), 19% of our clients lived in outer regional or remote areas.

Overview of client distribution 202/2021



A HELPING HAND



A financially disadvantaged client attended the Centre about a secondhand vehicle he had purchased through a secondhand car dealership. The vehicle was advertised as roadworthy and in good condition. The vehicle was delivered without a roadworthy certificate and in a dilapidated condition.

The client had taken the vehicle to a mechanic for a roadworthy inspection. The vehicle failed the roadworthy inspection, and a number of major safety defects were identified. The client had communicated this to the dealership who offered a nominal amount by way of compensation. The amount offered was not sufficient to rectify the defects. The Centre solicitor wrote to the dealership seeking a full refund of the purchase price of the vehicle. The dealership provided a full refund to the client and paid for the redelivery of the vehicle to their dealership.

A client presented to our service for advice as he was wanting to apply for a divorce. It is a requirement that a divorce application be personally served on the other party to the marriage. The difficulty was that the client had lost contact with his ex-Wife as they had been separated for many years. The solicitor gave advice to the client as to the appropriate inquiries and searches to undertake, including an electoral roll search, in order to ascertain the whereabouts of the ex-Wife.

As those inquiries did not assist, the Centre solicitor prepared the divorce application and also prepared an application to the Court seeking an Order that service of the application be dispensed with. The solicitor also prepared the required affidavit for the Court detailing the efforts made by the client to locate his ex-Wife. The client was successful in obtaining an Order to dispense with personal service of the application on his ex-Wife and the divorce was ultimately granted by the Court.

GENERAL OPERATIONS

The CQCLC (Centre) is a generalist legal service, providing continued support to the residents within the local government areas of Rockhampton, Livingstone, Gladstone, Banana and the Central Highlands. In July 2020, the centre commenced the provision of legal assistance services in Gladstone. These services aim to assist those who come from varying walks of life and cultures. Our clients present a broad range of issues within the areas of Family, Civil and minor Criminal law. The services provided include advice, tasks, casework, information, referral and education.

A centralised intake system provides clients with the option of a staff supported telephone or in-person bookings together with a chat bot, based on the Centre website, for online bookings. Appointments be either face to face, telephone or via video conference.

Office based appointments are available in Rockhampton Monday to Thursday between 9.30 am and 3.00 pm and Thursday evening from 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm. The Gladstone office offers appointments between Monday to Friday each week. Appointments at the Emerald office are nominally available Wednesday to Friday each week. Appointment availability is augmented with outreach services in Yeppoon, Biloela and Agnes Water.

During the reporting period, approximately 63% of our clients preferred face to face appointments, however telephone was the major form of communication when making an appointment.

Appointments for legal advice sessions are 30 minutes in duration, whilst the majority of advice sessions are “one off”, the provision of minor assistance through case and task work was provided to 465 clients. Referrals are received from a wide range of areas including community groups, the Court House, Legal Aid, local practitioners and Police Referrals System.

Outreach Services

During the reporting period the Centre maintained its outreach services to Yeppoon, Biloela and the estates outreach clinic and commenced services to Agnes Water in the latter part of the reporting period.

In November 2020, the Centre signed an MOU with the North Blackwater Medical Group to establish a Health Justice Partnership.

Networking & Collaborations

Interagency meetings provide the best networking opportunity for the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre. These meetings also provide opportunities for referrals and potential collaborations. Other regular meetings attended include the CQ Family Law Pathway Meeting, Domestic Violence Network Meeting and the Rockhampton Police Referrals Agencies Meeting. These meetings allow the Centre to provide and receive updates on available services. Attendance at Interagency Meetings included the major towns within the CQCLC geographic area including rural areas within the Banana Shire and Central Highlands regions.

Community Legal Education and Community Engagement Event

During 2019/2020 community legal education events included in person presentations and ABC radio presentations. The in-person presentations were held in Rockhampton, Yeppoon, Biloela, Theodore, and Moura. The event topics included:

- ☞ Lying & misleading statements
- ☞ Elder Abuse
- ☞ Family & Domestic Violence
- ☞ Legal Capacity
- ☞ When is violence in sport legal?
- ☞ Neighbourhood Disputes
- ☞ Land resumption
- ☞ Having a will vs not having a will

CQUniversity Law Clinic

The Centre has been hosting CQUniversity students since 2015. In this reporting period, the students have undertaken a number of roles ranging from client intake, observing client interviews and providing support to staff.

