

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



ANNUAL REPORT

2018 – 2019

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



Vision:

**All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
people living free of family violence
and sexual assault.**

Mission:

**To provide culturally appropriate legal and other
services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
people who have experienced or are experiencing
family violence and sexual assault in
the Central Australia and Barkly regions.**

Freecall: 1800 088 884



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Domestic Violence is Everybody's Business

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I. CAAFLU SERVICE PROFILE

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation (CAAFLUAC)

Who are we and what services do we provide?

CAAFLUAC was established in 2000. Funded by the Commonwealth Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet we are a Family Violence Prevention Legal Service. We are a justice, advisory and referral centre for Aboriginal victims of domestic and family violence.

Located in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek we provide services to Aboriginal women, children and men in Alice Springs, Ntaria (Hermannsburg), Papunya, Yuendumu, Tennant Creek and Elliott, in accordance with our operational framework and service delivery priorities.

Our primary focus is to provide Aboriginal victims of family violence, including sexual abuse, with legal advice and casework, counseling, information, assistance, support and referral services. We provide referral, as appropriate, to mediation, rehabilitation, mental health and perpetrator programs.

We participate in and deliver community education, development and prevention initiatives, and contribute to law and policy initiatives and reform.

***A service for victims of family violence
Family Violence Prevention Legal Service (FVPLS)***

Free call 1800 088 884

The priority areas of law are domestic violence restraining orders, sexual assault, child protection, victims of crime compensation, and family law where the legal matter relates to family violence.

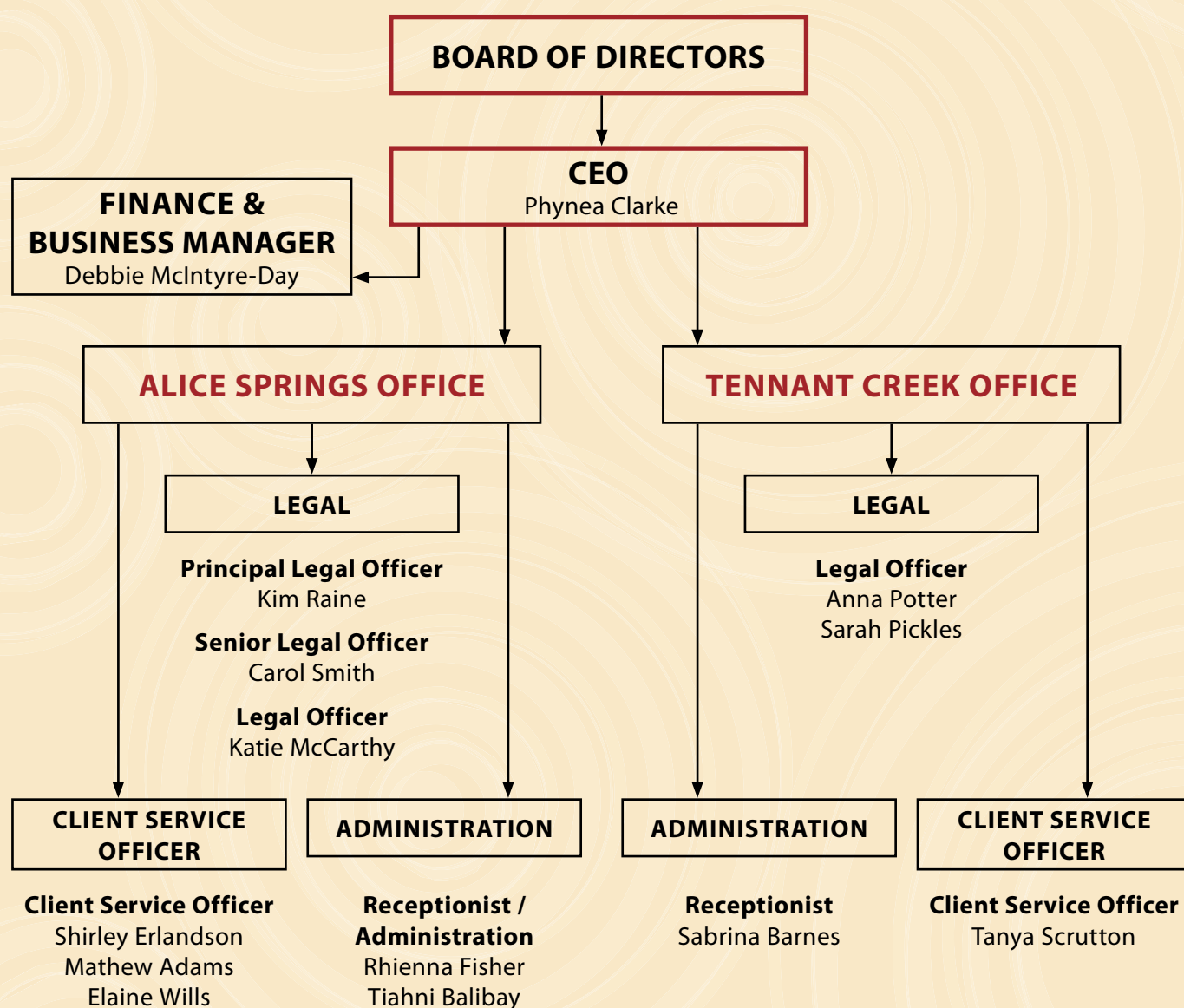
We aim to provide high quality and culturally appropriate services, including legal advice which draws upon Aboriginal law and custom and Australian law, to identify possible pathways for protection and change.

The services provided at Ntaria, Papunya, Yuendumu and Elliott recognise and respond to the barriers that Aboriginal people face in attempting to access services that are located in Alice Springs.

We arrange interpreters/cultural brokers for clients as appropriate to ensure that our clients can participate fully and confidently in matters that affect them, and to ensure that we properly and fully service our clients.

II. CAAFLU CORPORATE STRUCTURE

The Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation Inc. Corporate Structure as at June 2019



III. CHAIRPERSON'S & CEO'S REPORT

Joyce Taylor · Chairperson · 2018/2019 Phynea Clarke · CEO · 2018/2019



As CEO of CAAFLU Aboriginal Corporation I am very pleased to present to you the 2018/2019 Annual Report with CAAFLU's Chairperson, Joyce Taylor.

CAAFLU is one of 13 Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (FVPLS's) across Australia, as forum members it was formally established in May 2012. I have been the National FVPLS Deputy Convenor since 2016, very well supported by the National Convenor Antoinette Braybrook and the Secretariat.

As Deputy Convenor of the National FVPLS Forum (the Forum) I have been involved in the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peaks (COP) Partnership Approach on the Closing the Gap Refresh. The Forum is one of the key members of the Coalition of Peaks. I've represented the Forum at a key all day, face-to-face meeting of the COP in Adelaide on 27 June, at which the development of new targets for the Closing the Gap Refresh were discussed. I have represented the Forum at the Closing the Gap Partnership Working Group (PWG) meeting the following day on 28 June. The PWG meets as a part of the Partnership Approach and involves discussions between representatives of the COP and the federal, state and territory governments. Additionally, I have represented the Forum at a further PWG meeting in Canberra on 9 October.

The last year has remained busy as with previous years with legal matters and client services work. It was also a busy year with active engagement nationally and throughout the NT.

NETWORKING AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

National and NT

- ☼ Staff attended the 2018 Indigenous STOP Domestic Violence Conference in Brisbane
- ☼ Meeting with a General Manager from ABC International Translating and Interpreting services from Adelaide, wanting to have further dealings with the Central Australia region, bush courts and Domestic Violence space – query contact been made to Darwin office.
- ☼ PLO and Business Manager attended NACLC conference in Sydney late August.
- ☼ 19-22 November attended meeting in Melbourne with DSS and PM&C discussed 4th Action Plan consultations.
- ☼ Amy Williams from Office of the Children's Commissioner in Darwin visited CAAFLU briefing on function of OCC and complaints process.
- ☼ Paul Vanderhear and Dez Wilde from the NT Ombudsman in Darwin visited CAAFLU briefing on function of the NT Ombudsman.
- ☼ Staff attended the Victims of Crime consultation at the Desert Park in relation to the proposed amendments to the Victims of Crime legislation. The Director of Crime Victim Services Unit met with staff at CAAFLU the following day.
- ☼ In February, I was invited to attend the First Nations Women's safety and wellbeing in remote community meeting held in Melbourne. Met with Honourable Ken Wyatt AM, PM (Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care, Minister for Indigenous Health & Honourable Kelly O'Dwyer PM (Minister for Women, Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations). Discussion on main issues on domestic violence, child safety and programs that have worked on the ground.
- ☼ PLO and I met with Narelle Beer, NT Police Assistant Commissioner and Bradley Currie in relation to sexual assault guidelines, complaints and other programs updates and discussions.

III. CHAIRPERSON'S & CEO'S REPORT

- ✿ Attended regular phone-link meetings with NT front-line service providers coordinated by Priscilla Atkins from NAAJA discussing gaps in services for victims and defendants, including a meeting with Nigel Scullion.
- ✿ Federal Shadow Minister for Justice, Clare O'Neil and Honourable Warren Snowden MP met with staff. Staff shared puzzle pieces to illustrate the gaps in services and how important timely access to emergency funding is for the safety of victims and their children.
- ✿ CAAFLU received invite from Our Watch with the book launching on violence by Natasha Stott Despoja AM at the Double Tree by Hilton in April.
- ✿ Attended the Aboriginal Out of Home Care forum at Desert Knowledge Precinct
- ✿ In May Senior Lawyer Carol Smith and I presented at the Lowitja Institute International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference in Darwin (Culture empowering community – Thinking Speaking Being) – presentation was very well received.

