



**HUB**  
Community  
Projects



ANNUAL REPORT



2023





We acknowledge and thank our funding bodies, including the Queensland and Commonwealth Departments of Justice and Attorney-General and the Queensland Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts.

We thank our community partners and supporters for working alongside us to improve the lives of people in our reach and for their ongoing commitment to building strong and resilient communities.

We acknowledge the following organisations for their role in supporting HUB Community Projects Inc. (HUB) throughout the year:

- Brisbane City Council
- Cr. Charles Strunk, Councillor Forest Lake Ward
- Commonwealth Department of Justice and Attorney-General
- Community Legal Centres Queensland
- Goodna Neighbourhood House
- Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, Member for Inala
- Inala Elders Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation
- Inspire Youth and Family Services
- Legal Aid Queensland
- Milton Dick MP, Federal Member for Oxley
- Multicultural Australia
- Queensland Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts
- Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General
- Neighbourhood Centres Queensland
- Queensland Foster and Kinship Care
- Relationships Australia
- 54 Reasons
- Queensland University of Technology
- Southern Queensland Centre of Excellence in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Primary Care
- The Yoga Partnership
- University of Queensland Pro Bono Centre
- University of Southern Queensland School of Law and Justice
- Westside Community Care



**HUB acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work. We value the rich culture, languages and wisdom of First Nations people. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.**





# A welcoming place for a just and inclusive community.

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## ABOUT HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

HUB is a not-for-profit organisation that works to promote a society where all people are valued and supported by providing access to justice and opportunities to connect and participate in community life. We offer legal services through HUB Community Legal and community centred neighbourhood activities through HUB Neighbourhood Centre.

We're open to all members of the community but focus our services where we can have the greatest impact. We work in flexible ways across Inala and the south western suburbs of Brisbane. We offer a blend of supports through our neighbourhood centre and legal services working together with other services in a welcoming community space at the Inala Community Centre.

### WHERE WE STARTED

HUB began as the Community of Inala Legal Service (COLS) in 1986. Following a name change to South West Brisbane Community Legal Centre in 2001, and an amalgamation with HUB Neighbourhood Centre in 2015, the organisation changed its name to HUB Community Projects Inc. in 2019.

### HOW WE GOT HERE

Our strategic plan has provided direction towards achieving our purpose - a welcoming place for a just and inclusive community. Since the current plan launched in 2020, we have built our capacity for greater community engagement, implemented new collaborative working relationships with community partners and focused our efforts towards reaching those most disadvantaged.

Through our partnership with the Queensland Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts we manage the Inala Community Centre, a multi-tenant community facility. Our location allows for a holistic response to community needs and more effective support for people facing adversity. Our team of staff work alongside many dedicated volunteers.

### OUR VALUES

- **Ethical** - We are committed to ethical practice, accountability, and professionalism.
- **Respectful** - We respect individuals for their diverse backgrounds, experiences, approaches and ideas.
- **Inclusive** - We encourage, empower, and support community participation.
- **Collaborative** - We work in partnership with people and other organisations to benefit the community.

### OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

The long-term strategic goals developed by our staff and management committee to guide our work are:

1. Consistent delivery of high quality legal and community services
2. Accessible services for the most vulnerable
3. Strengthened workplace
4. Enhanced relationships with the community and key stakeholders.

## OUR PRESIDENT'S REPORT



LAUREL JOHNSON

Thanks to decades of leadership, guidance and service from our immediate past-President Mr Rangi Ross, HUB Community Projects Inc has a firm foundation. Rangi's legacy is a strong and highly regarded organisation with a range of responsive services and a welcoming sense of family among the HUB staff and volunteers.

I am humbled to follow Rangi as the President of the HUB in 2023 and to build on this foundation. This year has been one of optimism and growth for HUB. We have an expanding volunteer and staff base and additional funding to enhance the services that we provide.

We are grateful to the Queensland Government for the increase in the recurrent funding to our neighbourhood centre program. And, we are thankful for the many successes in other grants and funding throughout the year. You will see from the annual financial statements that we have a healthy budget underpinned by cautious and wise spending. A priority for the additional funding is extending the hours of our high performing, dedicated staff and thereby expanding our community and legal services to the communities of the southwest.

While we farewelled some of our HUB family in 2023, we also welcomed new staff and volunteers to the organisation. Thanks to our solid reputation in the legal and community sectors, the HUB consistently attracts high calibre staff and volunteers.

A highlight for me this year was our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) process. HUB staff and volunteers joined with the Inala Elders Inc to prepare the RAP. The process brought us closer to our friends at the Inala Elders. The Inala Elders generously provided a lunch and gifted the HUB with one of Terri Hill's stunning artworks (that now hangs in our building) to signal the enduring relationship between our organisations. The HUB signed a 'pledge' with the Inala Elders to respectfully work together for our local communities in the spirit of mutual respect and friendship. Our RAP will be completed shortly, and it will be implemented and monitored by the Management Committee, staff and volunteers.

We embellished our beautiful centre and grew our much-loved community garden thanks to volunteers who brought their gardening and creative skills to the HUB to create a new flourishing space at the back of the centre. Next year, we will build an outdoor space at the HUB to complement the community garden and welcome and celebrate our First Nations and multicultural communities. The new, extended garden will provide a comfortable and welcoming green outdoor space for client conversations and community celebrations.



While many organisations struggle to find volunteers for their management committees, we have been fortunate to sustain eight talented committee members. The committee shares the workload and is a harmonious and dedicated team. This year, Neiewa Taumayauna joined us as our new Secretary. Neiewa is an experienced administrator and local resident. Neiewa replaced Olga Aleksandrova who stood down as Secretary last year. Olga remains a member of the organisation though she will not serve as a committee member in 2024. Olga generously supported Neiewa in her transition to the Secretary role. We are grateful to both Neiewa and Olga for serving as Secretary. This year, we say good-bye to a long serving and hard-working committee member, Mr Palani Thevar. Palani served on the Committee of the Neighbourhood Centre for more than a decade and we very much value his deep knowledge of community governance. We

are grateful to him for his dedicated service.

Our Treasurer Megan Pearce has worked hard to ensure our financial reporting system is clear and robust and her efforts support the Committee to scrutinise the budget and make informed decisions on expenditure. Our Vice-President Kathy Reeves achieved her PhD this year and as a legal educator, she is a great asset to our team. Charo Weldon assisted in staff recruitment and selection and Nayda Hernandez and Kathy were members of the RAP working group. Long standing committee member Radhika Hari brings years of organisational knowledge to the Committee.

In 2024, the Management Committee will review the organisation's many policies and procedures to ensure that the HUB's governance reflects best practice principles and practices as well as our community's

values and expectations of the organisation. Alison O'Quinn's calm and decisive Directorship has positioned the HUB as a well-regarded, accessible, inclusive, and strategic organisation and our positive consumer satisfaction and staff surveys reflect this.

Next year, we will continue to consolidate what we do well - serving the communities of the southwest.

