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# 2010 was a very exciting year at Kingsford Legal Centre. Our clinical programs expanded to include two new clinics: Family Law and Domestic Violence and the Hong Kong Refugee law clinic. At the same time we were extensively involved in numerous law reform and policy projects and community legal education initiatives. Also, some key staff left during the year which meant a process of change for the Centre.

Thanks to generous funding from the Federal Attorney General's Department, our new Family Law & Domestic Violence Clinic was offered to students in

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT cont' —

Our work was widely recognised in 2010 through a series of awards. Anna Hartree received the P&T Law Faculty Award early in the year. The KLC team was honoured to obtain the Australian Learning and Teaching Council citation for innovative clinical legal education. The year ended with KLC being shortlisted for the Australian Human Rights Commission's Human Rights Award in the Law Category.



## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES -

- To educate tomorrow's lawyers by:
   giving students an opportunity in a
   clinical supervised setting to work for
   disadvantaged clients
   developing student understanding of how
   the legal system works, and its impact
   upon disadvantaged clients
   providing students with an opportunity
  - legal system and the role of lawyers within it including the values and objectives underpinning the work of community legal centres assisting students to understand the integral role that systemic advocacy and community legal education play in legal service provision.
- 2. To improve access to justice for residents of the Botany and Randwick areas by providing free legal advice and assistance including specialist employment advice.
- 3. To reduce discrimination through the provision of specialist legal advice and representation on discrimination matters to residents of NSW and those who are discriminated against in NSW.

- 4. To enhance people's knowledge of, and access to, appropriate legal services through the dissemination of information and by making and receiving referrals.
- To promote access and equity in all areas of the organisation including service delivery, legal education, community education and policy work.
- 6. To ensure Kingsford Legal Centre is respectful of Indigenous cultures and people.
- 7. To improve the community's knowledge of the legal system and the capacity for people to enforce their legal rights, by delivering community legal education.
- 8. To undertake systemic advocacy, including law reform, and to represent the interests of clients and the local community on social policy and administration of justice issues.
- 9. To create partnerships with other community organisations on legal issues.

Centre to provide support for staff, volunteers and students and outcomes for clients.

## **Programs / Achievements**

Clinical legal education is a methodology of teaching law, legal procedure and ethics. In Australia when we talk about clinical legal education we mean a style of teaching where students are engaged in legal work for real clients

structured way.

Kingsford Legal Centre offers a range of courses

#### These are:

- 1st year: Foundations Enrichment 2
   (for 1st year Indigenous students focusing on communication skills and the legal aid system)
- 2nd/3rd year: Interviewing component in Law, lawyers and Society (for almost all students who interview
  - it) These students each spend six hours at the Centre in an evening legal advice session after being taught interviewing skills by Centre supervisors.
- Elective courses: Clinical Legal Experience, Employment Law courses in which students develop their understanding of issues of social justice as well as developing interviewing, negotiation, drafting, submission writing and advocacy skills. We teach students to think critically about the law, the legal system and the place of disadvantaged clients within it. We do this through students working on client

and community education projects under the supervision of clinical supervisors for one to two days each week. There is also a weekly two hour seminar program and daily onehour

issues of law and justice questions.

# Two new elective courses in 2010

## **Family Law and Domestic Violence Clinic**

The Federal Attorney General Department granted KLC three year recurrent funding of this exciting

semester 2 2010. The "Family Law and Domestic Violence: Street Law" clinic has developed a range of training modules for various community groups and community members focussing on family law and the cross over with domestic violence.

Four students came through this new clinic in its initial operation in the winter semester. The students met with and built relationships with workers in the local area and prepared and presented community legal education workshops for the members of the local community.

A total of four community legal education workshops (CLE) were organised for various women's groups throughout the semester including at children's respite services and women's refuges as well as a Bangladeshi women's group. The evaluation of the clinic by pioneering students has

the various initiatives and programs which are available to Indigenous students in the Law Faculty

of commitment and achievement of the Law Faculty in educating Indigenous law students.