Alice Springs Region

- ✿ Rhieanna and I attended flag raising ceremony on top of Anzac Hill as part of NAIDOC week in July 2018. This was an important moment and first time the Aboriginal flag flown on Anzac Hill for NAIDOC celebrations.
- ✿ Meg Houston from NACLIC's early July attended the office for the accreditation.
- ✿ Met with Penny Johnson from Relationships Australia to sign MoU for a pilot program known as 'Legally Assisted and Culturally Appropriate Family Dispute Resolution'.
- ✿ Regular participation at the Project Reference Group of the Domestic Violence Specialist Court
- ✿ Staff met with Maurice Blackburn lawyers – potential referral regarding medical negligence issues and CVSU.
- ✿ Regular meet/greets with Ti Tree safe house to assist Aboriginal women who work at the safe house, referrals into CAAFLU and delivery of CLE.
- ✿ NTV, project introduction and meeting with Janis Constable to address Male Family Violence in Aboriginal communities (Janis is the lead researcher at No to Violence in Victoria) organised by CAFV SAN.
- ✿ CAAFLU staff, Rhieanna, Brittany and I presented to Yirara College youth, "What Makes Us Strong" DVD attending Yirara's, school assembly.

- ✿ Staff participated in legal education on CAAMA radio with NAAJA in relation to child protection.
- ✿ Invite received from Martin Taylor at Coles, for the unveiling of an Indigenous Art mural designed by the talented Jane Golder Kngwarreye which staff attended. This was coordinated by Stephen Ariston from Palya Proper Fine Art – creating opportunities working with the communities which is part of Coles wider Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander strategy.

Barkly Region

- ✿ TC Lawyer Anna Potter provide evidence at the Parliamentary Inquiry in the Child Protection system in NT.
- ✿ Tennant Creek Solicitors attended meetings with the NT Police in Tennant Creek.
- ✿ Tennant Creek staff and Alice Springs staff participating in Barkly review with Fiona Allison and Chris Cunneen, Senior Researchers (Justice too far away – community consult).
- ✿ Mathew (CSO) travelled to Tennant Creek, delivering CLE with staff to men and women in the Barkly region.
- ✿ Successful Ochre Ribbon Day in Tennant Creek at the local swimming pool from that Mungkarata school staff approached CAAFLU at the Ochre ribbon day requested CAAFLU visit Mungkarata for community legal education sessions.
- ✿ Sabrina and I attended a few planning meetings with Julalikari Council for NAIDOC week celebrations. We organised a movie night – a success with community.
- ✿ Attended a meeting with Elliot McAdam at CatholicCareNT. Discussion around lack of men behaviour programs, other community updates and programs discussion.

Exciting news that FVPLS program three years extension authorised by the Honourable Ken Wyatt AM. Chairperson and I take this opportunity to express our appreciation and commitment to an invaluable front-line service for victims of Domestic and Family Violence.

We acknowledge our funding providers, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C). Finally, I thank the CAAFLU Staff and our Board of Directors too for their dedication.

Lowitja Conference 2019



Acknowledgement of Larrakia Country

Family Violence Prevention Legal Services

14 culturally appropriate front line services around Australia

FVPLS LOCATIONS



Who is CAAFLU?

Established 2000

Culturally appropriate:

Legal advice
Representation
Community legal education
Support
Referrals
Advocacy



Aboriginal victims of domestic and family violence and sexual assault



Thinking Speaking Being

- Family violence is not 'part of' Aboriginal culture, it's not an 'Aboriginal problem'.
- Aboriginal communities are NOT more violent than other demographics.
- Men from all cultural backgrounds perpetrate violence against Aboriginal women and their children.
- Profound lack of culturally appropriate, safe and specialist system responses for our women.
- Must listen to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women already on the frontline – in FVPLS.

FVPLS LOCATIONS

Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service Victoria

(Melbourne HO, Mildura, Gippsland, Barwon South West)

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

(Alice Springs HO, Tennant Creek)

Kempsey Family Violence Prevention Legal Service
(Kempsey)

Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation SA
(Port Augusta HO, Ceduna, Port Lincoln)

Marninwarnitkurra Family Violence Prevention Unit WA
(Fitzroy Crossing)

Maruma-Li Mari Outreach Service QLD
(Roma)

NPY Women's Council
(Alice Springs)

North Australian Aboriginal Family Violence Legal Service
(Darwin HO, Katherine)

Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service
(Cairns HO, Townsville, Rockhampton, Mt Isa)

Southern Aboriginal Corporation Family Violence Prevention Legal Service
(Albany)

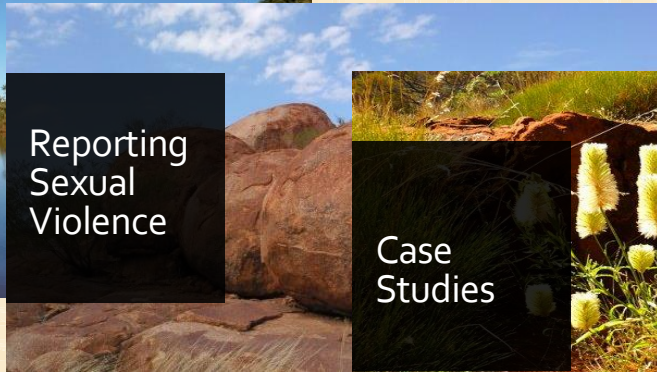
Thiyama-li Family Violence Service Inc. NSW
(Moree HO, Bourke, Walgett)

Warra-Warra Family Violence Prevention Legal Service
(Broken Hill)

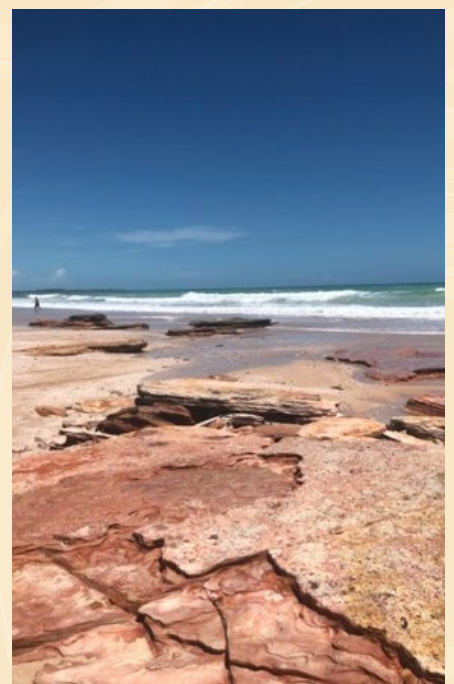
Western Australia Family Violence Legal Service
(Perth HO, Broome, Carnarvon, Kununnura Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Port Hedland)

Binaal Billa FVPLS
(Forbes)

Lowitja Conference 2019



CAAFLU Activities



IV. PRINCIPAL LEGAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Kim Raine · PLO · 2018/2019



VISION

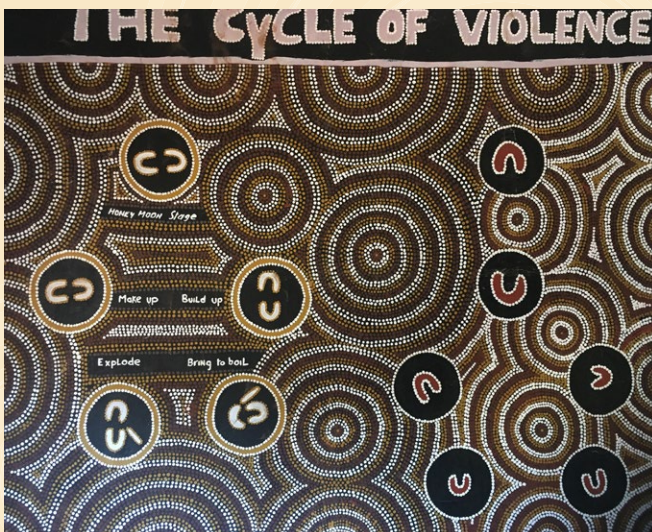
**Aboriginal
Controlled
Aboriginal
Focused
with
Aboriginal
Solutions**

In 2000, CAAFLUAC was born.

Nearly 20 years on, we see no change to the destruction caused by family violence.

We continue to face challenges from an organisational and from a community perspective.

Our newspaper article CAAFLU published an article in the Centralian Advocate on 15 February 2019 delivered to the Central Australian community our message of concern for the rising personal costs for victims of family violence when we remembered the annual Ochre Ribbon Day 2019.



Each victim of family violence faces a life and death decision when they choose to either stay or leave a violent relationship. Where there are children involved the costs are so much greater. So, what does it cost to leave? Each woman CAAFLUAC assists will bring with them a raft of considerations such as health, schooling and start-up costs, safety accommodation with out of pocket expenses to remain in a shelter for a short time until being exited with minimal or no transitional accommodation available. The costs of leaving behind possessions, identification such as birth certificates, pets and vehicles amount to exorbitant financial losses which are unable to be recouped or replaced without financial loss. The physical and mental health impacts cannot be underestimated and the impact of the violence or being witness to such behaviour shapes a person's life whereby it can so often be irreparable and lead to a pathway of self-destruction. CAAFLUAC works tirelessly to assist clients with emergency relief. Its lawyers are often wearing more than just a legal hat when addressing victim issues and works shoulder to shoulder with traditional and well-respected Aboriginal client support officers. CAAFLUAC has been required to fund evacuations for victims and where possible and within budgetary constraints, accommodation costs in cases where our only women's shelter in Alice Springs cannot provide a bed. CAAFLUAC has assisted with food vouchers and transportation and works closely with Centrelink and other services to try and improve the victim's chances of securing a fresh start. The pieces of the jigsaw puzzle are many and the solutions are few. It is difficult to imagine the pressures and stressors associated with escaping. Unfortunately for some, such as the late Susan Taylor of Western Australia, her escape meant that she would take matters into her own hands.