**Dr. Laurel Johnson**  
President

## OUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

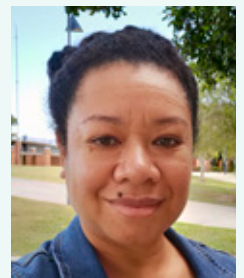
Laurel Johnson, President  
Neiewa Taumayauna, Secretary  
Megan Pearce, Treasurer  
Kathy Reeves, Vice President  
Charo Weldon, Committee Member  
Olga Aleksandrova, Committee Member  
Radhika Hari, Committee Member  
Nayda Hernandez, Committee Member



**KATHY REEVES,**  
VICE PRESIDENT



**MEGAN PEARCE,**  
TREASURER



**NEIEWA TAUMAY AUNA,**  
SECRETARY

## OUR STAFF

Alison O'Quinn, Director  
Michal Haenell, Operations Manager  
Carolyn Juratowitch, Principal Lawyer  
Boba Djordjevic, Lawyer  
Caitlin Josey, Paralegal  
Cecilia Miranda, Administration  
Chi Kalu, Lawyer  
Daisy Leadbetter, Lawyer  
Prue Allen, Neighbourhood Centre Program Manager  
Alyce Brightmore, Neighbourhood Centre Program Manager  
Ifrah Mohammed, Community Development Worker  
Helen Hawksworth, Lawyer  
Helen Situlia, Administration  
Jim Gibney, Lawyer  
John Shanahan, Lawyer  
Madga Dzienis, Lawyer  
Megan Inglis, Lawyer  
Osharni Goonewardene, Paralegal  
Ursula Bertrand, Administration



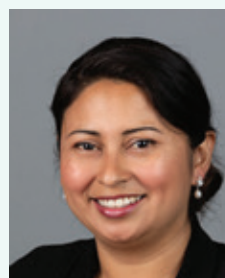
**RADHIKA HARI,**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**OLGA ALEKSANDROVA,**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**CHARO WELDON**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**NAYDA HERNANDEZ,**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



## WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT US

In May 2023, HUB surveyed people who accessed our legal and neighbourhood centre services to find out more about their experiences with our centre.

97%

said they would recommend HUB Community Legal to other people

93%

said they know where to get help if they have another legal problem in the future

94%

said HUB Community Legal staff listened to their legal problem in a friendly and respectful manner

90%

said HUB Community Legal staff helped them deal with their legal problem and provided them with options

100%

of neighbourhood centre participants surveyed said they feel very welcome at the centre



"I am very happy with (HUB Lawyer's) assistance and advice. I feel a weight has been lifted from my shoulders and that I will see a resolution." - **legal centre client**

"I have found the centre and the legal assistance to be very professional and helpful. My situation has not been resolved as of yet but the staff have continued to support me. Thank you!" - **legal centre client**

"We are pleased to inform you that we attended the court yesterday as per your advice and the judge released us from all the charges. Once again thank you for your advice and support and we wish you every strength to support others in our situation." - **legal centre client**

"Thank you for the opportunities to learn new things and meet new people. I love coming to the HUB and assisting people. The staff here is extremely friendly and always available if needed" - **neighbourhood centre participant**

"I like the friendly and relaxed atmosphere which increased my wellbeing and confidence" - **neighbourhood centre participant**





## OUR DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The past year has been a challenging one for our community with rising costs of living, the housing crisis, and ongoing impacts from natural disasters that have disproportionately impacted people with little or no income, people in vulnerable situations, and people experiencing deep and persistent disadvantage.

Our work this year has continued to focus on empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and advocating for social justice through our community legal centre and neighbourhood centre programs.

Our legal team continues to provide invaluable, high-quality legal assistance, offering individuals confidence and peace of mind in the face of stressful, dangerous, or confusing situations. A focus for this year has been implementation of the continued funding of our flood legal assistance program, ensuring that people impacted by the 2022 south east Queensland floods were able to access the legal help they needed to recover from the disaster.

While our commitment to improving access to justice remains steadfast, we are mindful of resource limitations. HUB Community Legal faces an overwhelming volume of daily enquiries which are a stark reminder of the substantial unmet legal needs in our community. We continue to assist people with the increasingly complex legal problems that are often associated with challenging social issues.

This year we worked to enhance the cultural competency of our team. We established a dedicated working group who have developed a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and our staff actively engaged in training initiatives to deepen their understanding of the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We extend our gratitude to the Inala Elders Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation for their generous partnership on our RAP, ensuring it is informed by the wisdom and voices of First Nations people. Our neighbourhood centre staff and volunteers have created invaluable opportunities for individuals to connect, find happiness, and enhance their health and wellbeing. They ensured the centre offered a variety of activities and secured short-term grants to support the social inclusion of older women facing homelessness and people from migrant and refugee backgrounds.

We recognise the pressure and volume of work at HUB continues to grow and acknowledge the impact this has on our staff's wellbeing. We continue to

offer training and support to all staff and volunteers.

Throughout the year, we continued to harness technology to enhance communication and team resilience, fostering a more cohesive and effective organisation. We have also reviewed and refined key organisational policies and practices to improve our governance and risk management processes.

In August, we recognised the exceptional contribution to social justice made by our Principal Lawyer, Carolyn Juratowitch, who was selected as a finalist in the Queensland Law Society's Excellence in Law Awards. Additionally, we bid farewell to key staff members, Megan Inglis and John Shanahan, who have taken on Principal Lawyer roles at other community legal centres. We extend our thanks for their unwavering dedication to HUB.

I acknowledge and thank the members of HUB's Management Committee who volunteer their time to provide effective governance and leadership. Their interest and dedication to HUB makes us better. Our people, both staff and volunteers, are our most valuable asset and they are committed to making our community fairer and more inclusive through their work. This year, we identified the core values that unite us as a team: collaboration, adaptability, learning, determination, open-mindedness, and a sense of belonging. Our team's ability to work together, even in the face of adversity, has been a testament to these values. It is their work that is highlighted in this report. Together, we are making a profound difference in the lives of countless individuals, and I eagerly anticipate the year ahead.

**Alison O'Quinn**  
Director



**ALISON O'QUINN**  
DIRECTOR





# HUB COMMUNITY LEGAL REPORT

At HUB Community Legal, we believe in the fundamental right of every individual to participate in the justice system. Our mission is to empower people, guide them through legal challenges, and champion social justice to improve community wellbeing. We provide the knowledge and clarity people need to make informed decisions.

Located in Inala, we have established strong local ties and boast a dedicated team comprising both employed staff and volunteer lawyers and law students. The diversity of our team's knowledge, backgrounds, skills and experience equips us to offer tailored and effective responses to the legal needs of our community.

Our core legal services support people experiencing financial disadvantage, housing stress, job insecurity, discrimination, and violence or abuse.

Following the 2022 southeast Queensland floods, we extended our services to provide crucial legal assistance to those affected.

## COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

### GENERAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

The core of our legal practice is the Community Legal Services Program, funded through the National Legal Assistance Partnership 2020-25. HUB's lawyers and legal volunteers provide high quality legal help on a wide range of legal issues such as fines, debt, car accidents, domestic and family violence, family problems, mental health, employment and discrimination.

Our legal advice services are accessible to all members of our community. However, when faced with high demand, we focus our efforts to maximise our positive impact for those who encounter barriers to accessing justice. HUB employs an intake and triage system when responding to enquiries or referrals for legal advice, ensuring that our services are allocated where they can make the most significant difference.