Indigenous Legal Education Seminar (4th August)

cont'-

## **Classes on Working with Indigenous Clients and Communities**

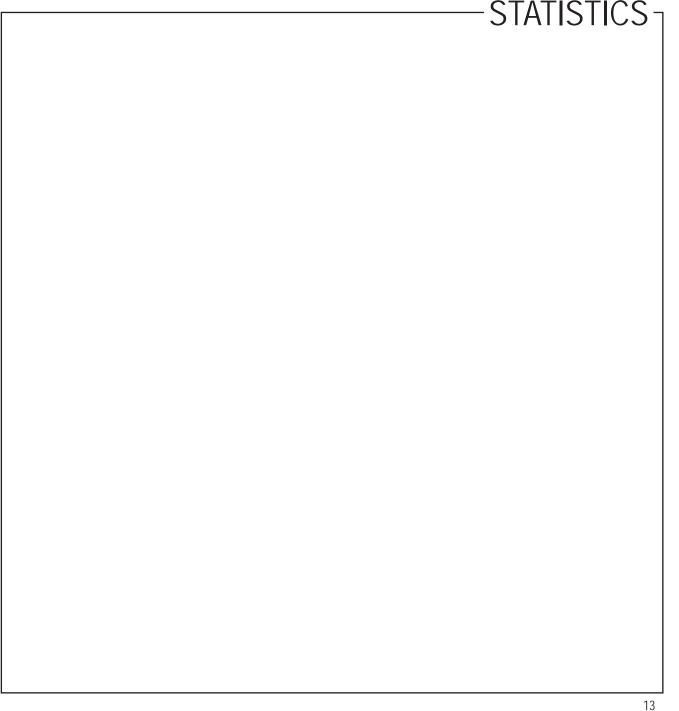
The seminar program for students includes a class on working with Indigenous clients and communities in order to provide greater insight and skills for students. This class was presented by KLC Aboriginal Access Worker, Ron Timbery. The students found it challenging and interesting.

## Winter School Program For Indigenous High School Students

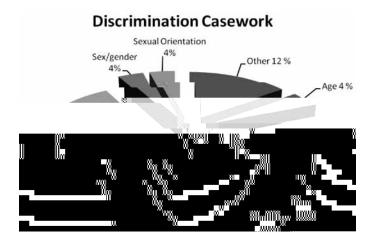
KLC hosted Indigenous high school students during the Winter School program involving Year 10, 11 and 12 students. Approximately 20 students came to the Centre to learn a bit more about the law and what happens at law school. They enjoyed meeting other students and staff as well as puzzling over a legal problem.

#### **Indigenous Pre-Law Visits**

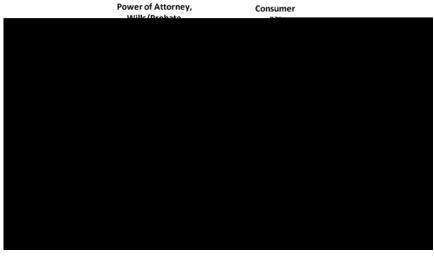
Kingsford Legal Centre hosted a visit by 20 prelaw Indigenous students during December. The students came from around Australia and were a mix of school leavers and mature age students.



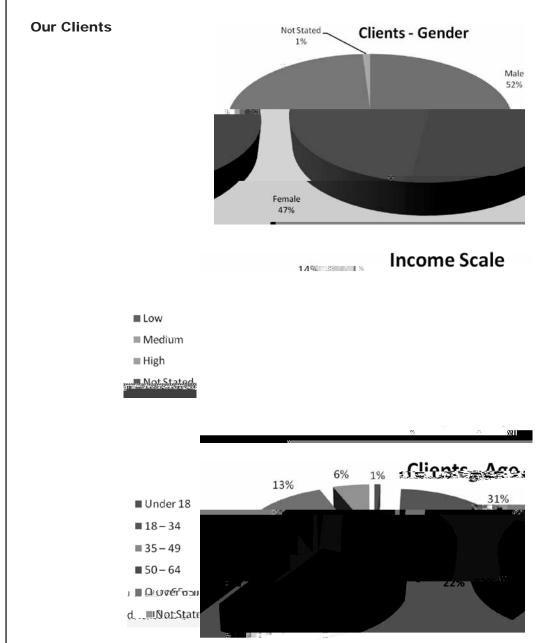
# STATISTICS cont'