IV. PRINCIPAL LEGAL OFFICER'S REPORT

In amongst the personal challenges for victims, CAAFLU marks another year of funding unpredictability and a lack of recognition by the Northern Territory government for the work done by this specific family violence service for our Aboriginal clients.

The logistical and financial pressures include:

- Remote recruitment and retention
- Sub-standard data collection system [CLASS] which fails to capture the "black picture"
- No Emergency Relief Funds to assist victims to evacuate in an emergency
- No funding for education and ongoing awareness.
- Lack of affordable and transitional housing – including public housing waiting lists of more than seven years for priority applications and 10 years for non-priority. Combine this with over-crowding and limitations on capacity in the single women's shelter in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek, we see vulnerable clients either remaining with violent partners or becoming homeless.

Despite these enormous pressures, CAAFLU has achieved incredible outcomes for the most desperate clients and has advocated for significant law reform.

Stakeholder Relationships and Partnerships

CAAFLUAC now has a Memorandum of Understanding with Relationships Australia, Alice Springs to provide legal services for clients within the pilot program known as "Legally Assisted and Culturally Appropriate Family Dispute Resolution". This arrangement incorporates training opportunities for staff and complements the Trauma Practices now embedded in our service.

CAAFLUAC staff continue to work with stakeholder and agencies including:

- Relationships Australia Alice Springs
- Family Law Pathways Network
- Northern Territory Community Legal Centre Association
- Family Violence Prevention Legal Services Secretariat and the national fraternity
- Family Safety Framework Local Reference Group
- Gaps in Services for Victims and Defendants interagency
- CLASS database discussions
- Northern Territory Legal Area Forum

- Domestic Violence Court Specialist Court Reference Group and Evaluators
- Tennant Creek Domestic Violence Reference Group
- Northern Territory Police
- Women's Shelter (Alice Springs and Tennant Creek)
- Sexual Assault Referral Centre (Alice Springs and Tennant Creek)
- Territory Families
- NT Legal Aid Commission
- Central Australia Women's Legal Service
- NAAJA
- NT Community and Social Service Sector
- Central Australian Family Violence and Sexual Assault Network
- Telstra – Westnet phones program (10 phones provided)

With skeleton staff we have represented CAAFLU at the following national and state training opportunities:

- NAJLC 2018
- NAIDOC events Voice Treaty Truth
- Presented at the Lowitja Conference, Darwin
- DV practice conference NT
- National FVPLS Face to Face forum, Broome
- National Indigenous Legal Conference, Darwin
- Meeting with Dale Wakefield Minister – Darwin
- Closing the Gap Refresher
- COAG meeting
- Territory Families

Law Reform Activities and Continuing Legal Education

Working closely with Ashurst Pro bono, we commissioned cross-jurisdictional reports on:

1. Sexual Assault Interviewing guidelines for police; and
2. Durations for DVO's

These reports have assisted us in advocating for change to processes and judicial systems that act against the best interests of victims. Addressing things like:

Language and words used by police when interviewing victims and avoiding questions like "Did you enjoy it?" or "Did you behave in a way that may have made him think you were flirting?". Those words and concepts we believed were outlawed but unfortunately, we continue to meet clients who have experiences such as these. The re-traumatisation for victims and the lack of empathy

IV. PRINCIPAL LEGAL OFFICER'S REPORT

and blaming needs to be challenged by services such as CAAFLU so that systems and authorities are reminded of their ethical duties and obligations under human rights ethos and legislative frameworks.

Working closely with the pilot Specialist DV Court Alice Springs forum group and advisory committee, we helped inform the developers of the need to consider systems for victims especially Aboriginal clients. Safe spaces for vulnerable victims, a screened area to give evidence or to watch proceedings and the focus on a therapeutic approach has been the mandate for the NT Government. The court and the procedural directions remain a work in progress, but we are hopeful that 2020 will see a brighter future for complainants. Our responsibility now as a service provider is to find ways to encourage our client/victims to enter the doors of the court room and take ownership of their proceedings.

Law reform in relation to the duration of Domestic Violence Orders in the NT is the subject of a further report which captures the explanatory statement underpinning the legislation and examines case law that support the capacity and power of the NT Judiciary to make indefinite orders. This is an exciting development. The aim is to reduce the amount of time victims must return to court and retell their stories acknowledging that this type of length of order may suit all clients. There are however certainly candidates that would benefit.

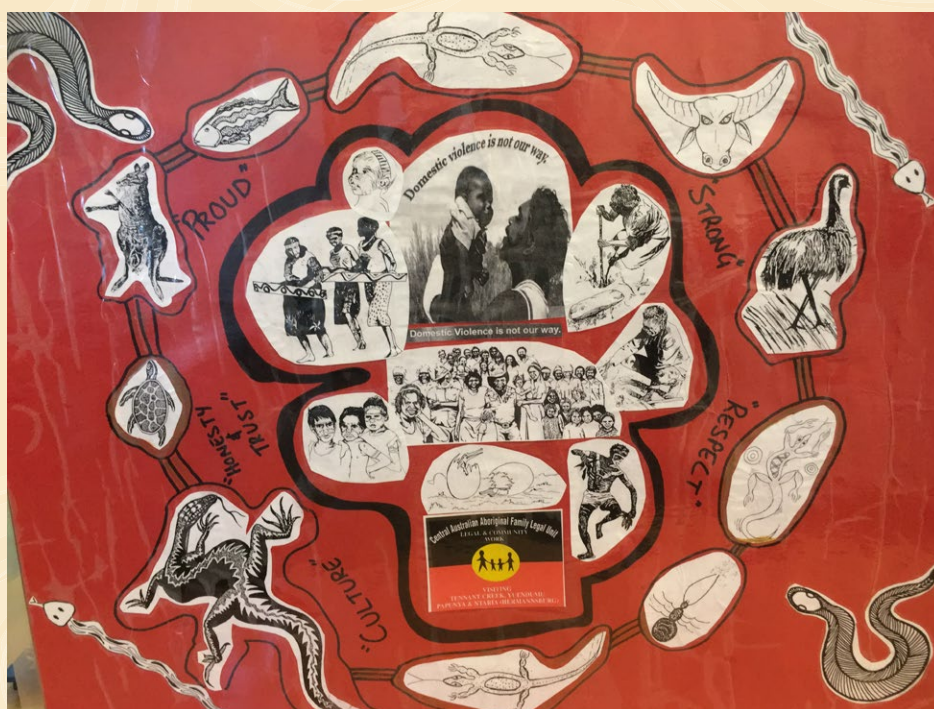
Legal Education is necessary and yet CAAFLU cannot meet the demand. Community seek education to be delivered in their way and at their pace. Understanding the true genesis of the best way for education to be delivered I am reminded of the work done by our CEO Phynea Clarke many years ago which is a pictorial demonstration of a true analysis of Domestic Violence – it's not our way.

Statistical Snapshot

During the reporting period, CAAFLU:

- Commenced with a file base of 490 open files
- We opened a further 223 files by the end of the reporting period; and
- We closed 254 files.
- Our team provided 320 advices throughout the period
- Our Client Services Team provided 471 non-legal wrap around supports, information's and referrals.

AS 2020 looms closer and we are faced with funding uncertainty with June 30, I take this opportunity to thank our organisation ably led for another year by CEO Phynea Clarke and to the federal body that recognizes our work, Prime Minister and Cabinet. We trust that CAAFLU will still be here for years to come!



Simplify the message....

**Proud
Strong
Respect
Culture
Honesty and
Trust.**

Our funding bodies need to recognise the importance of this message getting to our community and ensure that the message is heard in the right places.

V. THE BARKLY REGION

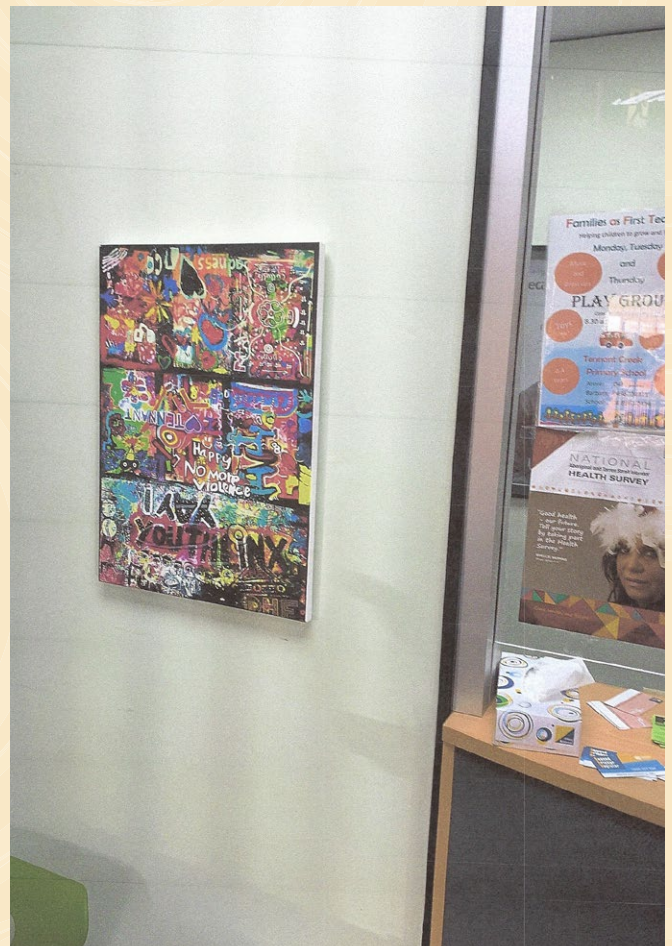


Tennant Creek Team:

