

Community Law **Waikato**

TE TARI TURE-Ā-HAPORI O WAIKATO

Part of the National Community Law Movement



Annual Report

2015 / 2016



Community Law Waikato

Community Law Waikato

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(0800 LAW HUB)

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Office Hours

Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm

Friday 9am - 4pm

Evening Clinics

Monday to Thursday from 5pm

"I would certainly recommend the Community Law to anybody. The whole matter restores your faith in human nature."

"My solicitor was very efficient and professional in all manners and I am very impressed with how fast my matters were dealt with and I would recommend these services to many others in need. Thank you all for your help."

"I can't once again thank you enough for what you and your crew at the Community law do. I would recommend you to anyone and everyone. You guys are awesome. Thank you so much."

"I'm not afraid to do this, where before I was scared and wondering if I was doing the right thing."

"I would definitely recommend CLW and feel relief because I didn't know where to go."

"Our solicitor was very patient and helpful with our case. We are very grateful for her service."

"Clear, precise and direct answers, service fantastic, courteous, empowering, empathetic, reassuring. CLW wonderful practitioners and absolutely will refer to others."

Comments from client feedback forms 2015/2016

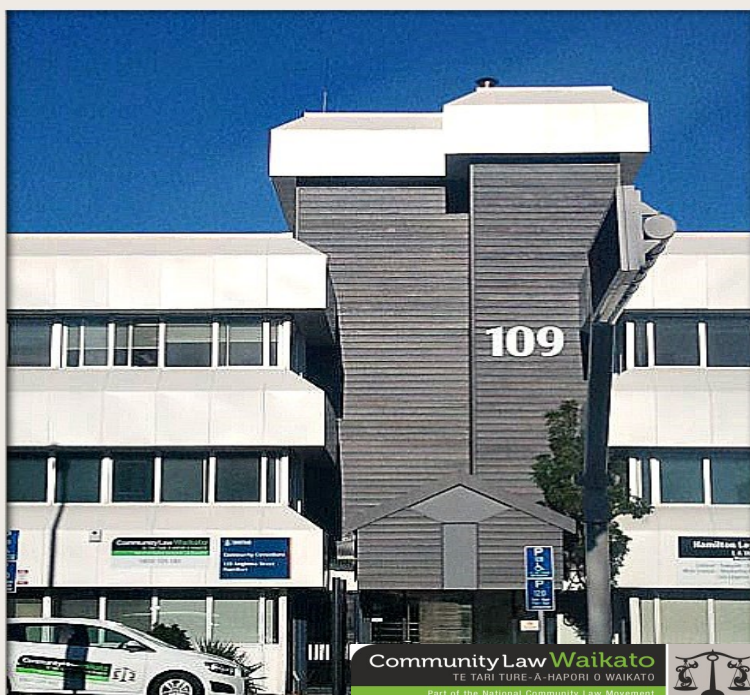


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Chair's Report

It is always a privilege and a pleasure to report on the work the Law Centre achieves, and the effort and commitment that goes into that achievement. Again this year the staff and the volunteers of our Centre have delivered outstanding service and provided advice and assistance of the highest quality to those in the community who might otherwise have gone without access to justice. Statistics elsewhere throughout this document present details which I will not repeat here. My report aims to make comment on behalf of the Trust Board on the broad picture of our service and its context within New Zealand's legal system.

But first I want to note the sudden and very sad death of Peter Gorringe, a long-term Trustee. Peter was always a lively and intelligent contributor at Board meetings, and gave generously of his time and expertise to support our team of Solicitors. He unfailingly worked to promote the need for social justice in his expert area of Law and Justice. His was a unique contribution. We will miss his wise counsel, his thoughtful contribution to debate and his warm friendship. Equally, we will be forever grateful for all he contributed to the Centre and to each of us individually.

Last year I departed from the 'usual' format of Trust Board annual report, and attempted to highlight the real difficulties and barriers that we at the Centre face in the delivery of our service. In that context, I said "I often wonder who – if anyone - actually reads these Annual Reports. Maybe this year I will find out." The answer is clear. I received not one single comment or question - no useful response at all. Nothing has changed. We are now in our ninth year trying to operate on a grant which has remained exactly the same in dollar terms. No inflation adjustment and no recognition of the steadily increasing workload. The demand for service has increased; laws have been added to the statute books and existing law has become more complex.