## Otner Civil Casework



# STATISTICS 7



## STATISTICS cont'

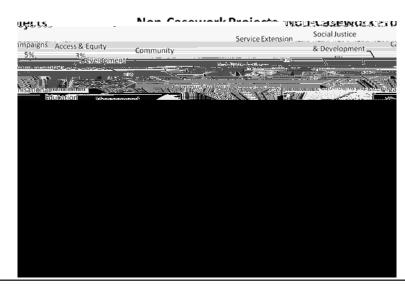
## Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Clients

themselves as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Country of Birth 2010 (Top 11)

Australia	42%
China	8%
England	3%
New Zealand	2%
Russian Federation	2%
India	2%
Bangladesh	2%
Indonesia	2%
Greece	2%
Lebanon	2%
Reminder	33%

In 2010 Kingsford Legal Centre opened 173 non-casework projects.



## CASEWORK -

KLC experienced a year of change in the legal practice as we farewelled our Principal Solicitor Shirley Southgate in January 2010 and Employment Solicitor Linda Tucker in May 2010, and welcomed new solicitors Dianne Anagnos and Elizabeth Meyer. Emma Golledge was moved from a solicitor position to Principal Solicitor in February 2010.

KLC made changes to the legal practice, returning evening advice nights on Thursdays back to the Centre from The Junction Neighbourhood Centre at Maroubra. Although we sometimes compete with the noise at the Roundhouse, the return to the Centre meant we could provide more assistance to people through more appointments. As ever, our volunteer solicitors continued to tirelessly work at KLC after a day at work, to provide excellent free legal advice to our local community and we thank them again this year for doing this with such patience and good humour.

We added The Junction Neighbourhood Centre as a daytime outreach, allowing local Maroubra people to book appointments to see solicitors there. This outreach alternates with the outreach at South East Neighbourhood Centre.

We also continued to provide legal services to Long Bay Jail, with KLC accepting many referrals from Prisoners Legal Service for clients in Long Bay Jail.

### **Discrimination Law**

federal and state system.

KLC acted on behalf of a client in the Federal Court in a potential test case on disability standards for public transport. Our client was not able to reach resolution at the Australian Human Rights Commission and with the assistance of a legal aid grant and with Paul Batley of Counsel acting our client pursued his matter in the Federal Court. After months of negotiation our client was able to settle the matter at a Federal Court mediation and was able to ensure that the public transport provider provided better disability access for future patrons.

KLC acted in a race discrimination and racial

Tribunal. The case involved a small business owner who rented business premises from a large corporation. The landlord's representatives made several remarks to the client at his shop which were very offensive and racist. KLC represented the client at the ADT and during mediation. The client was very happy with the mediated outcome, consisting of an apology from the person who made the remarks and over three months worth of free rent for his business.

#### **Contracts Signed Under Duress**

KLC assisted a woman who lived in constant fear and was subject to ongoing threats from her partner.

into entering many loan agreements, with her partner

KLC negotiated with various creditors as well as assisting our client with many associated legal issues.

illness who was sold a mobile phone over the phone. The phone was subsequently stolen from his home and the mobile phone company sought to hold him liable for the charges. We were able to advocate on his behalf to have the debt waived and the contract rescinded.

#### **Victims Compensation**

KLC continued to act in complex Victims Compensation matters for women who have experienced domestic violence. KLC was successful in obtaining two compensation payouts for a woman who was made homeless due to the violence of her husband, and who had suffered a terrifying period of violence when he continued to breach the AVO she had against him.