### COMMUNITY LEGAL OUTREACH

At HUB, we're committed to breaking down barriers to justice by taking legal assistance directly to the community. Our lawyers regularly visit community centres, including the Goodna Neighbourhood Centre, the Camira-Springfield Community Centre, and Relationships Australia in Ipswich. We understand that not everyone, especially those in vulnerable situations, recognises when they're facing a legal



issue or knows where to turn for help. By building relationships with these trusted organisations, we enhance the likelihood that staff can identify legal challenges among the people they support and connect them with HUB.

### LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Our youth legal service is dedicated to advocating for the rights and wellbeing of children and young people across a diverse spectrum of legal concerns, including criminal law, youth justice, child protection, domestic and family violence, school exclusions, and various other issues. We adapt our services to meet the unique needs and preferences of young people, offering support in person, by phone, or virtually.

Our commitment to accessibility extends beyond traditional office settings and our lawyers often meet young clients in settings that are familiar and safe for them. Whether it's in residential group homes, public spaces like parks, or the offices of their trusted youth workers, we prioritise creating a comfortable atmosphere where young people can feel safe talking with a lawyer.

Through extensive collaborations with partner organisations, including youth support organisations, Child Safety, child advocates from the Office of the Public Guardian, social workers, and school guidance officers, we've established a robust network for identifying and referring young people in need of legal assistance. These relationships also enable us to connect young people with essential support to help them with problems such as homelessness, domestic and family violence, and educational disengagement.

By providing consistent, holistic support to children and young people across various legal matters and court locations we foster trust and lasting relationships, which ultimately lead to improved outcomes.

In the past year, we provided legal assistance to **168 young people** under **25 years old**, representing **8%** of those accessing our community legal services program. That included providing **60** representation services.

### FAMILY LAW & LEGAL ASSISTANCE AT FAMILY RELATIONSHIP CENTRES

Family law matters account for 34% of all the legal services provided by HUB under our core funding arrangements. Our support spans a wide spectrum, encompassing information, advice, and assistance for problems related to domestic and family violence, parenting arrangements, divorce, and property settlements.

Our family law assistance is accessible by phone, at our office in Inala, and at our outreach locations. Additionally, with the support of volunteer lawyers, we host day and evening legal clinics, providing much-needed additional support.

HUB also offers regular legal advice sessions at Family Relationship Centres in Ipswich and Logan. These sessions are strategically timed to coincide with clients' mediation processes, a pivotal moment in resolving family disputes. Our goal is to empower clients with an understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities, guide them towards amicable dispute resolution whenever possible, and prioritise client safety throughout the challenging journey of separation and divorce.

Our holistic approach helps clients navigate complex legal terrain but also fosters empowerment, resilience, and positive outcomes for families during trying times.

### LEGAL REPRESENTATION & CASEWORK

Representation services are where we assist a client in an ongoing capacity as their representative. Representation and casework services are reserved for more





complex problems that require intensive support and are only available to people experiencing financial disadvantage and other significant barriers to resolving their own legal issues. This year, we represented clients in 152 matters for problems with wills and estates, consumer law, debt, guardianship, child protection, criminal matters, mental health, domestic and family violence, family law, discrimination, and fines.

Through our representation services, we work closely with our clients to provide the comprehensive and sustained assistance they need to navigate these complex legal matters effectively.

- 151** Representation services provided
- 29%** Disclosed having a disability or mental illness
- 53%** Aged under 25
- 49%** Experiencing domestic and family violence
- 11%** From culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- 98%** Experiencing financial hardship
- 18%** Identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

## UNISQ LEGAL CLINIC

HUB continued to collaborate with the University of Southern Queensland School of Law and Justice to nurture the legal professionals of tomorrow. Through our partnership, we provide students with a hands-on clinical placement experience. The clinic workshops foster a supportive environment for personal and professional growth, encouraging students to engage with their supervisor and peers in lively discussions on legal concepts and practices. This deepens their understanding of professional practice, and actively contributes to our purpose of enhancing access to justice.

### Here's what clinic students had to say about their experience:

"Assisting people to navigate a complicated legal system, understanding that it's okay not to know everything straight away, and gaining confidence in myself were huge highlights." - UniSQ Legal Clinic Placement Student

"The experience not only enhanced my legal skills but also deepened my understanding of the practical aspects of the legal profession. It allowed me to see firsthand the impact that legal services can have on individuals and communities." - UniSQ Legal Clinic Placement Student

## COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION

Increasing community knowledge and understanding of the law can have a positive impact on people's lives. HUB tailors community legal education sessions to cover a range of legal topics based on identified needs in our community. This year, our community legal education has focused on domestic and family violence, young people, wills and powers of attorney, and disaster response legal assistance.

We are dedicated to raising awareness about domestic and family violence, and providing information on legal rights and legal processes. Our sessions promote safety and offer guidance on navigating the legal system in these challenging circumstances. One of the community legal education projects we undertook this year was to deliver legal education to culturally and linguistically diverse men engaged in Relationships Australia's pilot Men's Peace and Family Safety workshops.

We are committed to providing valuable legal advice to seniors, with a special emphasis on estate planning and powers of attorney. Our educational sessions provide older people with the knowledge and tools they need to make informed decisions about their end-of-life planning. This year, we had the privilege of presenting to several Vietnamese seniors' groups and at an aged care facility.

Our lawyers provided information to youth workers to improve their understanding of the key laws and responsibilities that affect their work and the young people they support. We delivered community legal education sessions to youth workers at Inspire Youth and Family Services to assist them in effectively supporting young people. In times of crisis, knowing one's legal rights and avenues for assistance is crucial.

Through our flood response funding, we provided several information sessions to ensure that affected communities received the legal help they need.

## LAW REFORM

### Youth law

The Youth Justice Act has been the primary focus of our law reform efforts this year. In response to the Strengthening Community Safety Bill 2023, we made a written submission which opposed increasing maximum penalties, making breaching bail an offence, and other amendments to the Youth Justice Act. Several of our submissions were cited in Report No. 41, 57th Parliament Economics and Governance Committee, March 2023.

Along with other community groups, HUB Community Legal co-signed a letter to government opposing the continuing detention of children in watch houses and the deliberate override of the Human Rights Act in relation to children.

HUB's Principal Lawyer, Carolyn Juratowitch also served on the Qld Law Society Children's Law Committee and the Brisbane Local Operational Working Group for the fast track sentencing pilot.

### Discrimination on the basis of criminal convictions

Queensland currently has no laws which would prevent discrimination occurring on the basis of someone's criminal convictions, no matter how unrelated or distant in time they may be to the thing in question. HUB Community Legal has been advocating for a specific amendment to the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 (Qld). Our advocacy was informed by a research brief from The University of Queensland Pro-Bono Centre. Based on this comprehensive brief, we were then able to send a submission for consideration by the Human Rights Commission.

## COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

Services delivered with our core Community Legal Services Program Funding included:

- 2070** People helped this year
- 2146** Times that legal information was provided
- 1475** Referrals made to outside services
- 2740** Legal advice appointments delivered
- 417** Legal tasks carried out to provide further assistance, such as writing a letter or making phone calls
- 126** Representation cases opened for more complex problems that required more intensive support, including court or tribunal representation
- 157** Representation cases closed
- 5** Community legal education sessions delivered
- 10** Law reform projects undertaken



## OTHER COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

### MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNAL

The Mental Health Review Tribunal (MHRT) plays a vital role in safeguarding the rights and wellbeing of people dealing with mental health challenges. HUB is a preferred supplier for Legal Aid Queensland in this important area of law.