With the introduction of a legal practicum course, the students have had 2 options for integrating their studies whilst participating at the centre. The students have had the option of undertaking the role of volunteer support officer which included assisting clients to identify the exact nature of their legal problem which assisted staff in maximising the outcomes for its clients or observing client interviews either in-person or via Zoom.

Working with volunteer solicitor, Justin French, the students were offered the opportunity to participate at our Evening Clinic which included pre-appointment discussion on the legal problem, observation of the appointment and post appointment discussions on the outcomes.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The Centre's gates again featured in its acknowledgement of Domestic Violence Awareness month.

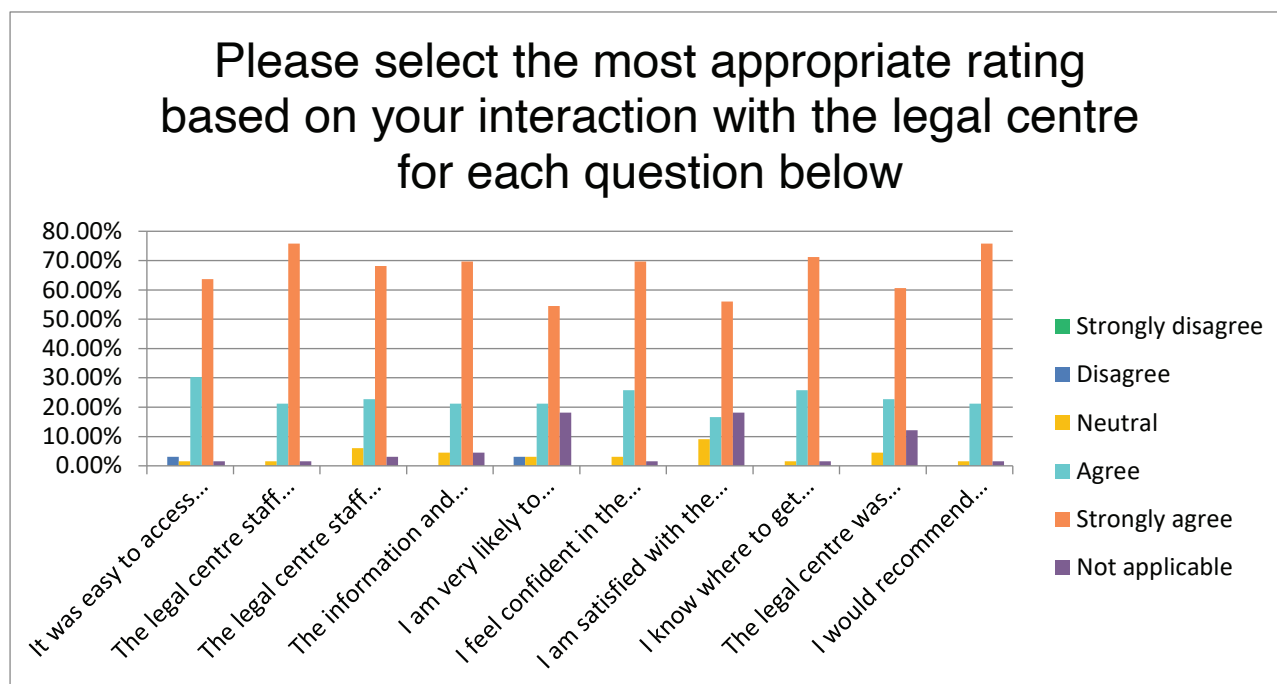


Feedback on services

The May 2021 client survey was managed statewide through Community Legal Centres Queensland (CLC Qld) with the Centre ultimately reporting to the Department of Justice and the Attorney-General. During the survey period, the CQCLC undertook to provide access to the 172 clients who sought assistance during May, either at the end of their appointment or via telephone. Response rates varied however 65% of clients who attended appointments in person and 30% of telephone based appointments participated in the survey.

The graph below summarises the outcomes in the table above. Overall, it reiterates that the clients who participated in the survey were happy with the service provided by the CQCLC. Question 7's percentage ranking for disagree was offset by the percentage of clients who felt that the question was not applicable to their circumstances. Additionally Question 5 responses indicate that similar to

Question 7, 18.18% of survey respondents felt that the question was not applicable to their circumstance.



CQCLC client responses based on experiences from interacting with the CQCLC. (Data provided by CLC Qld)

The full questions are shown below.

Benchmarking data provided by CLC Qld enabled comparison of CQCLC's results with the statewide mean responses. This highlighted that the CQCLC was above the statewide average in relation to all questions.

The survey highlighted that the CQCLC is continuing to provide a service that our clients are seeking and that the advice provided was helpful, staff and volunteers friendly and knowledgeable, and the clients received assistance with how to deal with their legal problems.