#### **Student Advocacy Scheme**

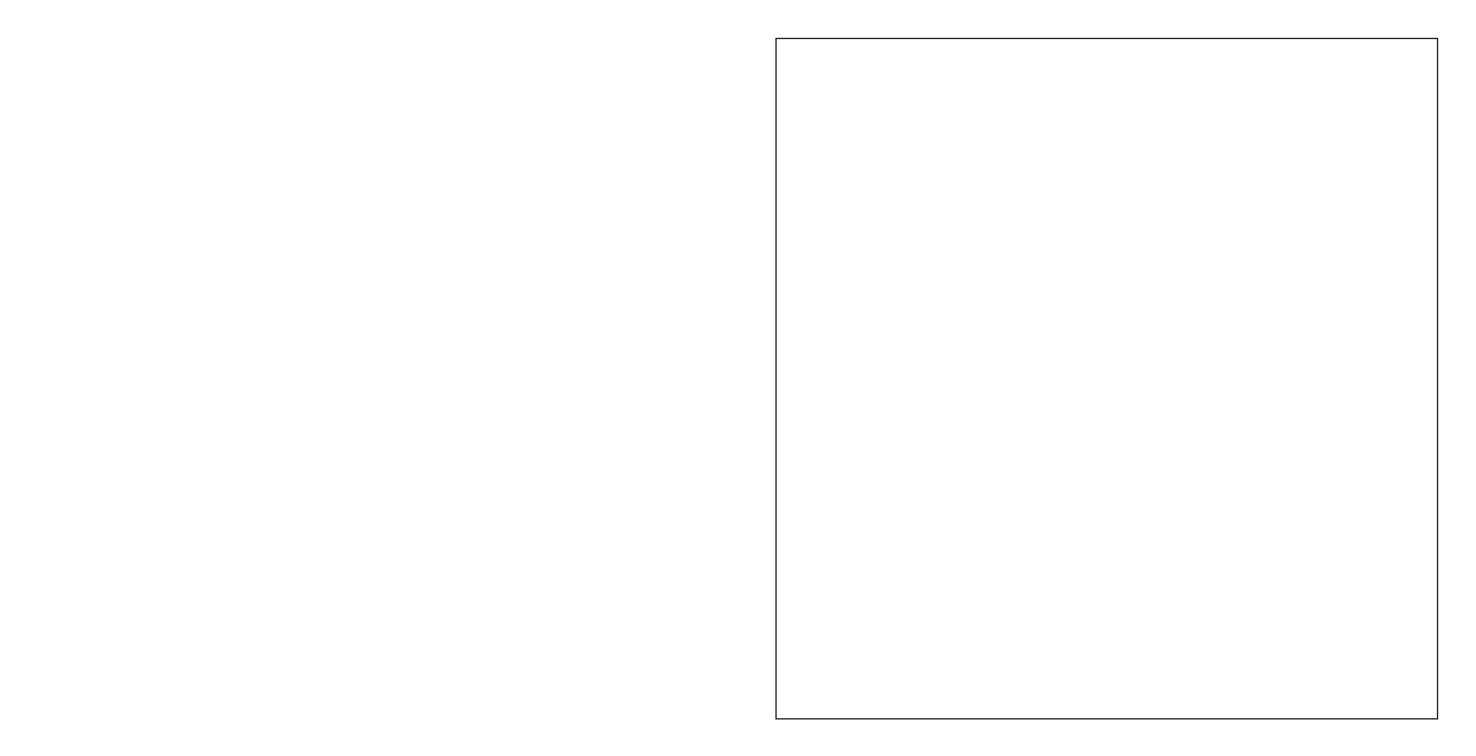
KLC students continue to act for clients in guilty pleas at Waverley Local Court, and allow otherwise unrepresented and disadvantaged members of society to have their circumstances heard.