The legal system in New Zealand relies upon the principle that everyone is equal before the law. If there are people who have difficulty accessing fair and appropriate support in the form of good legal advice then that principle of fairness of justice is severely compromised. Most of our clients come to us because they have genuine difficulty meeting legal costs, but not all. Some lack sufficient confidence, knowledge or the language to be able to take the step of finding a legal advisor; often we see that person and are able provide a little information and a referral, thus enabling the person to continue independently.

If this is beginning to sound angry that is no surprise, nor am I about to try to disguise the very real anger I feel. Year after year I have expressed appreciation for the contribution made by our staff, and the volunteer solicitors and students who work with us. Those contributions are a source of enormous pride, and I cannot overstate how grateful we are to all of those people. Our staff make constant and heroic efforts to stretch our miserly budget, and the volunteers give of their time and expertise to add a huge component to the work we are able to deliver. There is no doubt that the Centre makes a massive difference for our clients, enabling them to participate in a justice system of which all New Zealand should be proud.

My anger arises from the complete lack of recognition of this service by those who might be able to assist us to do it in a fair environment. I talked at some length last year of the Ministry of Justice's unwillingness to be of any material support. What I had hoped might have come from last year's report was some reaction from them, and others who could also do that. For example our Members of Parliament are very willing to say how valuable the service is, and to refer a significant number of people to us for help. But despite many visits and requests not one MP (Government or Opposition) has achieved any useful recognition of the desperate financial need. Neither have any local government politicians seen fit to support a service which provides benefit to their communities throughout the Waikato. Even the media, who purport to be a local resource, are silent.

Chair's Report cont...

To conclude, I want to reiterate the value of the work Community Law Waikato achieves, and to emphasise the outstanding contribution of staff and volunteers. Without volunteers who are willing to give their time at no cost at all, and staff to whom we can offer salaries only a fraction of what they so richly deserve there would be no Centre. With no Centre our whole justice system would fail by being unable to maintain the fundamental principle that 'everyone is equal before the Law'. Community Law Waikato does an outstanding job to ensure everyone is equal, and has fair and reasonable support when facing legal issues. I most fervently hope we can continue to do this, and that we are still in the business of supporting those who need us this time next year – when maybe, just maybe, I might be able to celebrate a genuinely better and fairer future for Community Law .

Sue Lane
Chairperson
Community Law Waikato Trust Board

Managing Solicitor's Report

Kia Ora

In opening this report I want to draw attention to the very essence of what we do:

“Our purpose is to meet the unmet legal need in the Waikato Region – ensuring that individuals and communities have access to justice...What underpins our services is the difference we make and assistance we offer to individuals and our communities”.

Despite the challenges we face (and there are many as touched upon in the Chair person's report) we rest assured that we continue to succeed in our mission to provide free quality legal services to individuals in Aotearoa. To me that is the bottom line – the fact that we make a difference in people's lives. This is a huge accomplishment given the restraints.

I am incredibly proud to be part of this organisation and reiterate the message of appreciation and thanks in this report to all those contributing to the success. I've been involved with the Centre for over 10 years now and the genuine dedication, passion and effort of those involved never fails to amaze me. Our trustees, our staff, the volunteer students and graduates, the solicitors who volunteer their time, the speakers, and all others involved – THANK YOU.

I would like to make special mention of our Trustees. Sue, Dave, Theresa, Brian, Cheryl, Susan, and David – your selfless devotion of time, energy and support form a solid foundation for our service and ultimately a very special and positive contribution to our community. I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution by Peter Gorrington who suddenly passed away in November last year. Peter served on our Board of Trustees for 8 years and we miss him dearly.

In terms of the service delivery and particular accomplishments for the year ending June 2016 – I won't repeat what is already covered in various parts of the report. As I say above, the overall accomplishment is fantastic – the challenge lies in how we move forward and survive a further contract period with no increased funding.

The total budget for the justice sector was announced earlier this year at \$893 million over four years. Community Law Centres will receive around \$11 million per year for the next four years (that is across 24 Centres and only an additional \$4 million over four years). A large portion of the total justice budget focus on boosting legal aid (over \$90 million). Hence our plight for sustainable funding continues.

