



Family Violence Legal Service  
Aboriginal Corporation (SA)

# ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

NATIONAL FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
LEGAL SERVICES

WORKING TO ACHIEVE IMPROVED JUSTICE OUTCOMES FOR ALLEGED AND PROSECUTED  
VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Proudly funded by the Australian Government  
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet





## Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA)

Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands across Australia and in particular the traditional owners in Port Augusta, Port Lincoln and Ceduna, the lands on which the FVLSAC offices are situated. We pay our deep respects to Elders past, present and future.

We would also like to express our appreciation for the continued support provided through 2017-18 by

- The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet • Corporation Members • Stakeholders
- Board Members (past & present) • Staff • Artist: Katrina Williams.



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**PORT AUGUSTA**  
26 Jervois Street (PO Box 2087)  
PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700  
**P** (08) 8641 2195  
**F** (08) 8641 2348  
**FREE CALL** 1800 111 052  
portaugusta@fvlsac.org.au

**PORT LINCOLN**  
56 St Andrews Terrace (PO Box 750)  
PORT LINCOLN SA 5606  
**P** (08) 8683 1896  
**F** (08) 8682 4825  
**FREE CALL** 1800 309 912  
portlincoln@fvlsac.org.au

**CEDUNA**  
17 McKenzie Street (PO Box 319)  
CEDUNA SA 5690  
**P** (08) 8625 3800  
**F** (08) 8625 3200  
**FREE CALL** 1800 839 059  
ceduna@fvlsac.org.au

# Reconciliation Statement

Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands across Australia and particularly acknowledges the traditional owners in Port Augusta, Port Lincoln and Ceduna, the lands on which our offices are situated. We pay our deep respects to Elders, past, present and future.

Our vision for Reconciliation is an Australia where all Australians recognise, respect and advance the intrinsic rights, cultures and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.

The Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation joins with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the broader Australian community on the journey towards Reconciliation. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original custodians of this land and encourage all Australians to be proud of our unique connection to the world's oldest living culture. We recognise the unique status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through our governance, management, planning, service delivery and the relationships we build.

We commit to continue to strengthen our service delivery to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are victim-survivors of family violence and/or sexual assault and to provide social and cultural support to assist our clients to obtain equitable access to the legal system.

We strongly believe Reconciliation is everybody's business and all Australians should walk the Reconciliation journey together.

Reconciliation is a shared journey which sees Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples working together with all other Australians to make communities safer so that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples enjoy the same level of physical, emotional and social well-being as all other Australians.

We will ensure Reconciliation is alive within the Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (FVLSAC) by:

- Continually increasing our understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures;
- Providing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to work for and contribute to our organisation;
- Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victim-survivors of family violence and sexual assault to realise their legal rights;
- Continually reflecting on our progress.

We acknowledge we will only succeed if we are guided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and organisations.

## Our Vision

Our Vision is to create an equitable and safe society for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

## Our Purpose

Our Purpose is to eliminate family and sexual violence through quality holistic legal services, education and community partnerships.

## Our Core Values

We acknowledge and respect those who fought for the establishment of family violence prevention legal services to support our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and we continue to build upon their work and dedication.

We recognise the lasting effects of intergenerational trauma and violence and pay respect to the resilience and strength of our communities.

We work in partnership with the community because we respect that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people own their futures.

We believe that client safety and trust is created when we keep confidentiality at the centre of everything we do.

# About Our Service

Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (FVLSAC) is an Aboriginal controlled organisation whose predecessors have been established in our communities for a number of years. Those services were regionalised in 2011 to form FVLSAC.

The service is funded to provide legal advice, legal representation, client support, community education and assistance to Aboriginal victim-survivors of family violence and sexual assault.

An essential component of FVLSAC's service delivery model is the provision of a holistic legal service that encompasses client support, legal services and community education. The holistic service delivery model differentiates the service from much of the domestic violence and legal service sector. The focus on providing assistance to victim-survivors also separates FVLSAC from others in the sector that provide gender-based or perpetrator focused services.

FVLSAC staff live and work in the communities that we service. This allows for increased engagement with our communities as well as other local stakeholders and service providers. Being local assists us to build trust within our communities.

FVLSAC provides a free service to Aboriginal victim-survivors of family violence and sexual abuse requiring assistance in the areas of:

- Family violence
- Child protection
- Intervention orders
- Family law
- Victims of crime compensation
- Other minor civil assistance.

We also provide support to our clients should they need to engage with other services such as counselling, drug and alcohol services, housing and family support services.

FVLSAC services regional South Australia with three offices based in Port Augusta, Port Lincoln and Ceduna. Our three offices service the following communities:

- Port Augusta, Davenport Community, Leigh Creek, Nepabunna Community, Umoona Community (Coober Pedy), Dunjiba Community (Oodnadatta), Whyalla;
- Port Lincoln;
- Ceduna, Koonibba Community, Yalata Community, Maralinga Tjarutja (Oak Valley) Community, Scotdesco Community.