Anna Potter,
Sarah Pickles,
Sabrina Barnes and
Tanya Scrutton

Tennant Creek

During 2018-2019 the CAAFLU Tennant Creek office has had four full time staff including two legal practitioners, a client support officer and a receptionist. Two of these staff members are Aboriginal women with family connections in the region who provide valuable knowledge and insight into local cultural knowledge and practices to ensure there is cultural safety and a welcoming and supportive environment for clients who attend. Our staff in Tennant Creek work closely with other services including Police, SARC, Anyinginyi, Catholic Care, Territory Families, ADSCA, BRADAAG, Tennant Creek Women's Refuge and other legal services to ensure strong referral pathways. They also collaborate with other agencies to deliver community legal education in Tennant Creek, Elliott and Ali Curung. Our legal practitioners play an active role in attending and chairing when required, the Domestic Violence Local Reference Group Meetings, which occur monthly and work towards close collaboration between services. Our staff have also represented CAAFLU at the NGO representative body meetings that form part of the new and emerging Barkly Regional Deal. Our client numbers have remained stable despite the introduction of a full-time legal practitioner from the Central Australian Women's Legal Service and reported decreases in domestic violence resulting from alcohol restrictions. We have noticed a decrease in new referrals, perhaps partly due to an overall reduction in domestic violence, and the ongoing challenge of educating services about who we are and the types of matters we can assist with, given the low staff retention rates in many services in the region. We have developed a good relationship with police and have monthly meetings with senior police to raise any issues that have arisen. This remains an ongoing challenge with the high rate of staff change over particularly in investigations and the domestic violence police unit. We have been invited to participate in police education and look forward to commencing this in the near future.



V. THE BARKLY REGION

Elliott

Elliott is located approximately 250km north of Tennant Creek and has a population of approximately 350 people. Over the previous year, CAAFLU have visited Elliott community approximately every two months to follow up with clients and ensure we are available for victims of domestic violence seeking legal advice. In Elliott, we make regular visits to the Health Clinic, police and safehouse to strengthen referral pathways. Rates of domestic violence in this community have remained relatively low since the introduction of alcohol restrictions. This year we also delivered community legal education on mandatory reporting to Council services in Elliott including staff from the health clinic, night patrol, aged care, library and sport and recreation. We have also been invited to provide education sessions to women in the community by remote health staff in the coming weeks. We also travel to Marlinja to visit clients who reside there. Marlinja is located beside Newcastle Waters station approx. 25 km north of Elliott. In the Marlinja homeland community there are approximately only 10 houses.

Ali Curung

Resident Tennant Creek lawyer Sarah Pickles and Client Service Officer Tanya Scrutton made regular visits to Ali Curung community throughout the year. We continued to check in with clients in community, and fostered strong relationships with other local services, including the Safe House, Police and the Council. We were invited to be part of community events including their inaugural peace talks celebration, and participated in Territory's Families celebration of Child Protection Week at Ali Curung Primary School. CAAFLU engaged with the Local Authority to set up regular community legal education clinics operating out of the garden at the Safe House. This process proved difficult due to the ongoing conflict in Ali Curung. CAAFLU will continue to engage with other service providers in community to work out how we can best meet the community's need for family violence prevention support.

Mungkarta

CAAFLU were invited by Mungkarta Primary School to visit the community and deliver community legal education about domestic violence and sexual assault. Sarah Pickles and Tanya Scrutton visited Mungkarta in April and had a wonderful session with around 10 local women. We have been unable to set up regular visits since April due to school holidays and staff leave, however we hope to maintain regular visits to this community in the future.



VI. CENTRAL AUSTRALIA COMMUNITIES

Hermannsburg (Ntaria)

CAAFLU, consisting of 1 lawyer and 1 CSO, regularly travel to the remote community of Hermannsburg, also known as Ntaria. It is about 130 kilometres west of Alice Springs, along the picturesque West MacDonal Ranges. Ntaria and surrounding outstations are home to Western Arrernte Aboriginal people and has a population of approximately 625 people. CAAFLU services 23 current clients residing in and around the community of Ntaria, with many others moving between Ntaria and Alice Springs. We have also received a number of SupportLink referrals for client in and around the community to provide advice and/or assistance to victims of domestic violence. Regular travel occurs usually fortnightly, noting that one of these visits is during the bush court circuit, which convenes monthly. During these visits, we were also engaged with Police, Ntaria Women's Safe House, Congress Ntaria Wellbeing Clinic,

Ntaria Health Clinic and Night Patrol to strengthen referral pathways so as to provide support to victims of domestic violence. Over the reporting period, CAAFLU maintained contact with clients by facilitating face to face meetings in Ntaria and Alice Springs or by telephone. We provided follow up with clients and were available for victims of domestic violence seeking legal advice and/or assistance in court matters where they are the required to give evidence.



Yuendumu

CAAFLU staff, including one lawyer and one client service officer, travelled along the Tanami Road to Yuendumu community around every 1-2 months in 2018-2019. Yuendumu is a community located 290kms north west of Alice Springs, and is around a 3.5 hour drive from Alice Springs. The West MacDonnell ranges line the Tanami Road, which makes for a picturesque and interesting drive. Yuendumu is one of the largest Central Desert communities, with a population of around 800 people, who are mainly Warlpiri speakers. Most of our work in the community involves visiting our clients and assisting them with their legal needs in relation to domestic violence, sexual assault, family law and child protection. We also assist clients with representation largely in relation to domestic violence order at local bush court, which sits in Yuendumu around every two months. We really enjoyed working with other services and agencies, including Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation (WYDAC), Police, Yuendumu Health Clinic, and the Yuendumu Women's Refuge. As we do not have offices located in the community, we rely on and work in collaboration with other services that are in the community, to obtain best outcomes for our clients. We also met with community elders and heard about what education they would like to see happening in the community, and we look forward to further engagement with elders through talking, and sharing.



Papunya

Papunya is home to just over 400 people, who are mainly Luritja speakers. Papunya is located around 240kms north west of Alice Springs. Papunya is a vibrant community with a thriving arts centre. In 2018-2019, CAAFLU visited Papunya around every 1-2 months for bush court and to meet with new clients and existing clients in relation to their domestic violence legal matters. In 2019, CAAFLU started the year by collaborating with MacDonnell Regional Council to provide an education session and barbeque to the community to celebrate Ochre Ribbon Week. CAAFLU presented on how domestic violence orders work in the Northern Territory, and how CAAFLU can assist victims of domestic violence. The event was attended by around 30 community members, including men and women, and other local services providers. CAAFLU supported clients through collaboration with the Women's Safety Service of Central Australia outreach team. We also built a strong rapport and engaged with local elders, Police, Territory Families, MacDonnell Regional Council and Papunya Health Clinic, to ensure referral pathways and to provide support to our clients.



CAAFLU Activities



VII. SUPPORT LINK REPORT

supportLink NT

Integrated Services Framework

CAAFLU

Support Agency Referral Report

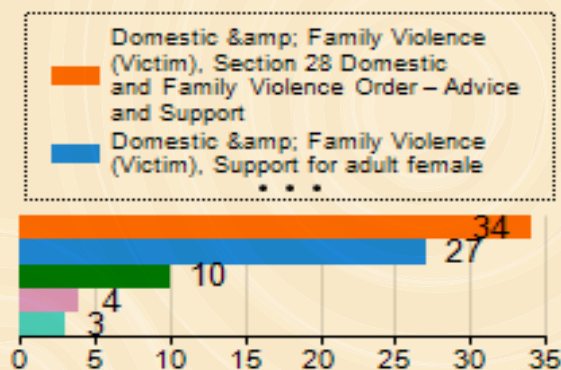
01 Jul 2018 - 30 Jun 2019

Average Response Times - 01 Jul 2018 - 30 Jun 2019

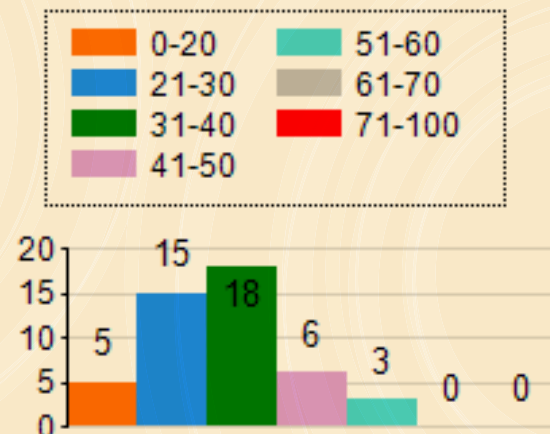
Attempting to make contact	Agency average for this report period (days)	2.21
	Agency lifetime average (days)	2.83
Client Contacted	Agency average for this report period (days)	9.03
	Agency lifetime average (days)	6.90

If attempts to contact the client after 3 working days has been unsuccessful, the referral should be returned to SupportLink for action.