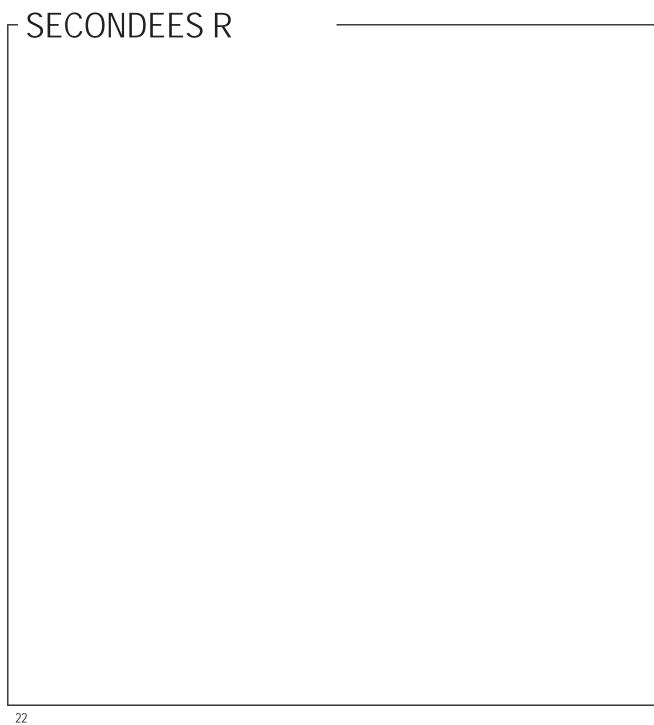
Highlights included:

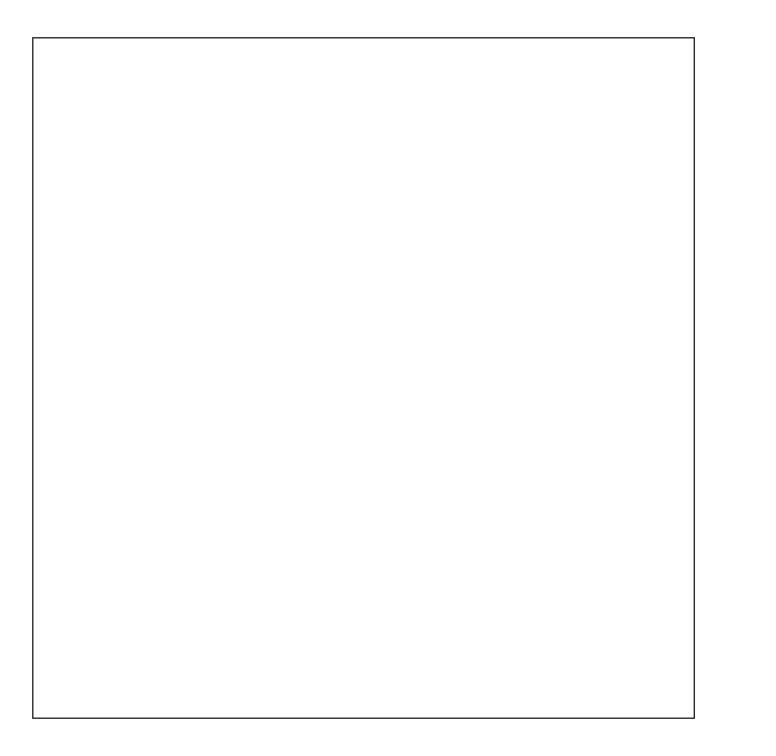
KLC student, Sharon Sangha acted for a client without a valid licence. The client pleaded guilty. Pleadings were made by the student on the client's

hardship. On the basis of these personal and

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women's refuges, neighbourhood centres, disability advocacy groups and counselling services. The topics presented in 2010 included Legal Referrals, Family Law, Victims Compensation, Social Security, Powers of Attorney, Immigration Law and Tenancy Law. The series is conducted using KLC staff as well as guest speakers from other community legal centres and the Legal Aid Commission.

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#### **Support to Community Organisations**

Kingsford Legal Centre continued to support several local community based organisations during 2010 by staff being an active member of their board or management committee. These organisations included The Deli Women and Children's Centre, Eastern Area Tenants Service (EATS), South East Neighbourhood Centre (SENC), the Junction Neighbourhood Centre (JNC) and the Shack Youth Service. In addition Anna Hartree attends the Staying Home Leaving Violence Advisory Committee and participates on the seconded worker roster for the Safe Room at Waverley Local Court on DV list days.