FVLSAC offices are open Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 5.00pm. The offices can be contacted on the following free call numbers:

- Port Augusta ~ 1800 111 052
- Port Lincoln ~ 1800 309 912
- Ceduna ~ 1800 839 059

# FVLSAC Directors

## Current Directors

**Tania Benbolt**  
Chairperson | Ceduna  
(appointed 2017 AGM)

**Maryanne Clements**  
Port Lincoln  
(appointed 2017 AGM)

**Jillian Mery**  
Ceduna  
(appointed March 2018)

**Jeanne Miller**  
Port Augusta  
(appointed April 2018)

## Professional Directors

**Angela Johanna Boylan**  
(appointed September 2014  
and reappointed annually)

**Linda Davies**  
(appointed December 2016  
and reappointed annually)

## Former Directors

**Linda Dare**  
Port Augusta  
(resigned November 2017)

**Desley Grey**  
Ceduna  
(resigned November 2017)

**Jason Ryan**  
Port Augusta  
(resigned November 2017)

**Noelene Lester**  
Port Augusta  
(resigned April 2018)

**Stacey Bates**  
Port Augusta  
(resigned April 2018)

**Ivan Phillips**  
Professional Director  
(resigned April 2018)

# Chairperson's Report

**Looking back over the last 12 months has seen a range of challenges for FVLSAC and also the staff and Directors. However now I am pleased to report that the challenges of the last few years have resulted in FVLSAC being a well-established organisation.**

FVLSAC is now into the seventh year as a regional body and many of the glitches that comes from amalgamating three different entities have been overcome. There are still a number of challenges that need resolving but these are gradually being addressed.

The new staffing structure has provided a strong connection with community in all three sites, our staff are well experienced, professional and passionate about the role they play in assisting families and communities deal with family violence.

The infrastructure for FVLSAC is now well grounded with fit for purpose offices in Ceduna, Port Augusta and Port Lincoln.

As last year's report was presented Lisa Abinett was appointed as Acting CEO, a role that she continued to fill until January 2018. During that time Lisa stepped into the Acting CEO role with maturity and a willingness to ensure that FVLSAC continued to operate during some turbulent times associated with staffing, restructure and continuing to manage business as usual.

It is a credit to Lisa and the team that supported her during this time that services to individuals, families and communities continued to happen when so much was going on.

In January 2018 The Board of Directors appointed Kate Clarke to the role of CEO. Kate has provided the Board with a set of skills and experience that will build on the foundation of FVLSAC to date.

When asked to highlight the success and achievements that FVLSAC has made over the last 12 months it is very difficult to describe. The service is invaluable to those in need and the staff provide a respectful and professional service. In addition, staff are seen to be out in communities and providing support to or running community events.

With other Board members and staff I attended a preliminary workshop that is the precursor to the rollout of trauma informed approaches for working with our clients.

I had the privilege with Jillian Mery to attend the National Child Protection Forum in Darwin in June 2018. It was here that we heard about the issues related to the Stolen Generation, dispossession of land and social issues that impact on our people's lives and well-being. It again strengthened my commitment to my community and to the work that FVLSAC undertakes.

As Chairperson, I would like to thank all Directors (past and present) for their contribution and commitment to FVLSAC. Without sound governance and decision making the organisation will not be able to grow. I again would like to acknowledge the challenges associated with being a Director of FVLSAC. The role is a voluntary role and for the majority of our Directors this is juggled with full time employment, other community and family obligations. It is however critical that FVLSAC retains its Community Control.

At this point I would like to acknowledge the support and efforts of Ivan Phillips who had been a member of the Board nearing 2 years. He brought a set of skills that greatly added value to the governance of the organisation.

I would also like to acknowledge the staff of FVLSAC and the contribution you have made over the last 12 months. Your efforts have continued to assist FVLSAC mature into a respected organisation.

As always, organisations such as FVLSAC would not be able to operate without the support and assistance of a number of other organisations. In particular I wish to acknowledge the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet who fund FVLSAC activities. We were pleased to be awarded funding until June 2020. This is a significant amount of time to allow the Board to continue to discuss the strategic direction of the organisation.

As we commence the next financial year FVLSAC will be part of a National Evaluation that has been commissioned by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and also aware that work has commenced on the Fourth Action Plan 2019-2022 of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children (2010-2022).

In closing I would like to thank the FVLSAC members for continuing to support the organisation and stress the importance of remaining a member based organisation that upholds the values and principles of the organisation.

**Tania Benbolt**  
**Chairperson FVLSAC**



# Chief Executive Officer's Report

This year's report is a reflection on how much has happened in the last 12 months and the future promises to be another period where there will be changes to FVLSAC's operations. FVLSAC were notified of guaranteed funding to June 2020 which provides an outlook to support planning and proactive service delivery. This further funding positions FVLSAC well to roll out the Trauma Informed Practice model for all staff to operate with.

The year commenced with Lisa Abinett acting as CEO, a role that she held for over six months and provided FVLSAC with the management and guidance through this period of uncertainty.