Top 5 Presenting Issues - 01 Jul 2018 - 30 Jun 2019

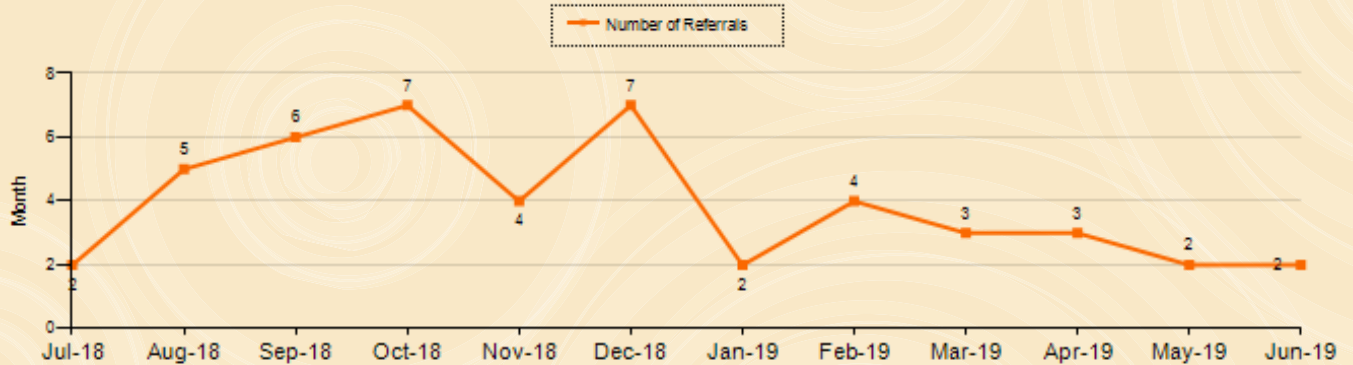


Referrals by Age - 01 Jul 2018 - 30 Jun 2019

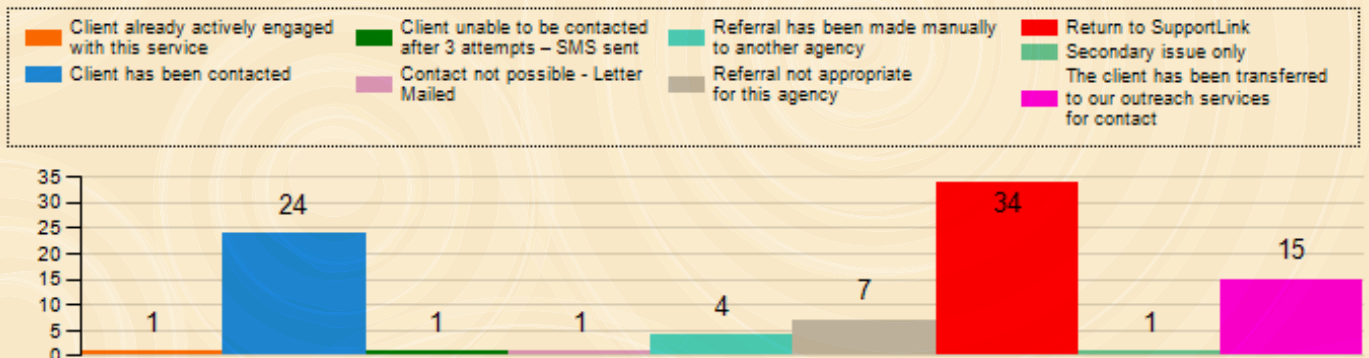


VII. SUPPORT LINK REPORT

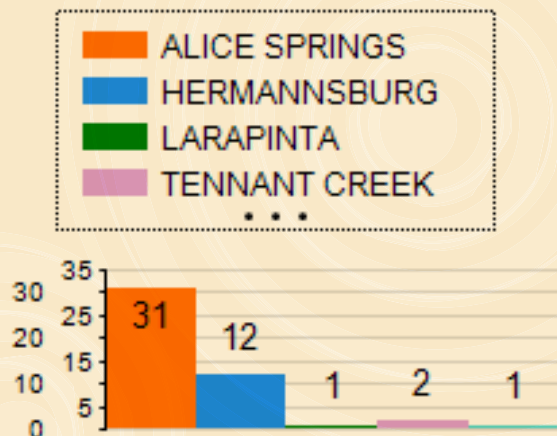
Referrals by Month - 01 Jul 2018 - 30 Jun 2019



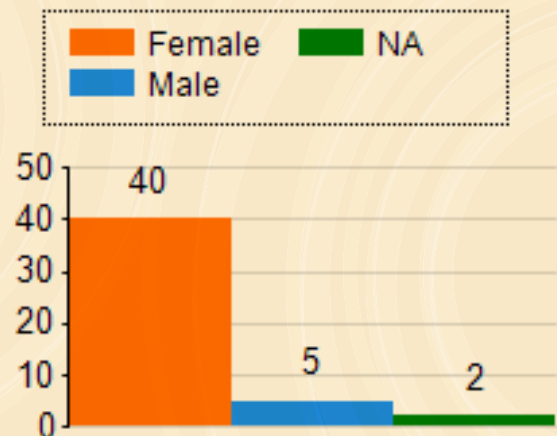
Referrals by Outcome - 01 Jul 2018 - 30 Jun 2019



Top 5 Suburbs - 01 Jul 2018 - 30 Jun 2019



Referrals by Gender - 01 Jul 2018 - 30 Jun 2019



VIII. OCHRE RIBBON WEEK

Media Article – Centralian Advocate – 15th February 2019

The Ochre Ribbon has been designed to symbolise unity within the Australian community, combating the significant issue of domestic violence against Aboriginal women and children through greater national awareness. Ochre Ribbon Week always begins on February 12th as this is the date of remembrance which was adopted following the death of Susan Taylor. Susan was a bright fifteen-year-old Aboriginal girl who succumbed to the evil of others and ultimately took her own life to escape the impact of family violence and other social issues on February 12, 1999 in Bunbury, Western Australia.

During the Ochre Ribbon Week Chief Executive Officer, Phynea Clarke, and staff at Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation (CAAFLUAC) commemorate by hosting events to raise community awareness of this important issue. This year, in partnership with the MacDonnell Regional Council, CAAFLUAC staff have travelled to Papunya and Yuendumu to host BBQ lunches and present our Super Law DVD for residents of these small communities, taking time to highlight the need to end family and domestic violence for our families.

CAAFLUAC provides holistic legal services and operates under an embedded wrap-around, through-care model. Our 5 Lawyers and 4 Aboriginal Client Service Officers work with over 500 clients each year that continue to return to CAAFLUAC for on-going support. Our service works with victims of family and domestic violence and all victims of sexual assault, servicing outreach locations of Hermannsburg (Ntaria), Papunya, Yuendumu, and from our Tennant Creek office, Ali Curung, Ti Tree and Elliott. Being trauma informed and culturally appropriate, CAAFLUAC works at community pace, in full consultation with and consideration of the victims.

Each victim of family violence faces a life and death decision when they choose to stay or leave a violent relationship. Where there are children involved the stakes are even higher. So, what does it cost to leave? Each woman CAAFLUAC assists will bring with them a raft of considerations such as health issues, schooling and set-up costs, safety and accommodation, including the out-of-pocket expenses for short term stays in a shelter and minimal or no transitional accommodation available when they are exited. Then there are the costs of leaving behind possessions and identification, such as birth certificates, pets and vehicles which can quickly

amount to exorbitant financial losses.

The damage to both physical and mental health cannot be underestimated and the impact of family violence, for both victim and those witnessing it, will affect a person's life whereby it may be irreparable and lead to a pathway of self-destruction and repetition of the violence cycle.

CAAFLUAC works tirelessly to assist clients with emergency relief. Its lawyers are often wearing more than just a legal hat when addressing victim issues and work shoulder to shoulder with our well-respected Aboriginal Client Support Officers to ensure all the clients' issues and needs are understood.

CAAFLUAC has been required to fund evacuations for victims and, where possible and within budgetary constraints, accommodation costs in cases where our only women's shelter in Alice Springs cannot provide a bed due to their own shortages. CAAFLUAC has assisted with food vouchers and transportation and works closely with Centrelink and other services to try and improve the victim's chances of securing a fresh start.

The pieces of the jigsaw puzzle are many and the solutions are few. It is difficult to imagine the pressures and stressors associated with escaping. Unfortunately for some, such as young Susan, their escape means that they take matters into their own hands resulting in tragic consequences for themselves, their families and their community.

CAAFLUAC is federally funded but our ability to assist our clients continues to be eroded as the amount of funding has remained unchanged since 2015 yet the number of victims needing our assistance and seeking refuge increases daily. The NT Government continues to deny financial support to CAAFLUAC despite being a strong culturally sensitive, trauma informed Aboriginal focused service in Central Australia and the Barkly region for nearly 20 years. The NT Government continues to fund mainstream services and seems to turn a blind eye to the works and needs of Aboriginal controlled organisations such as CAAFLUAC, despite its 2018-2028 Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Reduction Framework which specifically recognises and refers to the pivotal role of such organisations.

This week we wear our Ochre Ribbons to remember the victims of domestic violence and help raise awareness as we continue our work to improve their futures.

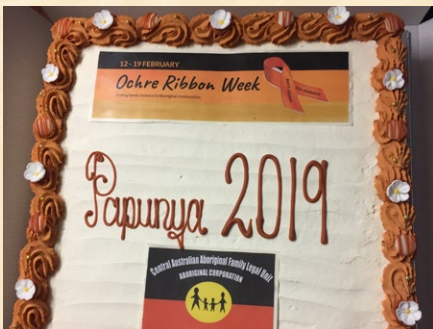
CAAFLUAC can be contacted on FREECALL 1800 088 884 and is situated at 84 Hartley Street, Alice Springs and 2/172 Patterson Street, Tennant Creek.