On a national front, the community law movement is working on a strategy to assist Centres through the next phase of building a national profile, increasing resources, refining services, and securing funding. This strategy will also guide *Community Law Centres o Aotearoa* (our national body) in terms of where member priorities lie. Part of the strategy will continue the work on a national client management system which will be great for the movement given the limitations of the existing database.

At a local level, we continue with progress on our aim to become a paperless office. Most of documents (administrative and otherwise) now lives on our local server. In terms of physical client files we don't have an alternative online option at this point in time. We were waiting for progress on the national CMS which was originally going to include a function to facilitate an online record. Given the delay with the national project we may have to consider alternatives at a local level.

Managing Solicitor's Report

We have been extremely fortunate with most of our staff, particularly our solicitors, serving a considerable length of time. There are significant benefits with low staff turnover in general and again particularly with solicitors it means that our clients benefit from a considerable level of experience in the typical matters that community law centres deal with. I have only recently returned from an extended period of maternity leave and thoroughly enjoy being back on board. Aside from the general rewarding nature of what we do here, it is an absolute pleasure working with such an intelligent, professional, and admirable team.

Looking forward, our funding from the Ministry of Justice is secured through to June 2020 which does provide some relief and enables some degree of constructive planning for the next three years. However, the challenges for additional and sustainable funding remains. We have our thinking caps on, and have been considering options that would allow us to expand and diversify (whilst keeping it all closely aligned with our core service).

In the mean time we keep paddling and I look forward to my continued involvement with the centre.

Nga mihi

Juanita Bennett

Managing Solicitor

Community Development Coordinator Report

My role as a Community Development Co-ordinator involves liaising and networking within the community. This is an important aspect for our Centre to promote awareness in the larger community, promote Community Law Waikato's services and regularly attend community network meetings and public meetings.

LEGAL EDUCATION

This year we delivered a total of **119 education sessions** - 96 in-house or customised seminars and 23 Law and You Seminars at High Schools in the Hamilton and Waikato area. Thank you to the **2411 attendees** who contributed towards it's success.

CUSTOMISING SEMINARS

Community Law solicitors deliver 1-3 customised seminars per month to organisations such as the **Citizens Advice Bureau, Grey Power, Community Houses, Out of the Gate and Migrant Resource Centre, Progress to Health, Unitec Hamilton** to name a few. We have worked closely with **Turangawaewae Marae** this year delivering education sessions on Wills & Power of Attorney and Maori Land Law to the Kaumatua **Continuing Education Group**. We also continue to deliver three seminars per month to offenders completing community work with the **Department of Corrections**. Also at the **Red Cross** are held bi-monthly seminars to assist new migrants settling in Hamilton.

LAW IN SCHOOLS

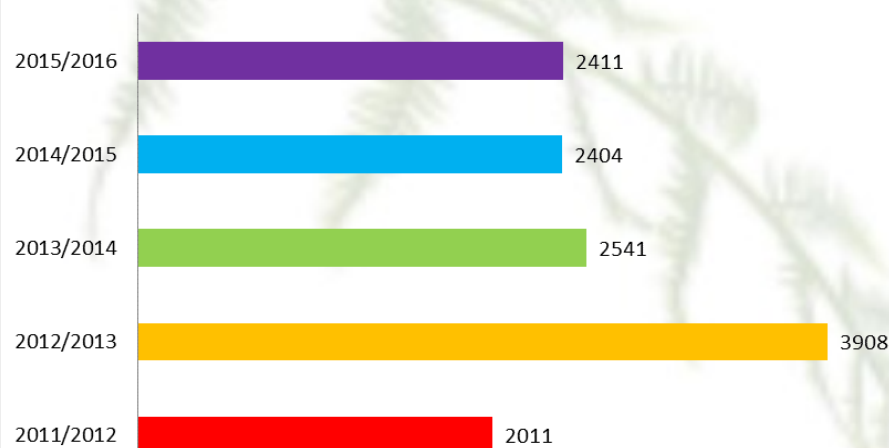
Community Law Waikato delivered "The Law and You—A Guide for Youth and Adolescents" booklet and seminars to **12 different High Schools** in the Waikato. Many schools requested this seminar several times over the year.