Lisa's efforts were outstanding and without her commitment the momentum of the previous years may have been lost.

The start of the financial year saw a new organisational structure put in place that has a focus on increased engagement with local communities from the three office locations. In addition the location of all legal staff in one office has resulted in a more stream-line and quality service for clients.

At the end of the year FVLSAC had a full complement of staff and the staff have remained stable for most of the year. This assists with building the capacity of the various staff groups to assist developing new skills and contribute in additional ways to the organisation.

New staff joined the Port Augusta team in October and January. A recruitment process in March saw the appointment of 2 Junior Solicitors that now complement Legal Services to Ceduna and Port Augusta. With a stable workforce FVLSAC is now able to develop and undertake a more consistent approach to programs in each regional area.

FVLSAC continues to strive to high rates of Aboriginal Staff and is governed by a Community based Board. During the year the percentage of Aboriginal Staff varied from 35% to just over 50% of the total staff.

The Ceduna office has been fully staffed for all of this year. Solicitor services commenced as an outreach service and there is now a regular monthly visit to Ceduna. Aspects of this include linking in with the Circuit Court and regular outreach to a range of communities. A wide range of Community Legal Education and Early Intervention programs have been run in Ceduna and other communities such as Oak Valley, Koonibba, Scotdesco and Yalata. A highlight of the year was seeing over 80 women attend the Sista2Sista day held in May. A number of participants traveling from Yalata.

The Port Augusta office has been strengthened by the appointment of a Community Engagement/Client Support worker in January who is respected and known in the community. This office remains the busiest in terms of client contact and staff provide an outreach service to the north and east of the state. Also a highlight of the year was a very successful Sista2Sista day held in March again with over 80 women attending.

Port Lincoln service provision has been steady and the staff here are well networked with service providers which in turns assists communication with external agencies. Staff have now been in the new premises for over 12 months and this move has provided a venue for a wide ranging number of activities to be held.

Into the next financial year, effort will be focussed on areas such as the national evaluation of all Family Violence Legal Services. This was commissioned by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and due to be completed in October 2018.

Trauma Informed Practice is a concept that will be integrated into the way FVLSAC operates and will involve a review and redesign of organisation policy.

Preparation is well underway for the next round of accreditation to ensure that FVLSAC meets the level of service required.



Review of the Reconciliation Action Plan has been commenced as this is now out of date. This review demonstrates the commitment for FVLSAC to ensure that reconciliation is a shared approach and commitment and to acknowledge the cultural strength our Aboriginal staff bring to the organisation.

Despite best efforts of FVLSAC, areas of our work are implicated by system issues associated with mandate to use particular data entry and reporting programs. This has potentially skewed activity data following the migration to a new reporting system. The ability to compare any historical data and identify trends has now been implicated for future years until reliable comparative data is available.

I wish to acknowledge the work of the Board of Directors who have supported the organisation over the last 12 months and enabled the service to keep operating through challenging times. These are volunteer roles and Directors manage to juggle a large numbers of commitments to ensure that FVLSAC is governed in the best manner possible.

FVLSAC has continued to manage existing relationships and contribute at a state and national Level, this includes through the National Family Violence Prevention Legal Services Secretariat which includes the CEO Forum, the Principal Legal Officer Network and the Data and Evaluation Group. A presence at the table nationally across these areas ensures our voices are heard on a wide range of issues at this level and provides the opportunity to showcase the work that we do as a FVPLS and the only FVPLS in South Australia. We have also continued to be engaged with peak bodies in the legal assistance sector through the South Australian Legal Assistance Forum and with the South Australian Community Legal Centres.

More recently our Principal Legal Officer, Carissa Bosch provided a presentation at the 2018 National Aboriginal Wellness Conference on the concept of Love Colours and the program that was developed and delivered by FVLSAC as a mechanism to raise issues associated with family violence.

FVLSAC was represented at a number of state and regional consultations and forums including Wiyi Yani U Thangani (Women's Voices) project, DV Roundtable, Ceduna Magistrates Forum and Community Legal Education Network in addition to numerous local meetings and gatherings. Staff actively participate in a number of committees and Boards which again strengthens our networks and relationships.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of staff who all go above and beyond the expected commitments. The challenge of living and working in a local community can be an asset but at times can also be another level of complicating matters that need to be juggled in work life. FVLSAC staff are committed and passionate about their roles despite working with difficult and traumatic issues. Thank you for the contribution to the whole team and making FVLSAC a well placed regional organisation.

It is now timely that the Board and staff review the strategic vision for FVLSAC and determine the proposed path forward. With guaranteed funding, a review of Family Violence Legal Services and the development of the Fourth Action Plan 2019-2022 of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children (2010-2022) being developed, FVLSAC is well placed to continue to deliver a valuable regional service.

**Kate Clarke**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

# Programs Report

Program delivery is a core component of FVLSAC service delivery. Throughout the design and implementation of our programs, we are aiming to contribute to the well-being of our communities and to increase awareness and understanding of the legal system, and what legal options those experiencing Family and Domestic Violence may have available to them.