Mental Health Law guides the temporary involuntary detention, assessment, or treatment of people who may not be in a position to consent to medical treatment due to mental illness. In the past year, our accredited lawyers worked closely with Legal Aid, responding to referrals and representing the interests of 43 clients.

These cases spanned a spectrum of issues, including treatment authorities, forensic orders, fitness for trial determinations, and applications for electro-convulsive therapy. The nature of this work necessitates a high degree of care and expertise.

The legislation governing mental health, coupled with the profound impact the MHRT's decisions have on the lives of those appearing before it, underscores the gravity and responsibility of this vital service.

**43 CLIENTS** ASSISTED IN **62** REPRESENTATION FILES FOR MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNAL HEARINGS

### DUTY LAWYER SERVICES

HUB's accredited domestic and family violence and child protection duty lawyers provide support to people appearing in court. Our duty lawyers engage with them to discuss their legal issue, explain available options, provide legal information and advice, clarify court procedures, assist with completion of court forms and documents, guide them through the Legal Aid application process, and refer them to other relevant services.

In court, HUB's lawyers help people comprehend their choices and potential outcomes. This includes explaining intervention orders, the possibility of cross-applications, potential ouster conditions, family law exceptions, consequences of breaches, and the practical steps required for their cases. We also provide insights into potential costs that the court may award if an application is dismissed.

The duty lawyers often address urgent situations by assisting people with safety

planning, such as applying for temporary protection orders and liaising with domestic violence prevention support workers to develop personalised safety plans.

Many clients we assist through our duty lawyer services face complex legal challenges and encounter additional barriers. Some individuals may grapple with mental health conditions, cognitive barriers, or issues related to alcohol and drug use.

HUB provides on-site duty lawyers at the Brisbane and Ipswich Children's Courts and dedicated Domestic Violence Duty Lawyers at Beenleigh, Ipswich, and Richlands Magistrates Courts. We are committed to ensuring that people appearing at court, regardless of their circumstances, have access to legal support.

**HUB PROVIDED 994 DUTY LAWYER SERVICES TO 835 PEOPLE**

### LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR FOSTER & KINSHIP CARERS

HUB offers legal assistance to foster and kinship carers through a partnership with Queensland Foster and Kinship Care. Through this partnership, caregivers have access to legal information, advice and representation tailored to the unique challenges they face in their role.

Our assistance encompasses a range of services, including guidance with applications before the Queensland Civil Administration Tribunal or the Children's Court, assistance with document preparation, thorough preparations for hearings, and, in select cases, legal representation.

This program provides foster and kinship carers with a much-needed voice and support during legal processes that can be emotionally taxing, intricate, and costly. By doing so, it contributes significantly to improving decision-making processes that prioritise the best interests of children in out-of-home care.

**57** Carer families assisted  
**54** Legal advice sessions for carers  
**11** Legal tasks completed for carers  
**28** Legal representation cases, including court or tribunal representation

### FLOOD LEGAL ASSISTANCE

The floods that swept through south east

Queensland in early 2022 brought profound devastation to many individuals and left communities surrounding Inala significantly affected.

Natural disasters often unleash a wave of legal challenges encompassing issues related to safety, housing, insurance, employment, child welfare, and more. Unfortunately, such events can also trigger an upsurge in instances of family violence in their aftermath.

In recognition of the potential surge in demand for legal assistance, HUB took proactive steps to secure funding from the Commonwealth Department of Justice and Attorney General, bolstering our capacity to provide essential legal information and assistance in these critical areas.

This funding has empowered us to better serve the community during times of crisis, ensuring that individuals affected by natural disasters have the support they need to rebuild their lives and navigate the complex legal landscape.

**80** Flood affected people assisted  
**108** Legal advice sessions for flood affected people  
**24** Legal tasks completed  
**9** Legal representation cases opened  
**4** Legal representation cases closed

### LAWYER & LEGAL SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS

At HUB, our volunteers contribute significantly to our purpose throughout the year. 28 volunteer lawyers generously donated their time and expertise each week. Their commitment enables us to offer an evening legal advice clinic in addition to additional daytime legal appointments.

Many of our volunteers bring specialised knowledge in specific areas of law, broadening our ability to assist people.

To further enhance our accessibility and manage the constant demand for our services, we've established a dedicated volunteer intake team comprised of over 22 law students. These passionate students play a crucial role in improving access to our services, ensuring that we can answer more phone calls each day and efficiently handle the intake and triage process.

We extend our gratitude to our dedicated community of volunteers. Their commitment and generosity enable us to provide essential legal assistance to those in need.





## VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION

- 28** Volunteer lawyers
- 22** Volunteer law students
- 10** University of Southern Queensland placement students
- 4** Practical legal training students

Thank you for the opportunities and support you have given me during my legal journey. I greatly appreciate it and will carry with me all the wisdom, both legal and non-legal, that you have shared. - **Practical Legal Training Student**

The induction and ongoing support are great, and I'm confident in my role as a volunteer with staff ready to assist. - **Intake volunteer**

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: SHERIDAN WILSON

Sheridan Wilson started at HUB Community Legal as a law student volunteering on our intake team and participated in HUB's University of Southern Queensland law clinic. Sheridan has completed her Bachelor of Laws and is currently completing practical legal training. She is an enthusiastic volunteer who has volunteered in her local community since high school.

Sheridan thinks she has been given so much growing up and wants to give back to others. She is particularly interested in both criminal and estate law.

"I enjoy helping people navigate their way through the legal system and making them aware of the tips and tricks along the way and my work at HUB has taught me how to help people, often when they are very emotional."



## SNAPSHOT OF ALL HUB COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

We helped **3014 people**  
We provided **3847 instances** of legal advice  
Our lawyers carried out **553 legal tasks** to provide further assistance (including making phone calls or writing a letter)  
Our lawyers provided **254 representation** services, providing comprehensive support for people facing complex legal challenges, including court or tribunal representation  
We provided **1607 referrals** to external

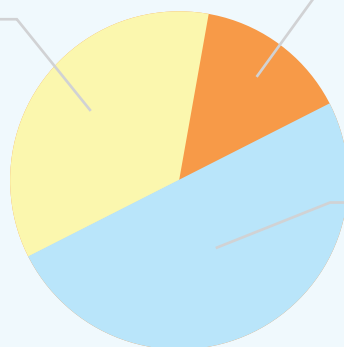
services, helping people access additional resources to address their specific needs more effectively.