VIII. OCHRE RIBBON WEEK

12 - 19 FEBRUARY

Ochre Ribbon Week

Ending family violence in Aboriginal communities.



IX. FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

Debbie McIntyre-Day • FM • 2018/2019



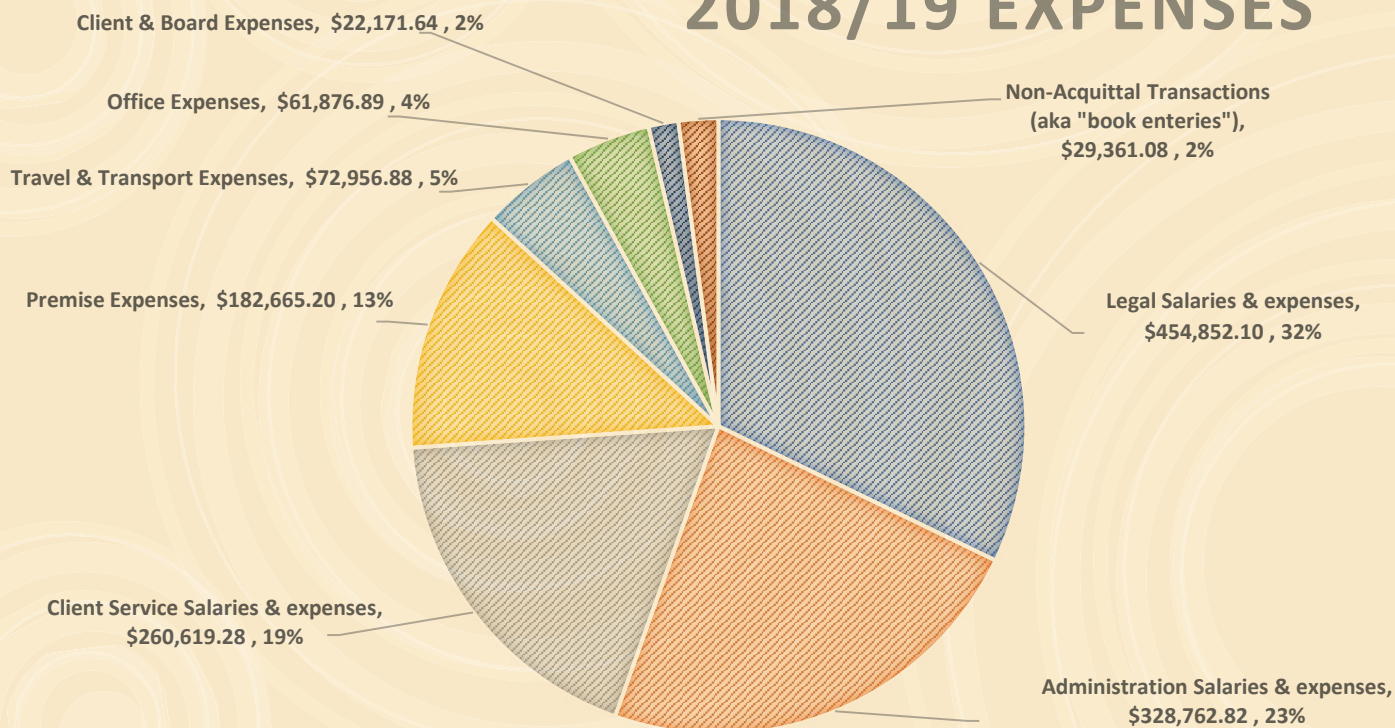
At CAAFLU we feel it is important that our funding is spent on meeting our Clients' needs and as you can see from the pie chart, we are spending around 50% on our most important front-line positions of Client Service Officers and Legal Practitioners.

The base costs of our premises and Administration are the next biggest expenditure at around 35%. The remaining funds are used to assist individual clients directly and promote CAAFLU through Community Legal Education and Community Events.

There is a small portion of expenses that are not directly related to our clients, eg depreciation and these are not included in our funding agreement or acquittal reporting. However, they are required in Financial Reports to comply with Australian Accounting Standards and have a significant impact upon our "bottom line" as you can see from our Income and Expenditure Statement included in this Annual Report.

Looking ahead to 2019/20, CAAFLU will be once again tightening our belt as we try to balance the needs of our clients and the community with the funding available for our service.

2018/19 EXPENSES



X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

ICN 4760

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation

Auditors Independence Declaration under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006 To the Directors of Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended June 30, 2019, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Perks Audit Pty Ltd
Office 7, Alice Springs Business Centre
8 Gregory Terrace
Alice Springs NT 0870



Peter J Hill
Director
Registered Company Auditor

Dated this 25th day of September 2019

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Statement of Profit or Loss For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
PMC Operational funding	681,074	614,242
PMC Advanced operational funding	655,282	681,074
PMC Overspend operational funding	-	25,792
Total PMC funding	1,336,356	1,321,108
LPFF	15,000	15,000
Other grants	7,278	3,600
Reimbursements	6,935	1,363
Insurance claims received	1,737	12,464
Interest	1,620	1,846
Other revenue from ordinary activities	512	-
Other income	33,082	34,273
Total income	1,369,438	1,355,381
Employee expenses	(1,018,521)	(973,416)
Premises expenses	(182,665)	(181,043)
Travel and entertainment	(44,715)	(66,446)
Office expenses	(48,743)	(41,926)
Board, client and community expenses	(36,487)	(35,539)
Motor vehicle expenses	(27,252)	(26,432)
Other staffing expenses	(25,713)	(21,752)
Accrued employee expenses	(19,608)	(40,565)
Depreciation	(16,496)	(19,851)
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	(50,762)	(51,589)

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2019

	Note	2019 \$	2018 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	980,709	938,864
Trade and other receivables	4	6,951	1,342
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		987,660	940,206
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	5	34,766	51,262
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		34,766	51,262
TOTAL ASSETS		1,022,426	991,468
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	6	200,308	141,996
Employee benefits	8	70,862	61,479
Other financial liabilities	7	681,074	655,282
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		952,244	858,757
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits	8	33,291	45,058
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		33,291	45,058
TOTAL LIABILITIES		985,535	903,815
NET ASSETS		36,891	87,653
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		36,891	87,653
TOTAL EQUITY		36,891	87,653

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

2019

	Total \$
1 July 2018	87,653
(Deficit) for the year	(50,762)
Balance at 30 June 2019	36,891

2018

	Total \$
1 July 2017	139,242
(Deficit) for the year	(51,589)
Balance at 30 June 2018	87,653

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

	2019	2018
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Other receipts	24,527	31,277
PMC grant receipts	1,362,148	1,362,148
Interest Received	1,620	1,846
Payment to suppliers and employees	(1,346,450)	(1,362,075)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	9 41,845	33,196
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Payment for property, plant and equipment	-	(8,827)
Net cash used by investing activities	-	(8,827)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	41,845	24,369
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	938,864	914,495
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	3 980,709	938,864

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

The financial report covers Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation as an individual entity. Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation is a not-for-profit Company.

The functional and presentation currency of Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation is Australian dollars.

1 Change in Accounting Policy

Financial Instruments - Adoption of AASB 9

The Company has adopted AASB 9 *Financial Instruments* for the first time in the current year with a date of initial adoption of 1 July 2017.

As part of the adoption of AASB 9, the Company adopted consequential amendments to other accounting standards arising from the issue of AASB 9 as follows:

- AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* requires the impairment of financial assets to be presented in a separate line item in the statement of profit or loss. In the comparative year, this information was presented as part of other expenses.
- AASB 7 *Financial Instruments: Disclosures* requires amended disclosures due to changes arising from AASB 9, this disclosures have been provided for the current year.

Changes in accounting policies resulting from the adoption of AASB 9 have been applied retrospectively except the Company has not restated any amounts relating to classification and measurement requirements including impairment which have been applied from 1 July 2018.

Statement of Cash Flows

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006*, with the exception of:

AASB1242: Related Party Disclosures

Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

(b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Classes of property, plant and equipment are measured using the cost model as specified below.

Where the cost model is used, the asset is carried at its cost less any accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Costs include purchase price, other directly attributable costs and the initial estimate of costs of dismantling and restoring the asset, where applicable.

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment, except for freehold land is depreciated on a straight-line method from the date that management determine that the asset is available for use.

Assets held under a finance lease and leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the term of the lease and the assets useful life.

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(d) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Those cashflows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows.

(e) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised in these accounts.

(f) Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Grant revenue

Government grants are recognised at fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all grant conditions will be met. Grants relating to expense items are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match the grant to the costs they are compensating. Grants relating to assets are credited to deferred income at fair value and are credited to income over the expected useful life of the asset on a straight-line basis.

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Company is entitled to it.

(g) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

(h) Economic dependence

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation is dependent on the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the directors have no reason to believe the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet will not continue to support Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation.