This year our plan for programs centred around a core suite of programs, each with a different target audience - drawing on our experience and knowledge of which programs and methods suit the communities we service. This information is collected by yearly program reviews, incorporating consultation activities and participant feedback along with debriefing with our Community Engagement/Client Support Workers whom facilitate the majority of these programs. A focus on a consistent suite of programs has enabled the staff to further develop and refine the material for each of the programs.

It must be mentioned that a key feature of our approach to programs is embedding flexibility for important collaborative engagements and other opportunities that may arise throughout the year. This ensures we are able to remain responsive to the community at a local level.

Below is a brief overview of each of the core programs delivered throughout the year.

## Through Young Black Eyes

Through Young Black Eyes (TYBE) is a series of workshops designed to support and develop child safe communities and prevention of family violence, child abuse and neglect. This program is run in early childhood facilities with a focus on young children.

This program is based on the program developed by SNAICC - National Voice for our Children.

## Healthy Relationships

Healthy Relationships is a program delivered to High School students in Port Lincoln. This is undertaken in partnership with Yarredi Services and has a focus on Relationships - values and beliefs, respectful relationships and the law and legal issues in relationships. 16 sessions were provided across the year and this involved delivering the program on the school site and also at school camps.

## Sista2Sista

Sista2Sista is a long-standing FVLSAC event. Staff aim to provide two Sista2Sista events in each of three locations across the year. These have been consistently well attended and the feedback is always very positive. This year saw over 80 women attend in Port Augusta and Ceduna and over 40 in Port Lincoln.

The theme for our second Sista2Sista in early 2018 was in line with the NAIDOC theme - Because of Her We Can. We were celebrating Phenomenal Women and participants were asked to nominate who they thought were phenomenal in their life and why?

We are pleased to report the total attendance at these events for the year was 294 women.

## Healing Arts

In its original design, this program was aimed to provide women a safe place to participate in a range of art activities whilst sharing and reflecting on community concerns, particularly around family violence. Healing Arts sessions were facilitated during the 17/18 year in different formats across all sites.





### Prison Sessions

Solicitors in Port Lincoln provided 4 sessions to inmates at the Port Lincoln Prison. This was a series of Community Legal Education workshops held in conjunction with Correctional Services staff for Aboriginal men in prison who were identified as having been involved in family violence in the past. The content of the discussions was prepared prior to each session and brochures were produced and provided to participants. The topics covered were Family Violence, the impacts of Family and Domestic Violence on children, Intervention Orders related to Family and Domestic Violence and Family Law.

### Love Colours

FVLSAC was funded to provide a two-part workshop focussing on love and safety in relationships. This program has been a long time in development and consultation stage, and we are pleased to see it come to fruition this year.

These workshops incorporated elements of healthy relationships education, family violence awareness and safety planning. Colour and symbolism are used to stimulate conversation along with the opportunity to engage in artistic expression, which is a proven mechanism to support both learning and healing.

Workshops were held in Ceduna, Yalata, Scotdesco and Oak Valley.

### Community Events

A number of one-off events or activities undertaken in conjunction with other stakeholders were also undertaken including:

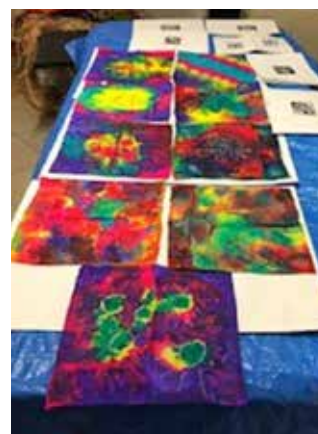
- NAIDOC week celebrations
- Ochre Ribbon Day
- Reconciliation week
- White Ribbon Day
- Anti Poverty week
- Pika Wiya Social and Emotional Wellbeing Day
- Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health ~ Tobacco Challenge Pamper Day
- Port Augusta Youth Centre Family Day

To celebrate Ochre Ribbon day, the Port Lincoln team hosted a presentation by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner as part of a training activity to inform staff and others of the issues associated with use of electronic means to stalk and harass victims of family violence

We thank our staff for their ongoing efforts. Providing programs and events in regional areas is always challenging and we are appreciative of having a staff group who are flexible and able to achieve results when working with limited resources. We also thank community for their ongoing involvement in FVLSAC programs. Without participants we would not be able to provide the information about our service or the many different ways to support those impacted by Domestic and Family Violence.

As always, we welcome feedback from our members and we will continue to aim high in our delivery of programs to community.

# Programs Report





# Client Services Report

## Selecting a single word to describe the year that was 2017-18, it would be hard to go past “CONSOLIDATION”.

That word alone is not nearly exciting enough to encapsulate the last 12 months so it is necessary to give you a few more!

The last two legal reports provided for the Annual Report have detailed our aim to rebalance, stabilize and diversify the legal practice and to meet various challenges we have encountered along the way. The reports noted the consistency of the work carried out by the service over consecutive years and the increasing level of performance of the service.