We delivered **15 community legal** education activities to help people recognise and know where to get help for legal problems

We undertook **10 law reform activities** informed by our work to make the law fairer for all

### 32% of our legal advices are for family law

(top 4 problems involved parenting arrangements, separation & divorce, family law property, and domestic and family violence)



### 14% of our legal advices are for criminal law

(top 4 problems are traffic & vehicle offences, motor vehicle property damage, acts intended to cause injury, and sexual assault)

### 54% of our legal advices are for civil law problems

(top 4 problems involved wills & estates, credit, debt, and other financial issues, child protection, and domestic violence protection orders)

## SNAPSHOT OF ALL HUB COMMUNITY LEGAL CLIENTS



**49%** ARE FEMALE



**49%** ARE MALE



**2%** IDENTIFIED AS NEITHER OR DID NOT STATE A GENDER



**45%** OF THE WOMEN WE HELPED WERE EXPERIENCING FAMILY VIOLENCE



**7%** ARE ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE



**7%** HAD NO INCOME



**79%** WERE FINANCIALLY DISADVANTAGED



**24%** DISCLOSED HAVING A DISABILITY OR MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION



**7%** NEEDED THE ASSISTANCE OF AN INTERPRETER



**15%** SPOKE A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME



**9%** WERE UNDER 25 YEARS OLD



**10%** WERE OVER 65 YEARS OLD



**4%** WERE HOMELESS OR AT RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS



## LEGAL CLIENT STORIES

### MARY'S STORY – "MY LIFE HAS TURNED AROUND AND NOW I AM CONFIDENT FOR MY FUTURE"

*When women experience family violence and relationship breakdown, the legal issues multiply. Misidentification of the victim as aggressor is also a significant issue that has enormous consequences for the victim survivor.*

Mary\* was involved in a violent relationship and was charged with breaching a domestic violence order. She was referred to HUB by her family support worker. HUB's lawyer took time to understand Mary's situation and identified a pattern of serious coercive control being exerted against Mary. It was evident she was actually the victim of family violence and in urgent need of protection.

HUB's lawyer helped Mary obtain a domestic violence order in her favour, protecting her safety and wellbeing. With the lawyer's assistance, Mary's criminal charges were dismissed when the courts recognised that she was the victim of family violence not the perpetrator.

HUB's lawyer then assisted Mary to navigate the legal process to obtain a divorce. The lawyer also assisted Mary to obtain Australian Citizenship, drafting a detailed submission that explained the circumstances surrounding the charges she faced.

HUB's comprehensive assistance transformed Mary's life. She gained legal safeguards, escaped her abusive marriage, had charges against her dropped, and became an Australian citizen. Mary now has enhanced safety, freedom, and stability, paving the way for personal growth.

### JESSICA'S STORY – "I AM RELIEVED THE UNFAIR CHARGES AGAINST ME WERE DROPPED"

*When members of the community have contact with police, it's incumbent on police to exercise their powers fairly and to ensure people's rights are protected during those interactions.*

Police visited Jessica\* at her home where they served her with paperwork. Shortly after, the officers detained Jessica for questioning (a power which they did not have in the circumstances). They later arrested Jessica for an offence that did not exist. When she was restrained, police told her she was no longer under arrest for the offence but that they were arresting her for obstructing a police officer in the performance of their duties. Jessica was then given a notice to appear in court.

Jessica was referred to HUB Community Legal by another service. HUB's lawyer wrote submissions to the prosecutor's office about Jessica's rights to not be unlawfully detained and arrested. The prosecutor's office discontinued the charge against Jessica at her next court date and she was free to go.

Jessica was relieved that she was no longer being accused of a crime after the police hadn't followed their own powers correctly and breached her rights.

### SHANE'S STORY – "MY UNFAIR DEBT WAS WAIVED AND MY CENTRELINK DISPUTE RESOLVED"

*People should not be held responsible for debts they did not incur.*

Shane\* came to us seeking assistance with a Centrelink debt notice. He received a notice from Centrelink claiming a debt of approximately \$2000 for unpaid child support payments. However, Shane had been his child's primary carer for some time and did not owe this money.

Shane had attempted to dispute the debt himself but had been passed back and forth between Centrelink and the Child Support Agency, with no outcome. Based on previous experiences, he held a distrust of government agencies, and his disability made it difficult to advocate for himself.

HUB's lawyer provided advocacy and supported Shane to ask Centrelink and the Child Support Agency to review the debt. The Child Support Agency's reviewing officer waived the whole debt amount.

### LYN'S STORY - "THE FLOODS TOOK EVERYTHING BUT NOW I HAVE SAFE HOUSING OPTIONS."

*Everyone deserves to be safe and supported following a natural disaster.*

Lyn\* experienced first-hand the devastating impacts of the February 2022 floods. She, her husband and young child were evacuated from their flooded home and lost all their personal belongings. Their car, at a local mechanic for repair, was also destroyed when the mechanic's workshop flooded.

Lyn was referred to HUB by her local flood recovery centre. English is not Lyn's first language and being new to Brisbane, her support networks were limited. She has a chronic health condition, and her husband only has casual employment. Following the floods, Lyn experienced severe anxiety and depression.

When Lyn was first referred to HUB, she wanted help solving her dispute with the mechanic for her flooded car. Lyn also told us that she had worked hard to save enough to purchase her home and was unaware it was situated in a flood prone area. She told the lawyer that she was devastated when the building assessor told her that her home was structurally unsound and dangerous to live in as a result of flood damage.

HUB's lawyers helped Lyn take her claim for her car to the Queensland Civil and Administration Tribunal and helped Lyn understand and exercise her rights to appeal the relief being offered through the Resilient Homes Fund.

Lyn was recently offered a government buy back of her property. She will now weigh up her options to determine the best outcome for her family.





## HUB NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE REPORT

It has been a busy and exciting year for HUB Neighbourhood Centre. The Queensland Government recognised the value of neighbourhood centres in supporting healthy communities and reducing social isolation by increasing our base funding. The additional funding allowed us to increase staff hours which has improved our ability to support and empower people in our community to connect, participate, contribute, and thrive.

Over the year, community members were welcomed and assisted by staff and volunteers **11,321 times**.