Client feedback included:

- *Clear information and proposed action with my needs.*
- *Fantastic customer service*
- *Felt comfortable, very relaxed, very friendly.*
- *Without Community Legal Centre assistance, I would be unable to work or support myself financially.*
- *All the staff at the Community Legal Centre very nice and make us very welcome. Thank you so much for helping me with all my problem and give me solutions. Very appreciated.*
- *Was not expecting it to be way easier than initially thought, Thank You*
- *Good legal advice in a very friendly manner, Thanks.*
- *Very pleased with service and outcomes.*

Survey Questions:

Q1 It was easy to access the legal centre when I first needed help

Q2 The legal centre staff listened to my legal problem in a friendly and respectful manner

Q3 The legal centre staff helped me understand how to deal with my legal problem and provided me with options

Q4 The information and resources I received from the legal centre staff were very useful

Q5 I am very likely to access the other service(s) that I was referred to by the legal centre

- Q6 I feel confident in the ability of the legal centre staff to assist me
- Q7 I am satisfied with the resolution of the matter I received assistance for
- Q8 I know where to get help if I have another legal problem in the future
- Q9 The legal centre was able to meet my specific cultural or personal needs
- Q10 I would recommend this legal centre to other people

COVID-19 Frontline Legal Assistance Project

In July 2020, the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre (the Centre) entered into a service agreement with the State of Queensland through the Department of Justice and Attorney General for the provision of front-line legal assistance services to respond to increased demand as a result of COVID-19.

The project was for a 12 month period with the aim to support those experiencing domestic and family violence issues and associated flow-on matters, including but not limited to child residency, parenting plans and property.

The Centre established a project team to enhance service provision across the geographic footprint of its operations in 2020/2021. The team included the appointment of an additional full-time solicitor together with other current staff to underpin the project in Rockhampton and the allocation of services in Gladstone and Emerald.

Elder Abuse Prevention & Support Service

The Centre entered into an agreement with Relationships Australia for the provision of legal services for their Elder Abuse Prevention & Support Service in Rockhampton and Gladstone.

Duty Lawyer

The Centre, under contract from Legal Aid, provides a staff member to act as duty lawyer in the Rockhampton and Gladstone domestic violence court on a weekly basis. Other duty lawyer services include criminal and children's court in Emerald and Blackwater.

These services do not form part of targets embedded in the service level agreement however remuneration for the work is provided by Legal Aid. During the reporting period, Centre staff provided assistance to 452 clients across the Rockhampton, Gladstone, Central Highlands and Callide Valley regions.

Additionally the Centre has provided non-contracted legal assistance services at the Biloela and Yeppoon DV Court during the reporting period.

Life Member & Volunteer of the Year

At the 2020 General Meeting in recognition of his years as a member, Management Committee member and office bearer, the Centre appointed Mr Wayne Jones as a Life Member of the Centre. Wayne had been a member of the Centre for 10 years.

Mr Justin French was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award for his dedication and service to the Centre. Justin commenced as a volunteer support officer in 2015 and moved to a volunteer lawyer after his admission in mid 2019.

VOLUNTEERS

The contribution made by our volunteers is immeasurable as without their tireless efforts our ability to realise our vision would be difficult to achieve.

Support Officers

Our volunteer support officers, drawn from the community and law students have contributed over 1400 hours of voluntary work during the 2019/2020 period.

Thank you to:

Lyndall Anderson

Samara McCosker

Claudia Neill-Ballantine

Zoe Russell

Elizabeth Stone

Penny-Leigh Swift

Alex Thomas

PLT & Work Experience Students

During the reporting period, the Centre hosted a number of PLT and work experience students from Rockhampton secondary schools. The students ranged in year level however all were interested in studying law at the completion of their secondary studies.

Solicitors

The dedication and expertise brought to the Centre by volunteer solicitors drawn from the Rockhampton legal sector has been exceptional. It has enabled the Centre to realise its objectives through the weekly evening clinics. Over 250 hours of support has been provided enabling additional free legal advice sessions to be made available to the Central Queensland community. Grant & Simpson Lawyers have continued to volunteer with the provision of assistance for the Estates Administration Clinic.