3 Cash and cash equivalents

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Cash on hand	692	702
Cash at bank	980,017	938,162
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>980,709</u>	<u>938,864</u>

4 Trade and other receivables

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	-	192
Other receivables	6,951	1,150
Total current trade and other receivables	<u>6,951</u>	<u>1,342</u>

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
5 Property, plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment		
At cost	6,936	6,936
Accumulated depreciation	(6,936)	(6,936)
Furniture, fixture and fittings		
At cost	67,228	67,228
Accumulated depreciation	(61,700)	(59,519)
Total furniture, fixture and fittings	<u>5,528</u>	<u>7,709</u>
Motor vehicles		
At cost	159,550	159,550
Accumulated depreciation	(159,550)	(159,550)
Office equipment		
At cost	176,429	176,429
Accumulated depreciation	(147,191)	(132,875)
Total office equipment	<u>29,238</u>	<u>43,554</u>
Shop Fittings		
At cost	104,146	104,146
Accumulated depreciation	(104,146)	(104,146)
Property, plant and equipment	<u>34,766</u>	<u>51,262</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u><u>34,766</u></u>	<u><u>51,262</u></u>
6 Trade and other payables		
	2019	2018
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Unsecured liabilities		
Trade payables	1,521	9,250
Other payables	198,787	132,746
Total trade and other payables	<u><u>200,308</u></u>	<u><u>141,996</u></u>

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
7 Other liabilities		
Grants received in advance	<u>681,074</u>	<u>655,282</u>
8 Employee Benefits		
CURRENT		
Provision for annual leave	<u>70,862</u>	<u>61,479</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Long service leave	<u>33,291</u>	<u>45,058</u>
9 Cash Flow Information		
(a) Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities		
Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Profit for the year	(50,762)	(51,589)
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in profit:		
- depreciation	16,496	19,851
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(5,609)	(1,150)
- increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	-	(7,267)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	58,312	(4,563)
- increase/(decrease) in provisions	(2,384)	36,874
- increase/(decrease) in income in advance	25,792	41,040
Cashflow from operations	<u>41,845</u>	<u>33,196</u>

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation

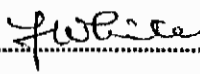
Directors' Declaration

The directors of the Company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 2-10, are in accordance with the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006* and:
 - a. comply with Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at June 30, 2019 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company.
2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Director 

Director 

Dated this 25th day of September 2019

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation

Independent Audit Report to the members of Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation (the Corporation), which comprises the statement of financial position as at June 30, 2019, the statement of profit or loss, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Corporation is in accordance with the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Corporation's financial position as at 30 June 2019 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) the Governing Committee and the Corporation have complied with the obligations imposed by the Act and the regulations and the rules of the Corporation;
- (c) the income statement and balance sheet are based on proper accounts and records and are in agreement with those accounts and records;
- (d) the financial report is in accordance with the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006;
- (e) all information, explanations and assistance necessary to conduct the audit have been given; and,
- (f) the Corporation has kept financial records and registers as required by the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Corporation in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006, which has been given to the directors of the Corporation, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion

Emphasis of Matter

We draw your attention to note 2 which outlines the Corporation's reliance on the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. At this stage there is no indication that the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet will cease to support to Corporation.

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Corporation are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Corporation or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.



Perks Audit Pty Ltd
Office 7, Alice Springs Business Centre
8 Gregory Terrace
Alice Springs NT 0870



Peter J Hill
Director
Registered Company Auditor

Dated this 25th day of September 2019

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Disclaimer to the members of Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation

June 30, 2019

The additional financial data presented on page 15 is in accordance with the books and records of the Corporation which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the Corporation for the year ended 30 June 2019. It will be appreciated that our statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial data and we give no warranty of accuracy or reliability in respect of the data provided. Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person (other than Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation) in respect of such data, including any errors of omissions therein however caused.

Perks Audit

Perks Audit Pty Ltd
Office 7, Alice Springs Business Centre
8 Gregory Terrace
Alice Springs NT 0870

P Hill

Peter J Hill
Director
Registered Company Auditor

Dated this 25th day of September 2019

X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Income and expenditure statement

June 30, 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
PMC INCOME		
PMC Operational funding	681,074	614,242
PMC Advanced operational funding	655,282	681,074
PMC Overspend operational funding	-	25,792
TOTAL PMC INCOME	1,336,356	1,321,108
LFFF	15,000	15,000
Other grants	7,278	(3,600)
Insurance claims received	1,737	12,464
Interest	1,620	1,846
Other revenue from ordinary activities	512	-
Reimbursements	-	1,363
TOTAL INCOME	1,362,503	1,348,181
LESS EXPENSES		
Legal salaries	446,281	449,548
Administration salaries	320,192	295,695
Client service salaries	252,048	228,174
Rent	128,364	127,257
Premises expenses	54,301	53,786
Travel and accommodation	25,395	40,830
Travel allowance	19,320	24,626
Motor vehicle running costs	17,939	16,967
Professional fees	14,401	13,469
Office expenses	14,152	12,120
Knowmore - Youth Music Video	11,932	-
Telephone	10,132	9,151
Training, seminars & debriefing	9,366	8,946
Motor vehicle registrations and insurance	9,313	9,465
PIL and practicing certificates	8,577	7,006
Recruitment	7,769	5,800
Membership fees	6,945	9,600
FVPLS expenses (FVPLS)	5,930	1,561
Audit fees	5,600	5,500
Printing and other sundry expenses	5,248	4,510
Sundry office expenses	4,268	1,684
Client expenses	2,372	6,419
Community event	1,440	-
Board expenses	1,340	2,587
Ochre Ribbon (OR)	924	944
NAIDOC Tennant Creek Film Night	355	-
We Al Li (WAL)	-	6,907
International Women's Day	-	3,012
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,383,904	1,346,554
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) PMC FUNDS	(21,401)	8,827
OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSE		
Reimbursements	6,935	-
Depreciation	(16,496)	(19,851)
Accrued employee expenses	(19,608)	(40,565)
Bad debts written off	(192)	-
TOTAL OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSES	(29,361)	(60,416)
TOTAL SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(50,762)	(51,589)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

XI. BALANCE MAGAZINE

NT LEGAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

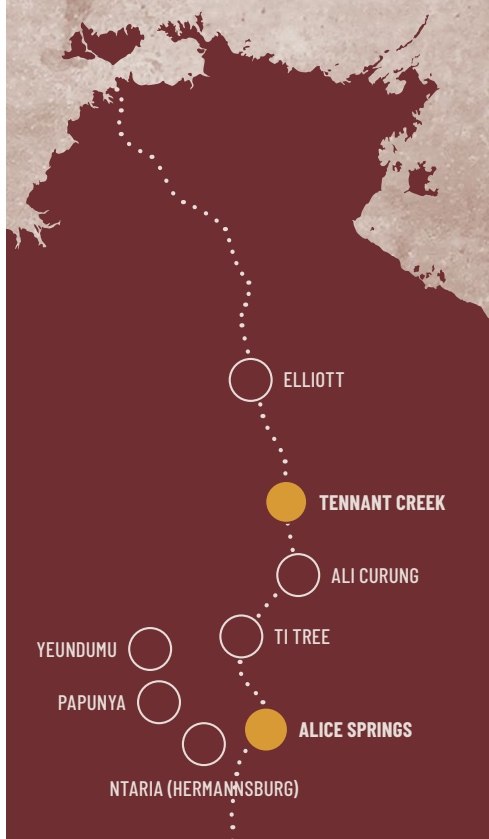
Proudly an Aboriginal Controlled Organisation

CAAFLUAC Sharing LORE and law



CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL FAMILY LEGAL UNIT Aboriginal Corporation

Established in 2000, the Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation (CAAFLUAC), a federally funded Family Violence Prevention Legal Service, delivers culturally-appropriate legal services to Aboriginal people experiencing domestic, family and sexual violence throughout the Central Australian and Barkly region.



CAAFLUAC is based in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek and runs a regular outreach service to the communities of Ntaria (Hermannsburg), Yuendumu, Papunya, Elliott, Ti Tree and Ali Curung.

CEO, Phynea Clarke, is well-respected Aranda woman and has been employed with CAAFLUAC since 2000. Phynea holds a Bachelor of Social Work.

Our Finance Manager, Debbie McIntyre Day, is a local Alice Springs woman. Debbie applies her financial skills and other management skills across both Alice Springs and Tennant Creek offices and is aware of the diversity across both the NT and organisationally.

Employing eight Aboriginal staff members (out of a small team of thirteen staff in total) CAAFLUAC provides support for staff to undergo training not only for the purposes of better delivering CAAFLUAC's services but also for the personal career progression of our staff.

Having a high percentage of Aboriginal workers ensures that all our services are managed and directed in a way that is culturally sensitive to the needs of our clients and the wider Central Australian and Barkly region.

Our Client Service Officers (CSOs) are our cultural brokers and CAAFLUAC is fortunate to have strong well-respected Aboriginal men and women working with our service to enhance client outcomes and service delivery.

All staff have been trained by We Al Li to see trauma through a Culturally Informed Trauma Integrated Healing Approach lens. This informs us as a team daily. We check in with each other to ensure that staff are safe and space is provided before a day begins or a day ends with no single approach applied.

CAAFLUAC has asked each CSO to provide their reasons for working at CAAFLUAC and to identify what they see as their unique contribution to the culturally sound approach to supporting victims of family violence:

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✦ Elaine Wills/Dixon (Nangala)

I am a Warumungu woman born in Tennant Creek and I am connected to six generations of family in the area and surrounding cattle stations. I have been associated with CAAFLUAC in different roles namely community member, chairperson, staff member in Tennant Creek and currently, a CSO in Alice Springs.

One of my primary contributions to CAAFLUAC and the community is to be a voice for those who are unable to have their voices heard. Aboriginal people and/or people struggling with trauma are reluctant to go into an agency to ask for help without the support of a safe person who understands their circumstances. I walk alongside our clients at their own pace to help them do this and as a result I see them become more competent, confident people who believe in their own strengths. I see them strive to be in a safer place and make good choices for their wellbeing.

The work at CAAFLUAC is inclusive with the Board, CEO, solicitors, CSOs and administrative staff and continues to work holistically building the strength of the organisation, clients, stakeholders and communities.