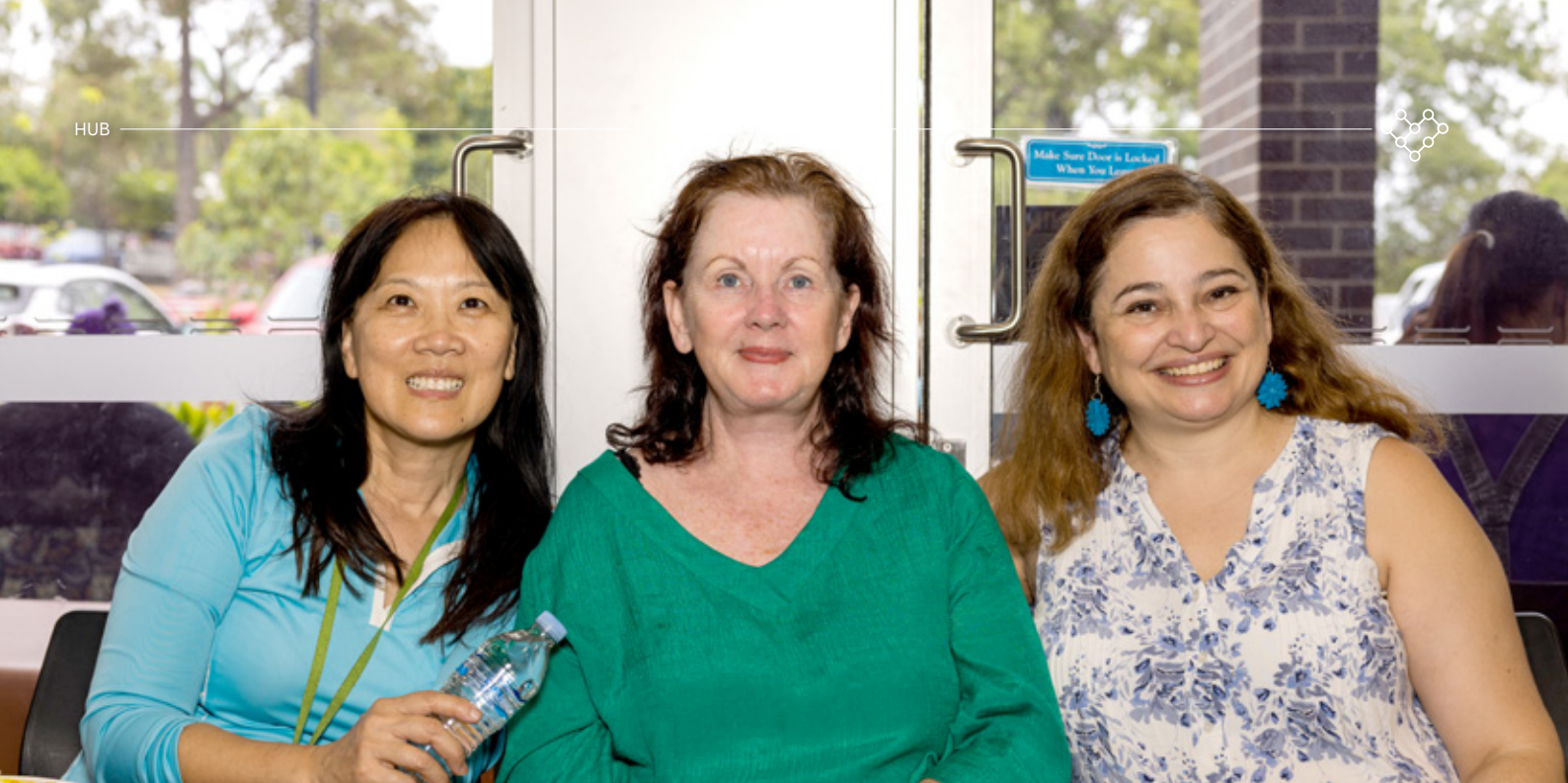
### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Our highlights this year included:

- A day trip to Toowoomba in September to visit the famous Carnival of Flowers – attended by 55 women connected to HUB's Women's Group.
- We partnered with Brisfest to deliver their 'Dance Halls' program in September – a series of 8 music workshops aimed at young people (12-18 years old) and a free community concert hosted at the HUB.
- In partnership with the Australian Tax Office (ATO) we offered the free Tax Help Program from July to October, providing appointments for low-income earners to easily lodge their tax returns.
- In October we recognised key awareness events including Mental Health Week and Get Online Week with events at the HUB.
- We added new, regular activities to our weekly program – our Guitar Group, which has attracted a dedicated bunch who work with our fabulous volunteer teacher Andrew to improve their skills, and a free Community Yoga program delivered via the Yoga Partnership, which is very popular drawing over 20 people each week.
- We were proud to acknowledge International Women's Day in March with a community event that celebrated the diversity and spirit of women in our community.
- Volunteer Week in May provided an opportunity to recognise the enormous contribution our HUB Neighbourhood Centre Volunteers make to our community.
- Our HUB community garden continued to flourish with the addition of a Sensory Garden Zone to enhance the wellbeing effects of the space. We also hosted a series of Community Garden Workshops that were free for community members.
- We once again hosted 'Luminous in the Neighbourhood' in June – a colourful and joyous occasion that brought community members together to enjoy dance, performances, food and more.







## COMMUNITY WELLBEING & CONNECTION

Neighbourhood Centres play a critical role in addressing social isolation, loneliness and other stressors that reduce community members' overall wellbeing.

Having a place to go where you feel safe and welcome, as well as something to do where you feel engaged and included is at the core of our service logic at the HUB. As such, neighbourhood centre workers and volunteers have worked hard this year to provide a warm and friendly welcome to our space, a weekly program of diverse activities promoting mental and physical health, responses to emerging community need, and critical supports and referrals for community members facing difficult times.

Our weekly activity program remains very popular as community members are able to access low or no-cost programs that appeal to them. Our weekly Multicultural Women's Group continues to be one of the most anticipated activities on our weekly calendar by staff, volunteers and attendees alike. The group is attended by women from

many different cultural backgrounds, ages and abilities, who gather to connect with each other over activities such as arts and crafts, sewing, exercise, music and cooking.

Like most HUB activities, this group relies on the support of a group of dedicated volunteers who come weekly to assist in set-up, planning and facilitation of activities, shopping and preparation of lunch and clean up.

**Music, dance and movement** are important for promoting both physical and mental health benefits. **193** physical and musical activities were offered this year and attended **1,800** times. These included **Tai Chi**, the continuation of Brisbane City Council funded Active and Healthy **'Hot Hula'** exercise class, **Line Dancing** and the addition of the free **Community Yoga** program, as well as **Ukulele and Guitar Classes**.

The HUB's **Guitar Group** grew from feedback in the 2022 Participant Survey, where it was a popular request to add to our regular program. With support from a fantastic volunteer teacher, we have been

able to establish the group which draws a regular group of attendees who all started together as beginners and have gone from strength to strength.

On top of this, the **8 music workshops** offered at the HUB as part of Brisfest in September were attended by over **30** young people each week. These workshops offered DJ and sound production skills.

**Skill building groups and activities** were also popular offerings this year, providing opportunities for community members to come together in learning and conversation. Our **English conversation** class ran **42** times, with **559** attendances. These volunteer-facilitated classes were well attended by a regular core group and new faces alike and are a wonderful chance for both practicing English language skills and for connecting with other class members. **Digital literacy mentoring** was attended **173** times, providing free individual assistance to community members who need help navigating their devices and life online.





## LINKING PEOPLE TO OTHER SERVICES

Community members visited our Neighbourhood Centre because it is a space where they know they can access services and support. Our community has been impacted by cost-of-living pressures and the housing crisis and this has resulted in increasing numbers of people presenting to the Neighbourhood Centre looking for help.

Over the year, community members have presented to the Centre **1,675** times for help with filling forms or completing administrative tasks, to use our community office, to access information and referrals or just to enjoy a cup of tea and a friendly chat with one of our team.

Form filling was a particularly important service we provided to the community, as we helped over **225** community members to complete critical forms that had considerable impact on their day-to-day lives – forms for housing, employment, immigration, financial relief and more.

HUB's physical building is not only utilised by the Neighbourhood Centre, but also functions as a central location for individuals to access other key services such as HUB Community Legal, Inspire Youth & Family Services (IYS) and visiting services including employment support and tenancy advice. There were over **4000** visits to access these services throughout the year.

Where individuals present with complex needs that we are not able to address, we endeavor to provide appropriate and accurate referrals to alternative services. This year we provided over **734** instances of information and referral to community members, primarily for housing and emergency relief services.





## VOLUNTEERING

### VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK

"I enjoy teaching English and watching the group improve their English. There is a great community spirit here at the HUB." - **neighbourhood centre volunteer**

"I love coming to the HUB and assisting people." - **neighbourhood centre volunteer**

Without the dedication, skills and knowledge of our HUB volunteers, our Neighbourhood Centre's capacity to serve our community would be greatly compromised. **25 people** volunteer in the Neighbourhood Centre, providing on average **100 hours** of support at the HUB per week. Not only do our volunteers run or support most of our activities, they are also the friendly face that welcomes community members as they walk in the door and directs them to the service they are looking for - meaning they also support the work of both HUB Community Legal and Inspire Youth Service.