The service launched into 2017-18 looking to maintain those positive trends. At the conclusion of the current funding agreement on 30 June 2018, our achievements demonstrated the various elements of our service delivery had been neatly consolidated, placing the service in a strong position for the commencement of the new funding period.

It is important to note that service delivery within the context of our organisation comprises three core elements;

- legal services
- client support
- and program delivery.

This report will focus upon client service delivery, which is the one on one work primarily done by our team of solicitors and community engagement/client support workers.

## ACHIEVEMENT 1 - “CON”

### Stability of the solicitor team

For the first time in three years, we can report that all solicitors with us at the start of the year remained on deck 12 months later. There were no solicitors leave the organisation in 2017-18. The stability of the solicitor team has delivered many benefits to the organisation. Those benefits include:

- increased capacity to deliver legal services
- consistency in the number and quality of services delivered
- greater efficiency
- increased staff morale
- greater investment from staff in the strategic aims of the organisation
- and a greater level of trust from community.

More importantly, clients benefit from seeing the same solicitor for their matters. Because of their special vulnerability, it is essential that they develop trust and confidence in the organisation and our staff. This is so much more easily achieved with minimal staff turnover. Relationship building is particularly important as we increasingly focus upon delivering best practice trauma informed culturally appropriate client services – a focus for 2018-19.

## ACHIEVEMENT 2 - “SOL”

### Growth of the solicitor team

From a stable team, the organisation has then been able to bolster its capacity by recruiting two new solicitors. In doing so, the long held Ceduna solicitor vacancy was filled. It was ridiculously pleasing to have such a high calibre of applicants when we commenced recruiting in early 2018. This enabled us to recruit two new junior solicitors who joined us in April. They are both full of enthusiasm and potential and are a great cultural fit for the service. Adding them to the team takes us to five solicitors with a full time equivalent of 4.2 solicitors. We now have two solicitors connected to the Port Augusta community, two solicitors engaged with the Port Lincoln community and one solicitor focused upon the Ceduna community.

As reported last year, all solicitors are based in the Port Lincoln office. The two Port Augusta solicitors travel monthly to Port Augusta spending a week on site and the Ceduna solicitor travels to Ceduna each month as well. This model has shown itself to provide the necessary predictability and stability and has continued to serve the organisation and communities well in 2017-18.

### **ACHIEVEMENT 3 - "ID"**

#### **Growth of CE/CSW team**

Stability in staffing has been contagious and the community engagement client support worker (CE/CSW) team have finished the year with two of the same staff members, both of whom have in excess of 12 months service with the organisation. The team benefited enormously by the addition of a third staff member who joined the service in January and has finished the year with all positions filled and the same team in place for six months. The CE/CSWs are based at each site and so maintain local connections with each of our three communities.

Our sites at Port Lincoln and Ceduna have particularly benefited from having the same CE/CSW staff in place for more than 12 months and we will look to mirror this in Port Augusta as we commence the new funding cycle.

### **ACHIEVEMENT 4 - "A"**

#### **Increased delivery of legal assistance**

The organisation has evolved each year to deliver more legal services than the year before for the last three years. In 2016-17, we exceeded the year before by delivering 62 more legal advices and in 2017-18 we exceeded the previous 12 months by 58. As noted previously, we have consistently exceeded the KPI (key performance indicator) for legal advice (now called discreet legal services). For the third year in a row, we surpassed the legal advice/discreet legal service target, this year by 175.

Put simply, that means more legal assistance is being delivered to our three communities. We hope that will contribute to community possessing a greater level of awareness about their legal options and victims of family violence having greater access to justice. We know these things take time, and helpfully, we have the patience and stamina required to keep on keeping on.

With the addition of new staff members, we will look to continue that upward trajectory in the coming year.

### **ACHIEVEMENT 5 - "TION"**

#### **Increased delivery of client support services**

This year saw the greatest number of client supports delivered by FVLSAC staff with 86 more supports delivered this year than the year before. It is the first time since the inception of targets that this target has been exceeded and very pleasing to see staff doing so by more than 50.

Port Augusta continues to be the location where the greatest number of legal and support services are delivered. We will be looking for growth in Ceduna and Port Lincoln in the next 12 months and are confident that with stable and capable staff we will be on track for that goal.