Nga mihi

Toni Trim - Community Development Coordinator

**1118 high school students attended
'Law in Schools' seminars in 2015/2016**

Legal Education Client Numbers



FEEDBACK

"Laurence was fantastic! He is such a warm hearted, enthusiastic and highly informative presenter. The students were very impressed and felt the time he spent with us was invaluable to them. The way he engaged them throughout and provided such interesting illustrations of the points, his interest and engagement with their questions and concerns was exemplary". (Tutor - Unitec Hamilton – Employment Law Presentation).

"Hi Toni and Angela, Thank you SO, SO much for coming in to talk to my class. They LOVED your talk and several have had their Law books out and they have shared info with each other. I am really grateful to you and will be in touch again for another visit from you at some stage. I do hope that these darlings do not have to visit you in the fullness of time! They certainly picked up on all you had to say. Many thanks again". (Teacher – Cambridge High School)



Laurence McLean (above) delivering the "Law in schools" seminar to students at **Hauraki Plains High School**.

Outreach Clinics

Community Law Waikato provide free legal services to communities throughout the Waikato to those who meet our criteria. Our clinics are crucial in ensuring individuals and communities have access to justice.

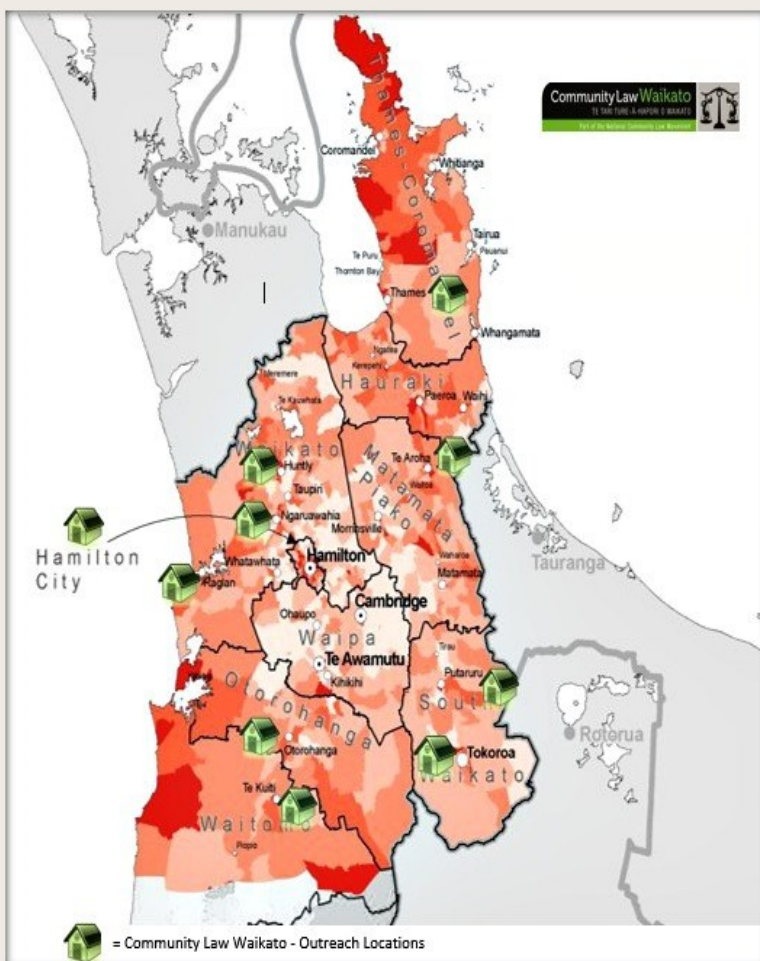
We have 11 Outreach clinics in the Waikato serviced by our solicitors. Our newest clinics are at the Ngaruawahia Community House, Otorohanga Citizens Advice and an Immigration Clinic at The Migrant Resource Centre on Boundary Road in Hamilton.

We appreciate all the Community Centres in Hamilton and Waikato who provide us with locations to ensure legal services are delivered in to individuals in need.