It's impossible to attribute the true value of Neighbourhood Centre volunteers to our community, but a figure to put things in perspective is that according to Neighbourhood Centres Queensland, our volunteers added a staggering \$250,000+ to our service. Our Neighbourhood Centre team has been proud to work alongside our wonderful volunteers this year and was grateful to be able to celebrate them at both our End of Year Volunteer Dinner and our Volunteer Week event.







### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023

In March we hosted an event as part of International Women's Day and Queensland Women's Week, with thanks to funding from the Queensland Government. It was great to see a huge turnout, with over 75 attendees coming down on the day to join in the program and celebrate the women of our community. Inala Elders provided a beautiful Acknowledgment to Country to open the event, we had guest speakers and performances, dancing and a beautiful meal catered by local, women-owned businesses.

The event provided a safe and welcoming space for community members to come together with other service providers and community actors, with many attendees from different organisations - including Police Liaison Officers, Cr. Charles Strunk, a representative from Home Affairs, Inala Library staff, Services Australia staff, Multicultural Australia staff, Mission Australia staff and more. The Ethiopian coffee ceremony was a particular hit, with many people enjoying connecting over the experience.

### A SNAPSHOT OF THE YEAR

	<b>11,321</b>	Total visits to the centre
	<b>5,002</b>	Visits to attend activities with potential to improve social connection
	<b>734</b>	Visits to obtain information and/or referral
	<b>4,000</b>	Visits to access services other than neighbourhood centre activities

### SNAPSHOT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE PARTICIPANTS

<b>52%</b>	Live in Inala and surrounding suburbs (up from 43% last year)
<b>96%</b>	Identified as female
<b>69%</b>	55 years or older (down from 74% last year)
<b>61%</b>	Of participants speak a language other than English at home (up from 52% last year) - Languages include Vietnamese, Chinese, Dari, Farsi, Arabic, Oromo, Somali, Tigrinya, and Spanish
<b>39%</b>	Attended the HUB for the first time this year
<b>75%</b>	Said they attended the HUB at least weekly
<b>60%</b>	Said they attended the HUB to meet new people/make friends, other reasons included improving health, improving confidence, and spending time with others
<b>19%</b>	Reported having a disability or mental health condition
<b>100%</b>	Said they feel very welcome at the HUB





## TREASURER'S REPORT



**MEGAN PEARCE**  
TREASURER

I am pleased to present the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023. HUB is principally funded by both state and federal funding bodies to deliver legal and community services for people facing vulnerable situations.

We thank the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney General, and the Queensland Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts for providing our core funding.

The audited financial statements for the 2022-23 year show HUB's total revenue has increased by over 14% to \$1,915,116 which reflects increased funding and grants received from several sources to expand and maintain services.

HUB reported an operating surplus of \$84,590 after reporting an operating deficit of \$95,518 in the previous financial year. HUB continues to remain financially stable and practices disciplined cost management

but over the last few years has also taken the opportunity to reinvest in technology, training, and other systems to equip our staff to meet the demands of their work.

HUB's total members retained funds as at 30 June 2023 is \$445,902. Cashflow remains in a good position with Cash (and Cash equivalent assets) on hand increasing to \$1,228,839 which shows more funding has been received by HUB in advance of completing and delivering designated services and programs.

On behalf of the members of HUB Community Projects Inc., I would like to thank the Management Committee and the staff for their prudent financial management and continued provision of important essential services to the community.

*Megan Pearce*

**Megan Pearce**  
Treasurer




**HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**
**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

	Note	2023	2022
Revenue	2	1,915,116.63	1,670,806.76
Other Income	2	20,357.34	11,375.27
Employee benefits expense		(1,573,668.74)	(1,523,714.43)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(2,003.18)	(2,003.00)
Insurance		(8,047.00)	(8,225.60)
Motor vehicle and Travel expenses		(37,909.04)	(25,890.43)
Property expenses		(65,372.49)	(48,066.55)
Staff training and development expenses		(38,251.67)	(43,679.86)
Audit, legal and consultancy fees		(4,680.00)	(11,770.00)
Client support services expense		(22,333.95)	(9,867.26)
Other operating costs		(98,617.23)	(104,483.61)
<b>Current year surplus before income tax</b>		<b>84,590.67</b>	<b>(95,518.71)</b>
Income tax expense		-	-
<b>Net current year surplus</b>		<b>84,590.67</b>	<b>(95,518.71)</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>\$84,590.67</b>	<b>(\$95,518.71)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity</b>		<b>\$84,590.67</b>	<b>(\$95,518.71)</b>





## HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	Note	2023	2022
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash on Hand		208.45	-
Cash at Bank	3	1,228,630.65	756,329.98
Debtors and Prepayments		16,772.97	33,952.68
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>1,245,612.07</b>	<b>790,282.66</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	4	<b>3,095.36</b>	<b>5,098.54</b>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>3,095.36</b>	<b>5,098.54</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$1,248,707.43</b>	<b>\$795,381.20</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors and Accruals		149,862.73	124,917.03
Employee Provisions		115,275.63	117,362.11
Contract Liability		464,011.15	125,839.07
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>729,149.51</b>	<b>368,118.21</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Employee Provisions		73,655.40	65,951.14
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>73,655.40</b>	<b>65,951.14</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>802,804.91</b>	<b>434,069.35</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>\$445,902.52</b>	<b>\$361,311.85</b>
<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>			
Retained Surplus		445,902.52	361,311.85
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</b>		<b>\$445,902.52</b>	<b>\$361,311.85</b>


**HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

	Retained Surplus	Revaluation Surplus	Total
<b>Balance at 1 July 2021</b>	<b>\$456,830.56</b>	<b>\$NIL</b>	<b>\$456,830.56</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income</b>			
Surplus for the year attributable to members of the entity	(\$95,518.71)	-	(\$95,518.71)
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity</b>	<b>\$153,754.17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(\$95,518.71)</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>	<b>\$361,311.85</b>	<b>\$NIL</b>	<b>\$361,311.85</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2022</b>	<b>\$361,311.85</b>	<b>\$NIL</b>	<b>\$361,311.85</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income</b>			
Surplus for the year attributable to members of the entity	\$84,590.67	-	\$84,590.67
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity</b>	<b>\$84,590.67</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$84,590.67</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>\$445,902.52</b>	<b>\$NIL</b>	<b>\$445,902.52</b>





## HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2023	2022
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Receipts</b>		
Commonwealth Attorney General	611,598.00	439,509.00
Interest	740.64	229.03
Legal Aid Queensland	920,569.60	671,820.00
Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy	264,433.00	146,502.00
Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs	105,070.00	100,000.00
Other	388,414.52	242,962.90
<b>Payments</b>		
Wages and Salaries and Other Supplies	1,818,316.64	1,864,269.26
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>\$472,509.12</b>	<b>(\$263,246.33)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Payment for purchase of plant and equipment	-	-
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	472,509.12	(263,246.33)
Cash at beginning of the reporting period	756,329.98	1,019,576.31
<b>Cash at end of the reporting period</b>	<b>\$1,228,839.10</b>	<b>\$756,329.98</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Net Surplus/Deficit to Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities</b>		
Operating Result	84,590.67	(95,518.71)
- Depreciation	2,003.18	2,003.00
- Increase/(Decrease) in Payables	24,945.70	(44,911.98)
- Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	5,617.78	(39,983.17)
- (Increase)/Decrease in Deposits and Debtors	17,179.71	(6,388.50)
- Increase/(Decrease) in Grants Unexpended/Contract Liability	338,172.08	(78,446.97)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>\$472,509.12</b>	<b>(\$263,246.33)</b>



## HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirement of the Associations Incorporated Act (Qld) and Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The report is also prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

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

#### (a) 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.

#### Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests

When the entity receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance to AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Entity:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Entity recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

#### Capital Grant

When the entity receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

The entity recognises income in profit or loss when or as the entity satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

#### Interest Income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

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

#### (b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Plant and Equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated on the prime cost basis and is brought to account over the estimated economic lives of all fixed assets commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used are as follows:

Class of Fixed Assets	Depreciation Rate
Plant and Equipment	20%

#### (c) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the committee 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 to recoverable amount is recognized in the income and expenditure statement.

#### (d) Employee Provisions

Provision is made for the Organisation'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.

#### (e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

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.

Leases of PPE, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset (but not the legal ownership) are transferred to the Entity, are classified as finance leases.

#### (f) Leases

##### The Entity as lessee

At inception of a contract, the entity assesses if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the Entity where the Entity is a lessee. However, all contracts that are classified as short-term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Initially the lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments still to be paid at commencement date. The lease payments are discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Entity uses the incremental borrowing rate.





## HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

### (f) Leases

#### The Entity as lessee (cont'd)

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are as follows:

- fixed lease payments less any lease incentives;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options;
- lease payments under extension options if lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability as mentioned above, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date as well as any initial direct costs. The subsequent measurement of the right-of-use assets is at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset whichever is the shortest. Where a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the Entity anticipates to exercise a purchase option, the specific asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset.

#### Concessionary Leases

For leases that have significantly below-market terms and conditions principally to enable the Entity to further its objectives (commonly known as peppercorn/concessionary leases), the Entity has adopted the temporary relief under AASB 2018-8.

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

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognized 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.

### (h) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures, where necessary, have been reclassified in order to comply with the presentation adopted in the figures reported for the current financial year.

### (i) Economic Dependence

Hub Community Projects Inc. is dependent on government funding to operate. As at the date of the report the committee has no reason to believe the government will not continue to support the organisation.

### (j) Significant Management Judgement in Applying Accounting Policies

The directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company.


**HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	2023	2022
<b>2. REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME</b>		
<b>Revenue</b>		
<b>Revenue from Government Grants</b>		
Office of Legal Aid & Family Services - Commonwealth	611,598.00	439,509.00
Legal Aid Queensland	667,705.00	754,331.49
Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy	238,761.00	146,502.00
Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs	105,070.00	100,100.00
	<b>1,623,134.00</b>	<b>1,440,442.49</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>		
Non-Recurrent Funding	27,779.93	6,505.48
Interest	740.64	229.03
Fees Received	216,978.91	190,269.79
Hire of Rooms	46,483.15	33,359.97
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>1,915,116.63</b>	<b>1,670,806.76</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Fundraising	1,809.25	4,112.31
Membership	40.00	54.00
Sundry Income	14,508.09	7,208.96
Profit on Sale of Fixed Asset	4,000.00	-
<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>20,357.34</b>	<b>11,375.27</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,935,473.97</b>	<b>\$1,682,182.03</b>
<b>3. CASH AT BANK</b>		
General Account	100,473.97	578,735.07
Term Deposit	54,828.15	54,087.51
Other Accounts	1,073,328.53	123,507.40
	<b>\$1,228,630.65</b>	<b>\$756,329.98</b>
<b>4. FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Motor Vehicles - at cost	18,382.53	35,318.53
Less Accumulated Depreciation	18,382.53	35,318.53
Office Furniture and Equipment - at cost	93,595.07	93,595.07
Less Accumulated Depreciation	90,499.71	88,496.53
	<b>\$3,095.36</b>	<b>\$5,098.54</b>





## STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the entity is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial Statements.

1. In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 18 to 24 are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and:
  - i. Comply with the Australian Accounting Standards applicable to the entity; and
  - ii. Give a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Hub Community Projects Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This Declaration is signed in accordance with Subs 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013.

**Laurel Johnson**  
President

**Megan Pearce**  
Treasurer

September 27, 2023





# HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

### REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Hub Community Projects Inc., which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit & loss and other comprehensive income, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the entity.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Hub Community Projects Inc. has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act (QLD).

1. Giving a true and fair view of the entities financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the year then ended; and
2. Complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013.

#### 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 association in accordance with the Auditor Independence Requirements of the ACNC Act and ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES110: 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 to assist the entity to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act (QLD). 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 the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act (QLD), and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has 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 the 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 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 committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee'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 the committee 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.

PETER GESCH

HAYWARDS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Level 1 / 488 Lutwyche Road LUTWYCHE QLD 4030

Dated this 19th day of September 2023




**HUB COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**
**SUPPLEMENTARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
- CLSP**

	2023	2022
<b>INCOME</b>		
Legal Aid Funding		
- Grant Received - State	645,705.00	616,820.00
- Grant Received - Commonwealth	446,598.00	439,509.00
Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs	105,070.00	100,000.00
Interest Received	109.06	229.03
Membership	14.00	30.00
Sundry Income	341.92	381.82
	<b>\$1,197,837.98</b>	<b>\$1,156,969.85</b>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		
Wages and salaries and on costs	1,073,244.07	1,046,251.82
Staff training	12,250.52	8,448.35
Staff recruitment	-	1,015.00
Premises expenses	9,106.23	8,737.64
Communication expenses	14,725.68	13,874.23
Office overheads	20,972.62	13,931.21
Insurance	6,350.07	6,633.39
Finance and accounting fees	4,792.01	5,862.00
Travel	20,886.06	18,891.64
Library, resources and subscriptions	17,567.22	20,776.33
Programming and planning	922.65	652.05
Minor equipment	8,794.46	4,144.58
Depreciation	2,003.18	2,003.00
Leases	3,890.00	4,688.39
Client Disbursements	257.45	1,160.22
Other	2,075.76	-
	<b>\$1,197,837.98</b>	<b>\$1,157,069.85</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>	<b>\$NIL</b>	<b>(\$100.00)</b>
Prior Year Surplus	75,000.00	75,100.00
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>	<b>\$75,000.00</b>	<b>\$75,000.00</b>



**HUB**  
Community  
Projects



**HUB**  
Community  
Legal

**HUB Community Projects Inc.**

79 Poinsettia Street, Inala QLD 4077

PO Box 122, Inala QLD 4077

(07) 3372-3770 OR (07) 3372-7677 (legal)

[hello@hubcommunity.org.au](mailto:hello@hubcommunity.org.au)

[legal@hubcommunity.org.au](mailto:legal@hubcommunity.org.au)

[www.hubcommunity.org.au](http://www.hubcommunity.org.au)

ABN: 57 857 061 648