### **2017-18 = "CONSOLIDATION"**

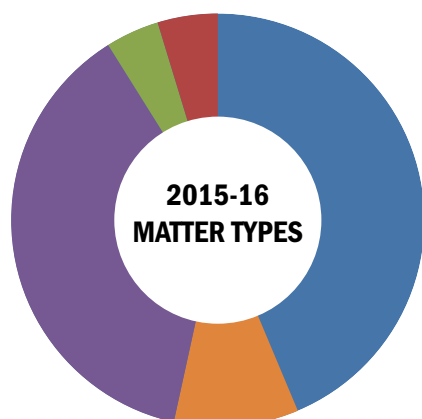
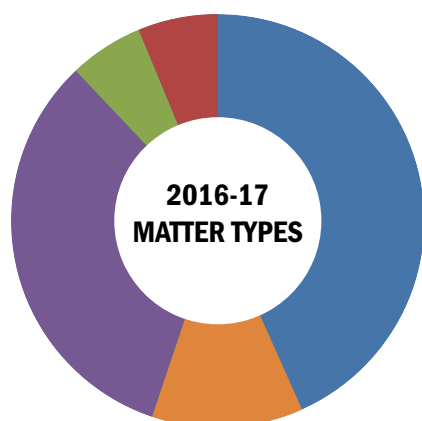
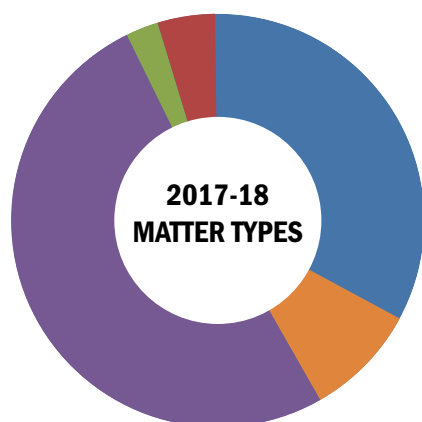
It is perhaps unsurprising that a capable and stable workforce has been able to meet key performance markers and propel the organisation forward into a new era of performance and maturity. It is, however, no small feat to achieve what has been achieved in the last 12 months. It is a credit to all involved.

We hope the year ahead sees us embarking on new territory in client service delivery and next year we are reporting to our members and communities that we have stepped beyond consolidation and into the rugged terrain of growth and innovation. These are two key aims of the organisation for 2018-19.

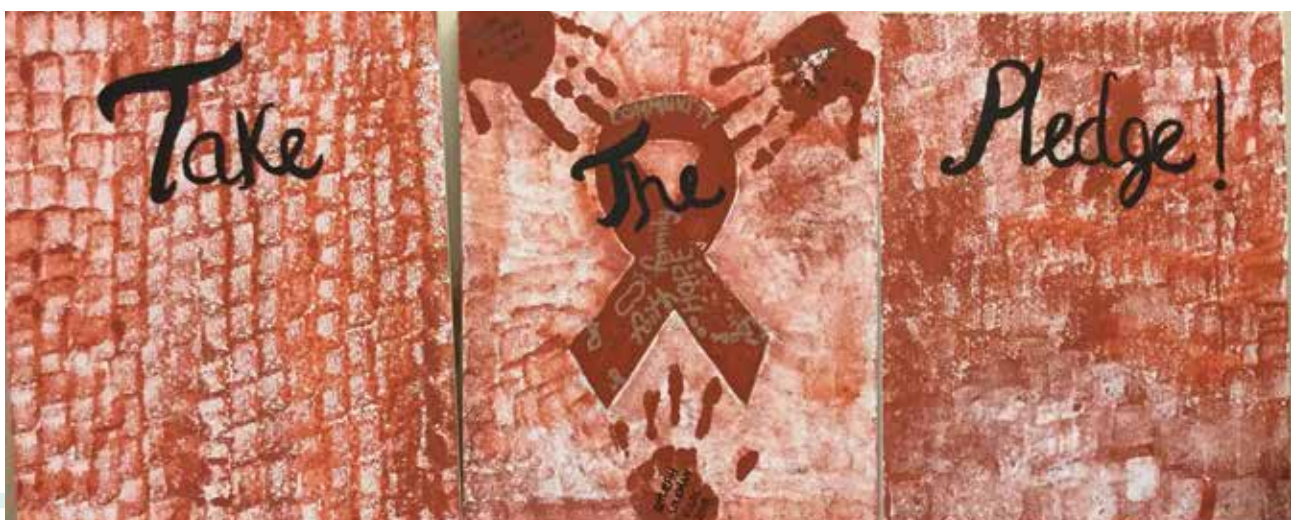
Thanks to our staff for their commitment, effort and good work in 2017-18 and to our clients for trusting us with their stories and working with us to bring about positive change.