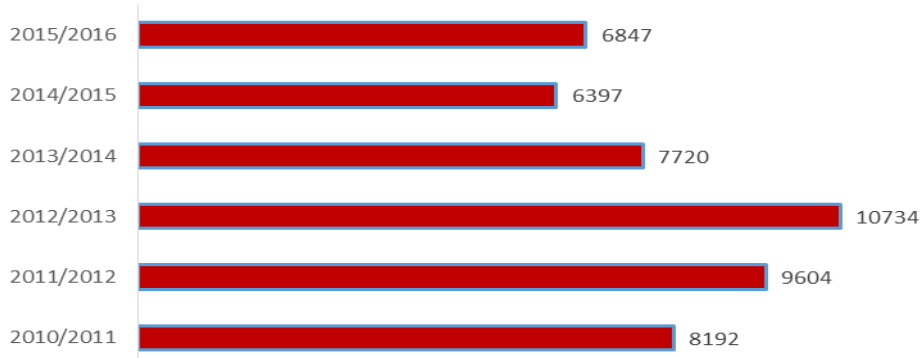
Thank You!

- PUTARURU OVERDALE COMMUNITY CENTRE**
Every Monday
(Ph. 07 8838771) 10am—10:40am
- TOKOROA BUDGET ADVICE CENTRE**
Every Monday
(Ph. 07 8864361) 11am—2pm
- OTOROHANGA CITIZENS ADVICE**
Fortnightly Tuesday
(Ph. 07 8737568) 10:30am—12:00pm
- TE KUITI COMMUNITY LINK**
Fortnightly Tuesday
(Ph. 0800 529482) 1:00pm—3:00pm
- THE MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE—HAMILTON (Immigration only)**
Fortnightly Wednesday
(Ph. 07 8532192) 9am—4pm
- HUNTLY COMMUNITY LINK**
Fortnightly Wednesday
(Ph. 0800 529482) 10am—3pm
- THAMES COMMUNITY LINK**
Fortnightly Wednesday
(Ph. 0800 529482) 11am—3pm
- THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO (WSU)**
Every Thursday
(Ph. 07 8384149) 12pm—1:30pm
- NGARUAWAHIA COMMUNITY HOUSE**
Fortnightly Thursday
(Ph. 07 8248340) 9:30am—1pm
- TE AROHA CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**
Fortnightly Thursday
(Ph. 07 8848037) 10am—3pm
- RAGLAN COMMUNITY HOUSE**
(Ph. 0800 529482) As required



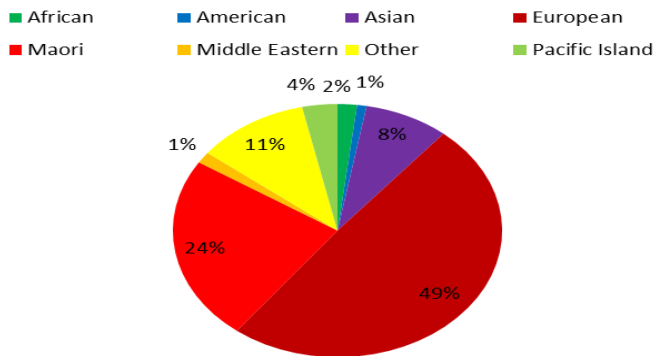
Statistics and Trends

Client Numbers 2011 - 2016



LEGAL SERVICE	CLIENT NUMBERS
Advice	1656
Assistance	942
Representation	44
Education	2411
Information	1794
TOTAL	6847