As a CSO, my work is broad, ranging from supporting lawyers with culturally safe practice, warm referrals and case management. Also, from personal experience, I stand for the protection of those that cannot protect themselves when exposed to violence. My professional and personal experience supports safety and social justice.

✦ Sabrina Barnes

I am an Alywarr woman born in Alice Springs. My language is Alywarr, also English. I am one of six children and I am the only daughter. I am also a twin. My mother's family is Alywarr but they have always called Tennant Creek their home.

I lived in Tennant Creek when younger, Cairns briefly when I lived with my father and his family, attended schooling at the Worawa Aboriginal College in Healesville Victoria, then back to Alice Springs to complete my year 12 NTCE at Centralian Senior Secondary College. Upon completing my secondary schooling, I commenced studying nursing at the University of South Australia. My studies were cut short when my mother passed away and I returned to be with my family.

I have been back in Tennant Creek for one year and have been working with CAAFLUAC during that time as receptionist and part-time in a CSO role.

My reason for working in this organisation is because I have seen my family suffer violence. I cannot speak to my family about it, but they know where they can come if they need help. We were never a violent family and were never exposed to violence growing up so why should our nieces, nephews and grandchildren? I feel like I am here to educate and guide my family to demonstrate that violence is not needed in a relationship.

When I'd listen to my grandmother, sharing stories of partners and family having problems back in her time—the whole community would come together to resolve the problems properly and respectfully. We do not want to teach our future kids to be disrespectful and hurt each other.

My CSO role teaches me every day about the law and new ways to approach problems. I want my family to also understand the law. I am willing to learn but I am also willing to share our ways with the lawyers to ensure that our clients are safe and feel comfortable enough to talk to the lawyers. Countrymen get frightened to talk to 'big lawyers', so I am like a link to white law—a connection to balance our law and white law.

I am currently studying a Certificate III in Business at Charles Darwin University. I am hungry for knowledge to pass onto my daughter and show her that you can do whatever you want to do and be whoever you want to be.

✦ Matthew Adams

I am 54 years old and of Aboriginal descent and I have been employed by CAAFLUAC as a CSO for six years. I am a returning staff member and was formerly employed as a Community Legal Education Worker before returning as a Client Service Officer.

In 1993, I began working for the Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service (CAALAS now North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency). I remained employed there for close to fourteen years as a Field Officer in both the criminal and civil sections. CAALAS is where I gained most of my experience as a CSO/Field Officer.

Apart from other jobs I have held over the years, I have also spent some time working as an Aboriginal Liaison Officer at the Alice Springs Correctional Centre. During these times there was significant shared learning between myself, lawyers, clients and other support staff. All up my experience spans approximately twenty-five years.

My main role at CAAFLUAC is to work closely with the lawyers and provide support to clients. Whether that is by being in attendance with client/lawyer in interviews; picking up clients and taking them to appointments; attending and supporting clients at the police station; going with lawyers to remote communities to attend bush courts and assisting with other tasks as requested by lawyers. The CSO can often be that link between the lawyer and the client.

Here at CAAFLUAC, where we deal with issues of a sensitive nature and where most of our clients are women, it is important to have empathy and be non-judgmental and to be mindful of the emotional condition the client might be experiencing. Being the only male CSO at CAAFLUAC, it's especially important that I earn the trust and respect of the client. I feel my presence as a male CSO brings balance to the CSO section. →

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TENNANT CREEK TEAM – ANNA POTTER (LAWYER), SARAH PICKLES (LAWYER), SABRINA BARNES (RECEPTIONIST) AND TANYA SCRUTTON (CLIENT SERVICES OFFICER)

Over the years I have seen many lawyers who are not local to Central Australia come and go. So, there is value in appointing local Indigenous CSOs because they are local, they are in the one place for longer periods of time and they can get to know the clients quite well. Whether it's through working with them or personally knowing them already—they can get a better understanding of the client's personality, behaviors and habits as well as have a better idea of how to find the client if they become difficult to locate; provide guidance to lawyers in regard to culturally sensitive matters when required. It's not always easy. However, lawyers who remain for longer periods of time also get to know their clients quite well and become culturally aware too. There's always more to learn and experiences to gain.

† Shirley Erlandson (Pengarte)

I am an Aboriginal CSO at CAAFLUAC where I have worked for ten years and I am of Eastern and Western Arrernte and Kaytetye descent. I was born and raised in Alice Springs and have raised my children here. My mum was raised on Neutral Junction Station and in the convent in Alice Springs and when she left there she married and had seven children, of which I am one.

I come from one of the biggest families in Central Australia. My children know their Arrernte language and have always loved spending time out bush. They know their traditional family. I see my role at CAAFLUAC as being a very important one—I can connect with people in this area because I know where they come from and protocols to follow. I believe I improve outcomes for clients because I can talk to them about things like fighting and how bad it is and the damage that can happen from family violence. I ask them questions that make them think about their behaviour. I explain to them that drinking causes 'no good thinking' and bad behavior. I plant the seed to get them thinking about changing their behaviour. I also understand how to ask questions and how countryman answer questions—in our Aboriginal culture, people don't ask too many questions, especially direct questions. They get information they need to know by watching, listening or asking in roundabout ways because it can be quite rude in Aboriginal culture to be asking too many questions about 'this or that'.

I help lawyers to understand the right ways of interacting with our people. The lawyers understand that when they don't listen to my guidance and things go a 'no-good way' they need to learn from that. I try and educate them on how to communicate better and about the right ways to do so. I bring cultural knowledge to the lawyers, so they know about cultural ways and LORE.

As well as helping coworkers at reception and other CSOs who may not fully know our cultural protocols, my role includes preparation before visits to clients or community and when on community, knowing when to stay or go—knowing when to speak or be still. Especially when I am out bush, I have a strong sense of when to attend or visit—I believe this to be my own strong Aboriginal connection.

† Tanya Scrutton

I was born in Alice Springs and I grew up in Alice Springs and in Ti Tree. My father's side is Amatjere and my mother's side is Warlpiri. I can speak English but also understand my father's language and some Warlpiri from when I lived in Ali Curung with my mother.

I was schooled in Ali Curung and Darwin at Haileybury School (formerly Kormilda College) and at Yirara College in Alice Springs until Year 9.

At fifteen years of age I returned to Tennant Creek and not long after commenced studying a Certificate I in Business at Batchelor College. I eventually secured employment with Julalikari Buramana as their receptionist and later worked as a Residential Youth Worker.

When I started my work as a CSO at CAAFLUAC, I realised how much could relate to clients. I am well-known to many tribes in the Tennant Creek community and can help the clients and lawyers work more closely. In knowing how to respect cultural ways for families, I can help lawyers make safe decisions about when to enter communities/camps as well as how to understand the sensitive nature of what might be happening in a family.

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ALICE SPRINGS TEAM – BACK ROW: MATHEW ADAMS (CLIENT SERVICES OFFICER), KIM RAINE (PRINCIPAL LEGAL OFFICER), CAROL SMITH (SENIOR LAWYER) ELAINE WILLS/DIXON (CLIENT SERVICES OFFICER), DEBBIE MCINTYRE-DAY (FINANCE MANAGER) FRONT ROW: PHYNEA CLARKE FRONT (CEO), RHEIANNA FISHER (ADMINISTRATION OFFICER), SHIRLEY ERLANDSON (PENGARTE) (CLIENT SERVICES OFFICER) AND KATIE MCCARTHY (LAWYER) ABSENT

I have worked on and off with CAAFLUAC for two years and see myself as a helper in a challenging legal environment and legal system. I am trying to be a strong role model for my son so that he will make good choices as an adult.

↑ Rhieanna Fisher

I have worked with CAAFLUAC for four years having moved here from Cherbourg in south-east Queensland. I relocated for employment and secured an Indigenous Pathway opportunity at Yulara which then led me to apply for the role at CAAFLUAC in Alice Springs.

When clients call or visit our service, I see my role as first and foremost to be a listener. I need to hear their story to assess at intake whether our service is the right place for them to receive assistance.

Persons that access our service could come through our doors at any time of the day and in a range of emotional states. CAAFLUAC is sometimes the last stop for them or the last legal avenue that is willing and/or able to assist so when they come here, they are often tired, drained and have mixed emotions. My role is to settle them so that I can identify if our lawyers and/or CSOs are the right people to help. This is a big responsibility to control entry and exit points. Additionally, my role is ever changing because I step into vacant positions, manage data entry points, answer calls, conduct training, remote travel when required and assist lawyers with continuing legal education where appropriate.

I see all the staff at CAAFLUAC as being on the same page and this makes me want to come back to work everyday. We are respectful of each other's skills, we have good lawyers—we are a good team.

The CAAFLUAC legal team is made up of two lawyers in Tennant Creek and three in Alice Springs. The lawyers work shoulder-to-shoulder with the CSOs to provide wrap-around and holistic support in the purest form.

Lawyers working within an Aboriginal organisational framework are informed daily around their approach to client need. How best to navigate around matters of great cultural sensitivity is a primary issue that cannot be underestimated when we manage client concerns. Our lawyers are not trained at university to consider the complexities of cultural nuances and protocols within Australia and especially, the Central Australia community. It is unique—it is another world that is to be respected and acknowledged in all ways possible. Meeting with clients who present a myriad of family violence concerns and issues and to embark upon a line of questioning that is culturally wrong—could be catastrophic for the client and their family. Disclosures are to be handled with much consideration and without the help of our CSOs, we are ill-equipped to manage cultural attitudes and appropriate responses and would not be prepared to contemplate such matters. We are shaped by the knowledge and information graciously shared and we believe that our clients are the beneficiary of this collaboration and holistic practice where LORE meets law. ■

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