# Legal Matters



# 2017 - 2018 Highlights!









# Financial Reports

as at 30th June 2018



Business accounting  
for city & country



**Marnie Smith**

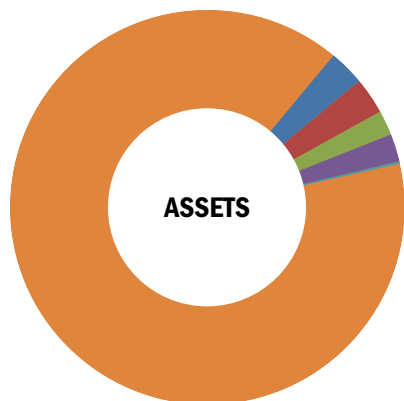
*Client Business Support*

*Services - Manager*

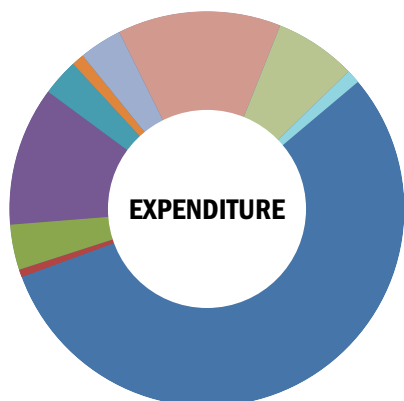
*Rowe Partners*



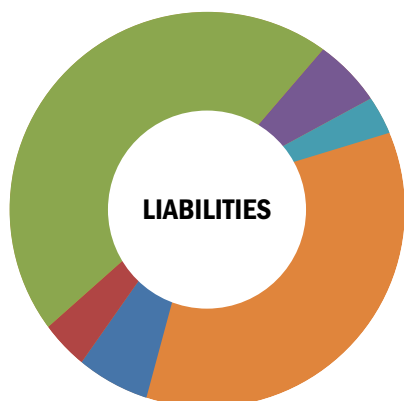
GOVERNMENT GRANTS - \$1,404,724  
SUNDRY INCOME - \$12,642  
INTEREST - \$4,787



BUILDINGS WDV - \$54,922  
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT WDV - \$57,926  
MOTOR VEHICLES WDV - \$38,314  
FURNITURE AND FITTINGS WDV - \$44,159  
TRADE AND OTHER DEBTORS - \$244  
CASH AT BANK - \$1,734,858



SALARIES AND WAGES - \$1,117,867  
REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENTS - \$12,027  
ADMINISTRATION - \$74,728  
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES - \$230,784  
COMMUNITY PROJECTS/SUNDRY - \$58,916  
LEGAL EXPENSES - \$21,319  
DEPRECIATION - \$70,298  
PROVISION FOR GRANT FUNDING SURPLUS \$268,828  
STAFF RELATED COSTS/CONFERENCES - \$131,534  
LOSS ON SALE OF ASSETS - \$0  
MOTOR VEHICLE EXPENSES - \$22,688



PROVISION FOR GRANT FUNDING SURPLUS - \$410,503  
CREDITORS AND PAYG - \$65,119  
ACCRUED EXPENSES - \$38,522  
INCOME IN ADVANCE - \$892,561  
GST OBLIGATIONS - \$116,389  
PROVISION FOR ANNUAL LEAVE AND LSL - \$55,489

# Committee Report


Your committee members submit the financial report of the Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) ICN: 7499 for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

## Committee Members

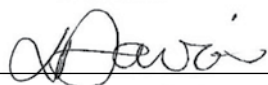
The names of Committee Members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

- Tania Benbolt
- Linda Davies
- Angela Johanna Boylan
- Desley Gray - Resigned 15/11/2017
- Ivan Phillips - Resigned 24/04/2018
- Linda Dare - Resigned 15/11/2017
- Jason Ryan - Resigned 15/11/2017
- Maryanne Clements - Appointed 15/11/2017
- Jillian Mery - Appointed 09/03/2018
- Jeanne Miller - Appointed 27/04/2018
- Noelene Lester - Resigned 16/04/2018

Tania Benbolt: \_\_\_\_\_



Linda Davies: \_\_\_\_\_



Dated this 2nd day of October 2018

## Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial period were to:

- Provide Aboriginal Family Violence Legal Services.

## Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

## Operating Result

The deficit for the 2018 financial year amounted to \$46,180.00.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

# Income Statement

INCOME	NOTE	2018 \$	2017 \$
Operational Grants		1,404,724	1,588,244
Interest Received		4,787	8,070
Sundry Income		12,642	19,827
		<b>1,422,153</b>	<b>1,616,141</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>NOTE</b>	<b>2018 \$</b>	<b>2017 \$</b>
Accounting fees		60,000	60,540
Depreciation expense		70,298	90,087
Audit fees		14,708	12,419
Bank charges		20	65
Loss on sale of assets - property, plant and equipment		-	15,146
Advertising and promotion expenses		8,120	4,077
Brief Out		8,462	3,139
Catering		655	912
Cleaning		12,191	12,441
Community Activities		58,866	51,432
Consultants		8,979	5,470
Disbursements		8,941	2,072
Electricity		13,311	11,363
IT Support		24,032	25,583
Insurance		7,992	9,876
Meetings & Seminars		35,374	14,375
Vehicle Expenses		22,688	20,361
Permits, Licences & Fees		-	8,482
Postage, Printing & Stationary		29,245	24,554
Practising Certificate		3,916	3,361
Recruitment		18,425	12,043
Rent, Rates & Taxes		84,425	91,980
Repairs, Maintenance & Replacements		12,027	10,501
Security Costs		2,758	7,924
Staff Training & Welfare		63,504	21,783
Salaries and wages - superannuation		89,798	70,959
Salaries and wages		989,302	767,338
Sundry Expenses		50	3,256
Telephone		39,076	47,805
Travel Allowance		14,231	42,088
Leave Loading		13,694	7,832
Workcover		5,576	4,600
Provision for Annual Leave		7,648	(1,869)
Provision for Grant Funding Surplus		(268,828)	142,475
Provision for Long Service Leave		11,849	2,575
		<b>1,471,334</b>	<b>1,607,044</b>
<b>Net Current Year Surplus (Deficit)</b>		<b>(49,180)</b>	<b>9,097</b>
Retained Surplus at the beginning of the Financial Year		286,605	277,508
<b>Retained Surplus at the end of the Financial Year</b>		<b>237,424</b>	<b>286,605</b>