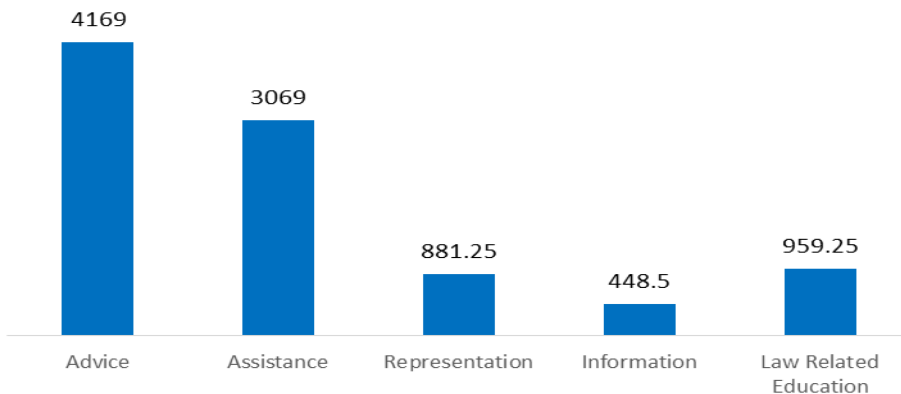
Ethnicity of Clients 2015/2016



Our solicitors witnessed 689 documents

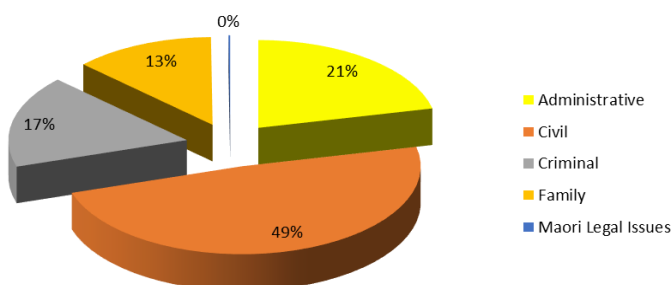
64% of our clients were unemployed

Legal Service Provided 2015/2016 (Hours)



41% of our clients were aged between 25-44 years

Legal Issue - Client Numbers



Administrative law

e.g. ACC, Immigration, Education

Civil

e.g. Consumer, Debt, Employment, Insurance

Criminal

e.g. Police Prosecutions, Traffic

Family

e.g. Care of children, adults relationships

Maori Legal Issues

e.g. Trusts, Tenure/Ownership



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
To the Trustees of Community Law Waikato Trust.

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Community Law Waikato Trust on pages 2 to 9, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2015 and the Statement of Financial Performance and Statement of Changes in Equity for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand and for such internal control as the committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand). Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

We provided assistance with compilation of the Financial Statements. Other than this and in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, Community Law Waikato Trust.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Our work was limited as control over revenues, before being recorded, is limited and there are no practical audit procedures to determine the effect of this limited control.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements on pages 2 to 9 present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Community Law Waikato Trust as at 31 December 2015 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.



R K Owen
26 May 2016
Owen McLeod & Co
Hamilton

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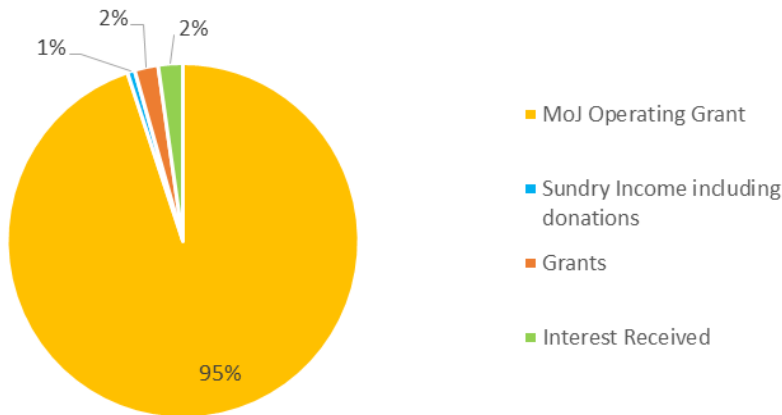
Freephone 0800 269 139

enquiries@owenmcleod.co.nz
www.owenmcleod.co.nz

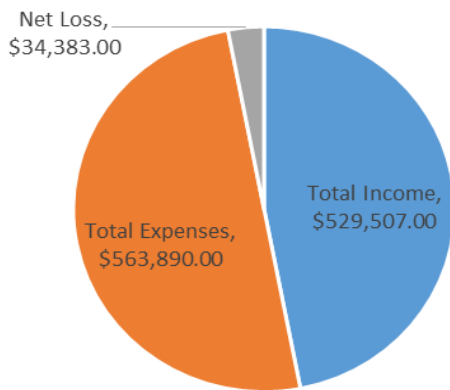


Financial Reports cont...