Thank you to:

Matthew Dunlop

Rees R & Sydney Jones, Rockhampton

Justin French

CQUniversity, Rockhampton

Nicola Goodwin

Swanwick Murray & Roche, Rockhampton

Allan Grant

Grant & Simpson, Rockhampton

Wayne Howard

KCH Lawyers, Rockhampton

Rowan King

RK Law, Rockhampton

Katherine Lord

Grant & Simpson, Rockhampton

Wendy Maitland

Rockhampton Family Law, Rockhampton

Damien Martin

Grant & Simpson, Rockhampton

Harry Molloy

Rockhampton Family Law, Rockhampton

Joshua Morgan

Grant & Simpson, Rockhampton

Korin Petersen

CQUniversity, Rockhampton

John Siganto

Grant & Simpson, Rockhampton

Michael Stockall

Michael Stockall Solicitor, Rockhampton

Wall of Honour

To acknowledge 25 years of operations, the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre established a Wall of Honour. The Wall was officially launched by his Honour Justice Crow in May. The first two nominees for the Wall were Mr Robert Fisher and Ms Joan Brady.

Robert held the position of Chair of the Centre from 1996 to 2001 and Joan was Treasurer of the Centre from 1996 to 2000.



The late Associate Professor Robert Fisher chaired the inaugural meeting of the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre on the 19th of December 1995. It was at this public meeting that approval was given for the formation of the Centre. Robert subsequently held the position of President of the newly formed Management Committee until the 29th of November 2001. He remained a member and an active supporter for many years afterwards.

Robert had an enduring passion for teaching law, promoting social justice and providing opportunities for those living in regional areas to have access to legal services and education.

As Dean of the School of Business & Law, he was instrumental in establishing the CQUniversity Bachelor of Laws program which has allowed local students an opportunity to study and continue to work in Central Queensland.

Robert's commitment to the law continues to be fostered through the Robert Fisher Pro Bono Legal Clinic and the many CQUniversity law students currently studying and volunteering their time at the Centre.

Joan Brady was a dynamic community activist who was actively involved in the formation of the Central Queensland Community Legal Centre since its proposed inception at a public meeting in December 1995. She served as the Centre's inaugural treasurer and continued in that role for four years.



It was thanks to Joan's network of political contacts and persuasive ability that the Centre was able to secure low-cost premises in West Street, Rockhampton, where it was situated with the Central Queensland Financial Counselling Service and the Tenancy Advisory Service.

Her devout activism also saw her become a founding member of the Rockhampton Women's Health Centre and a strong advocate for the rights of women and Aboriginal people.

Joan was given special mention by Member for Capricornia, Kirsten Livermore, in her maiden speech before the House of Representatives, stating that Joan was the first to believe in her when Kirsten started as a solicitor with Central Queensland Community Legal Centre in 1997.



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE & STAFF

At the 2020 Annual General Meeting, two long term Management Committee members, Kath Baker and Wayne Jones did not seek re-election, however three new members were elected.

Position	Name
President:	Anna Farmer, Graduate Student, Gladstone
Vice President:	Bridget Young, Qld Human Rights Commission, Rockhampton
Treasurer:	Prue Saxby, Indigo Gold, Rockhampton
Committee Members:	Matthew Dunlop, Rees. R & Sydney Jones, Rockhampton
	Justin French, CQUniversity, Rockhampton (resigned July 2021)
	Damian Martin, Swanwick, Murray & Roche, Rockhampton
	Laurel Mason, Murri Court & Yoombooda gNujeena CJG
	Juwarki Kapu Lug Ltd (resigned April 2021)
	Janice Moriarity, Project Mgr, Business Dev, ENC, Emerald
Secretary:	Luke Price, CQUniversity, Melbourne
	Judith Wright, CQCLC, Rockhampton

During 2020/2021, three solicitors were appointed. Two were appointed on a 12 month fixed term contracts and one for a five year fixed term contract.

Principal Solicitor/CEO	Fay Tzioutzias	Ongoing
Solicitors:	Kasey Wilson	Ongoing
	Kate Wright	Ongoing
	Jasmine Smith	appt. July 2020
	Kelly Latham	appt. August 2020
	Kim West	ended July 2021
Business Manager:	Judith Wright	Ongoing
Community Development Officer:	Nick Mundy	resigned April 2021
Legal Support/Admin Officer:	Kajol Kannan	appt. August 2019
	Ruth Siganto	appt August 2019
	Sue Woodfield	appt September 2020

Life Member -2020	Volunteer of the Year -2020
	
Wayne Jones	Justin French



VISION STATEMENT

*Sustainable and accessible legal
service for the Central
Queensland Community*

GOALS

*Provide quality legal help and education to
our community ensuring that clients who
most need our help are prioritised.*

*Develop and maintain strategic community
relationships and partnerships to enhance
client services and the provision of
legal information.*

*Build and maintain organisational
sustainability.*