## **2010 NSW Community Legal Centres Conference State Conference**

The NSW CLC State Conference was held in May with KLC staff presenting several workshops. Anna Cody chaired a panel which discussed and showcased strategies to ensure effective community participation in policy development and education programs. In this session Linda Tucker outlined a project that KLC had undertaken in partnership with Asian Women at Work on educating women who

on employment law, awards and seeking unpaid entitlements. Anna Hartree organised and chaired a session which highlighted the importance of CLE in Community Legal Centres and showcased several innovative and creative CLE projects.

#### **2010 National CLC Conference**

The annual National Community Legal Centres Conference was held in Melbourne with both Anna Cody and Emma Golledge presenting workshops. Emma Golledge presented a workshop on using human rights in practice. Emma drew on her

Human Rights Act and outlined how this Act has provided opportunities for many vulnerable clients to challenge their treatment at the hands of the State. Anna Cody led three workshops that looked at the barriers that hinder CLCs from engaging in law reform and policy work and encouraged the participants to come up with ways to overcome these barriers. She also facilitated a workshop on clinical legal education.

#### **Inner City Legal Centres Group**

Kingsford Legal Centre is a member of this group of community legal centres located in inner Sydney: Kingsford, Marrickville, Redfern and Inner City. The group organises combined training for staff and volunteers at the four legal centres. Each centre presents a topic that has been requested by the volunteers. Our thanks go to HWL Ebsworth Lawyers for providing the venue.

### **Prince of Wales Hospital Partnership**

KLC and the Social Work Department at Prince of Wales Hospital continued the partnership of swapping students for the day. Twice a year, eight KLC students spend one day with staff of the Social Work Department and their Social Work students spend a day at Kingsford Legal Centre. This partnership is very popular with all students who really enjoy the opportunity to see the work undertaken by the other profession and the different challenges faced by them.

#### **Tenant Groups**

This year KLC had the opportunity to work with South Maroubra Tenants Action Group. The group meets monthly and organises activities and information forums on a range of issues for local tenants. KLC has been assisting the group in

and providing support to the executive. Our thanks go to Kooloora Community Centre who organised a lunch time meeting of representatives of several local tenant groups. At this meeting KLC was able to

consult with the tenants about ideas for community legal education sessions and issues and problems affecting local tenants.

## Love Bites - JJ Cahill High School, South Sydney High School

Staff from Kingsford Legal Centre participated in presenting Love Bites at JJ Cahill High School and South Sydney High School. NAPCAN developed this innovative program for year 10 students which promotes healthy relationships by discussing issues to do with domestic violence and sexual assault. The students also develop community education resources such as posters, postcards and book

#### **Anti Poverty Week**

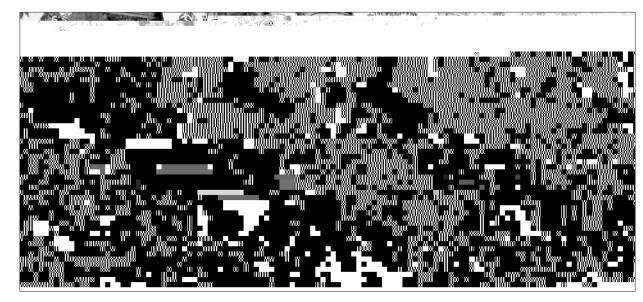
During Poverty Week students at KLC raised \$1,000 for the Women and Girls Emergency Centre, a service providing support and assistance to homeless women and their children. The students held a very successful cake stall with staff and students at KLC and staff from the Law Faculty providing enough delicious cakes, biscuits and sweets to cover two large tables. Students also had the opportunity to visit the Homeless Persons' Legal Service and gained some insight to the challenges faced by homeless people. Our thanks go to Homeless Persons' Legal Service for organising this visit.

#### **Chinese Speakers Information Day**

KLC had a stall at the Chinese Speakers Information Day which was held on 24th November. The event was organised by Randwick City Council with the aim to promote local services to the Chinese speaking community. KLC provided show bags full of legal information written in Chinese and sweets for the children.

#### Wirringa Baiya Corroboree

Kingsford Legal Centre, in partnership with Inner City and Marrickville Legal Centres had a stall at the Women's Corroboree organised by Wirringa Baiya. This provided a good opportunity to promote the legal centres and other legal service providers to the Aboriginal Community.