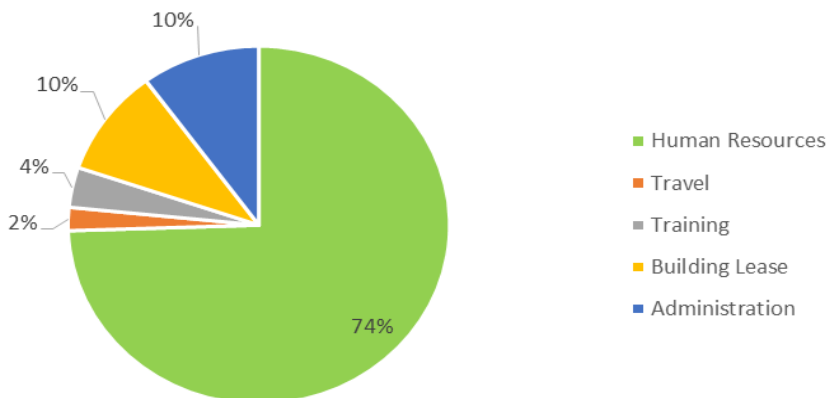
Total Income 2015



Profit and Loss Report 2015



Total Expenditure 2015



The demand for free legal services continues to increase whilst at the same time the level of funding has remained the same for the past nine (9) years.

Community Law Centres receive the bulk of funding from the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry contracts twenty-four centres across the country.

The twenty-four Community Law Centres receive approximately \$11 million per year from the total justice budget of \$893 million (over four years).

For more information on Community Law Waikato's Financial Reports please follow the link below to the Charities Commission website:

<https://www.register.charities.govt.nz/CharitiesRegister/ViewCharity?accountId=812769af-c843-dd11-84f2-0015c5f3da29&searchId=a5f58d65-6f33-4ad4-9af2-0a77eb743272>

Events

Waikato Tainui Games

In February 2016 Toni Trim spent two days at the Waikato Tainui Games promoting Community Law Waikato as part of the expo. There were approximately 15,000 people at the games. Toni distributed **ALL** of the promotional materials she had brought with her, calling it a 'very worthwhile in terms of community engagement'.



Legal Education

This year we teamed up with Habitat for Humanity and delivered education to eight Habitat families.

Pictured below with their Legal Education certificates are: Shannon Bowden (Coordinator, Habitat for Humanity) and Nancy Hughes from the Humanity family.



Admission to the Bar

Tanya Botha

Barrister and Solicitor



Our newest member of staff, Tanya Botha, was admitted to the bar 24 June 2016. Photographed here on the steps of the Hamilton District Court.

NZ Blood Service

On 11 March 2016 many of our staff and volunteers donated blood at the Hamilton NZ Blood Service. The team were picked up by a shuttle and delivered safely back to work after being plied with biscuits and hot drinks. Pictured here is Kristel Ashton.



Events cont...

Community Partnership Award

In November 2015 Community Law Waikato were presented with a 'Community Partnership Award' from the Department of Corrections. This award recognises our efforts in providing professional services to offenders; delivering brief informative work and living skills presentations on legal topics that help equip offenders with knowledge to help resolve issues they encounter in their lives.



Pictured left to right; Angela Smith, Toni Trim, Kirsty Tyson and Justin Young.



Fraser High School Careers Expo

Tanya Botha from Community Law Waikato attended a careers expo at Fraser High School. This is an opportunity to talk with the students and parents about the process of becoming a lawyer and answer questions about choosing law as a career.

Certificate of Appreciation

On 1 April 2016 Community Law Waikato were honoured to be awarded a 'Certificate of Appreciation' from the AFAR NZ Friendship Society in recognition of helpfulness and support given to the AFAR NZ Friendship Society and other refugee communities.



Toni Trim pictured here with Ali Issa from AFAR who works closely with CLW.



Chinese Delegation Visit

In January 2016 members from the Ningxia people's congress of China visited Community Law Waikato to learn about our centres operation, duty and services we provide to the community. (pictured with Kirsty Tyson)



Toni Trim pictured here receiving the award from Gordon Chesterman – Deputy Mayor of Hamilton.

Events cont...