# Balance Sheet

ASSETS	NOTE	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	4	1,734,858	925,987
Accounts Receivable & Other Debtors	2	244	2,175
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>1,735,102</b>	<b>928,163</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, Plant & Equipment	3	195,321	243,454
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>195,321</b>	<b>243,454</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>1,930,423</b>	<b>1,171,617</b>
LIABILITIES	NOTE	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts Payable & Other Payables		46,673	16,764
Income in advance		892,561	-
Employee Provisions	5	27,628	19,980
Net GST Payable / (Refundable)		116,389	(9,865)
Amounts Withheld from Salary, Wages & Other Payments		18,446	17,374
Provision for Grant Funding Surplus		410,503	679,331
Accrued Expenses		38,522	31,002
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,550,722</b>	<b>754,585</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Employee Provisions	5	27,861	16,012
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>27,861</b>	<b>16,012</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,578,583</b>	<b>770,597</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>351,839</b>	<b>401,020</b>
MEMBERS' FUNDS	NOTE	2018 \$	2017 \$
Capital Reserve		114,415	114,415
Retained Surplus		237,424	286,605
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<b>351,839</b>	<b>401,020</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act). The board has determined that the corporation is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs. They do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

### Property

Freehold land and buildings are shown at their cost or fair value (being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction), based on periodic, but at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation.

### Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the corporation commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

### Depreciation

The depreciation method and useful life used for items of property, plant and equipment (excluding freehold land) reflects the pattern in which their future economic benefits are expected to be consumed by the corporation. Depreciation commences from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements. The depreciation method and useful life of assets is reviewed annually to ensure they are still appropriate.

### Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the board reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

### **Employee Provisions**

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

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period 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. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

### **Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the corporation has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

### **Cash on Hand**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

### **Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors**

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

### **Revenue and Other Income**

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established. Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the corporation is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

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

### **Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

### **Accounts payable and other payables**

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the corporation during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

## 2. Accounts Receivable & Other Debtors

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Trade Debtors	244	2,175
	<b>244</b>	<b>2,175</b>

## 3. Property, Plant & Equipment

Plant & Equipment	612,571	604,466
(Accumulated Depreciation)	(554,645)	(524,769)
	57,926	79,698
Office Equipment	97,630	83,571
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(53,471)	(48,355)
	44,159	35,216
Motor Vehicles	251,699	251,699
(Accumulated Depreciation)	(213,386)	(187,109)
	38,314	64,591
Buildings & Houses	295,793	295,793
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(240,872)	(231,843)
	54,922	63,950
<b>Total Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>195,321</b>	<b>243,454</b>

## 4. Cash & Cash Equivalents

Cash at Bank	1,731,958	923,537
Cash on Hand	2,900	2,450
<b>Total Cash on Hand</b>	<b>1,734,858</b>	<b>925,987</b>

## 5. Employee Benefits

### Current

Provision for Annual Leave	27,628	19,980
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### Non-Current

Provision for Long Service Leave	27,861	16,012
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## 6. Reserves

### Capital Reserve

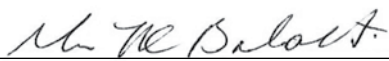
Provision for Depreciation	114,415	114,415
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## Statement by Members of the Board

We, Tania Benbolt and Linda Davies, being members of the Board of Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA), certify that:

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30th June 2018.

At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) ICN: 7499 will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Tania Benbolt: 

Linda Davies: 

Dated this 2nd day of October 2018

# Auditor's Report

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE LEGAL SERVICE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (SA)

### 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 this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


We also provide the those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



**Trevor Basso - Director**  
**Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**286 Flinders Street, Adelaide**  
**Dated this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2018**

**basso**  
**newman**  
**audit**  
chartered  
accountants





## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE LEGAL SERVICE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (SA)

### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) ("the entity") which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2018, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) is in accordance with Div 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) that the financial records kept by the entity are such as to enable financial statements to be prepared in accordance with and comply with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 and the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) 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 entity in accordance with the auditor independence 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 believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the financial reporting responsibilities under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 and the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the relevant Australian Accounting Standards and in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission Regulations 2013 and the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the special purpose financial report, management is responsible for assessing the entity'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 management either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

**basso  
newman**  
audit  
chartered  
accountants

Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd  
ABN 98 618 562 824

286 Flinders Street  
Adelaide, South Australia  
PO Box 7033 Hutt Street,  
South Australia 5000

Telephone: (08) 8224 0066  
Facsimile: (08) 8224 0670

bnc@bassonewman.com.au  
www.bassonewman.com.au

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