KLC Cake Stall during Poverty Week

We would like to extend our thanks to the following solicitors who generously volunteer their time to participate on the roster for the Tuesday and Thursday evening advice sessions. Their skills and commitment contribute to Kingsford Legal Centre providing a quality service to the community.

David Loonam Larissa Andelman Linda Antoon Dave McMillan Laura Brown Sue Mordaunt Ross Buchanan Margot Morris Matt Butt Gloria Nicol Anne-Marie Blake Maria Nicolof Arturo Norbury Nancy Campisi Hilbert Chiu Sonya Oberekar Pamela Cominos Mary O'Connell Ed Cregan Lyndon Reid Alex Salib Julia Emerton Sarah Gelbart Kate Schuetze Mark Gillard Cherry Siu Sophie Grieve Liz Snell Danny Grynberg Juvena Hannan Daniela Hartman Jessica Tan Sylvia Hobbs

Asheesh Kalmath

Sharon Katz Vidor

Joseph Kennedy

Michael Kim Christine Lloyd

Roshni Kapoor

Samuel Stern
Jessica Tan
Ting Tsia
Rebecca Veasey
Cath Whiddon
Audie Willert
Justin Wong

## STAFF PROFILES -

#### **Anna Cody - Director**

Anna Cody joined the Centre as Director in March 2004. Anna has worked at the Centre as a solicitor, senior solicitor and Director since 1995, leaving for periods of study and other work. She has worked most recently with a human rights organisation in New York and also in the area of international development in Australia. Her research interests are in the area of community development, clinical legal education and human rights.

#### **Emma Golledge - Principal Solicitor**

Emma Golledge joined the KLC team in April whilst Teena Balgi was in the Northern Territory. In 2009 Emma returned from two years living in London where she worked for the Treasury Solicitor acting

human rights matters and as a housing lawyer at Paddington Law Centre. Prior to moving to the

Centre coordinating the Homeless Persons' Legal Service, at Eastern Area Tenants Service and was a volunteer solicitor at Kingsford.

## Dianne Anagnos -Clinical Supervisor Solicitor

Dianne came to KLC from the Welfare Rights Centre (NSW), where she was employed as a solicitor for almost nine years. Her work at Welfare Rights involved advice, advocacy and community education on all aspects of social security law and policy. She has also worked as a volunteer solicitor at Marrickville Legal Centre.

## Elizabeth Meyer - Employment Clinical Supervisor Solicitor

Liz came to KLC from the NSW Disability Discrimination Legal Centre Inc, where she worked for two years as a Solicitor. Liz also

Discrimination in the Workplace.

## **Dolun Teoman - Family Law/DV Clinical Supervisor Solicitor**

Dolun comes to KLC from private practice and also has an extensive employment history in various areas of social work including community education, policy, child protection and mental health.

#### **Anna Hartree - Coordinator**

Anna has over 25 years experience as a community worker. She has worked for a range of organisations which provide human services such as community housing, women's refuges and family support. Anna came to KLC in 2004 after working at Hunter Community Legal Centre in Newcastle.

STAFF PROFILES -

## FINANCIAL REPORT ———

Combined CLCs Group (NSW) ALAP Grant

## KINGSFORD LEGAL CENTRE

Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2010

Income	2010	2009	2008
AG Clinical Legal Education Initiative	124,361	122,044	119,533
CLCP Commonwealth Funding	43,812	42,997	78,184
CLCP State Funding	123,322	120,360	117,022
AG Clinical Funding - Family Law/DV	63,000		

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FINANCIAL REPORT

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS —

During 2010 Kingsford Legal Centre received income and grants from:

Federal Attorney General
Community Legal Services Program
(CLSP)
Clinical Legal Education Initiative
(Employment Law Clinic)
Family Law Focused Clinical Education
Project
NSW Attorney General – Community Legal

a three year grant for a contribution to the Aboriginal Access Project

Kingsford Legal Centre would like to acknowledge the support provided by:

Freehills

Allens Arthur Robinson

Services Program (CLSP)