Community Law Waikato Team Building Day—4 December 2015 Habitat for Humanity



Laurence (the brainy one) attaching door handles



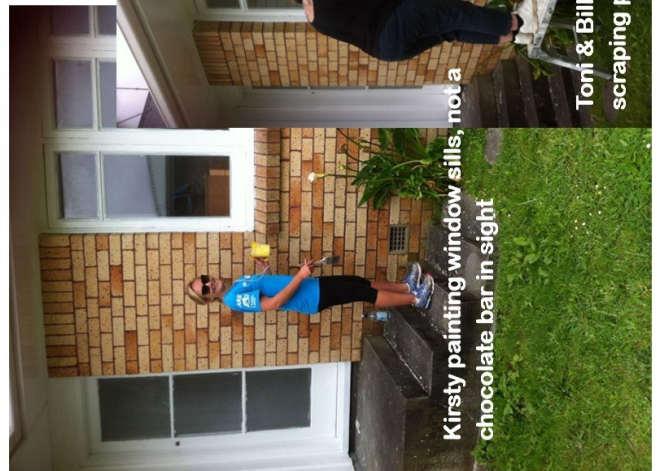
Sam on the high beam, painting eaves with Kristel on the side



Alex working on her tan and painting eaves



Justin all geared up and using the high roller to paint the eaves



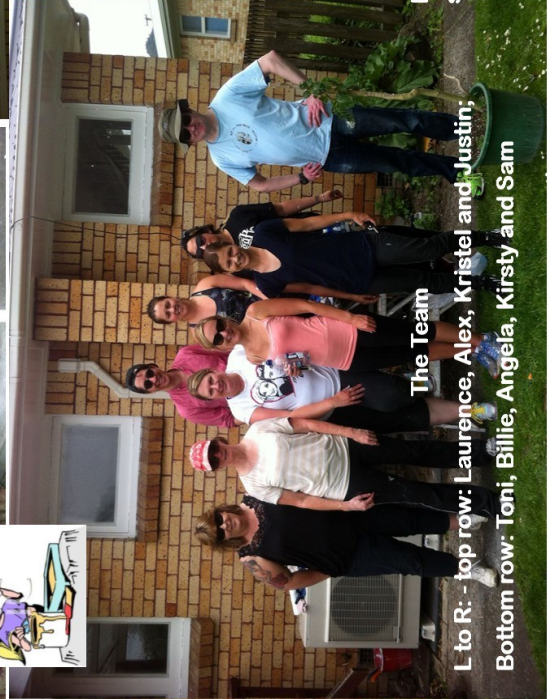
Kirsty painting window sills, not a chocolate bar in sight



Toni & Billie balancing on the low beam scraping paint from the windows



Kristel using her painting skills to paint window sills



The Team

L to R: - top row: Laurence, Alex, Kristel and Justin; Bottom row: Toni, Billie, Angela, Kirsty and Sam

Volunteers

A massive **thank you** to all our volunteers solicitors who offer their time and expertise to give legal advice at our evening clinics. Community Law Waikato relies on their valuable contribution to provide more sessions of free legal advice to members of the Hamilton Community.

Solicitors

Currently **32 solicitors** offer their time and expertise to give free legal advice for the evening clinics. They volunteer their time after working a full day in their own legal firms. **Their contribution equates to over 380 volunteer solicitor hours per year!**

Name	Law Firm	Name	Law Firm
Alex Shadbolt	Davidson, Twaddle, Isaac	Ashlea Murphy	McCaw Lewis
Catherine Rowden	Rowden Law	Chelsie Foley	McCaw Lewis
Courtney Murray	McCaw Lewis	Daniel Harrison	Gurnell Harrison Lawyers
David Allan	Barrister	David Hayes	Barrister
Emma Miles	Lewis' Law	Jane Walker	Barrister
James Carter	James Carter Law	Jesse Savage	Norris Ward McKinnon
Jim Galt	Frankton Law	Jo Naidoo	Norris Ward McKinnon
Johan Niemand	Niemand Peebles Hout	Karen Quinn	Hamilton Legal Chambers
Len Caley	Barrister	Lyn Walkington	Thomas Sutcliffe Barrister
Maurice Turketo	Frankton Law	Paula Sullivan	Barrister & Solicitor
Rebecca Senar	Senar Law	Rebekah Revell	Norris Ward McKinnon
Richard Barnsdale	Barrister	Robert Davies	Harkness Henry
Rosemary Robertson	Barrister	Roxy Dhanjee	McCaw Lewis
Simon Schofield	Harkness Henry	Soraya Barker	Jefferies Law
Sue Barnett	Barrister	Suzette Hoebergen	Awhina Law
Tania Williams Blyth	Te Kopu Legal	Tim Burtenshaw	Harkness Henry

Maori Proverb

Na to rourou na taku rourou—ka ora ai te iwi.

With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive.



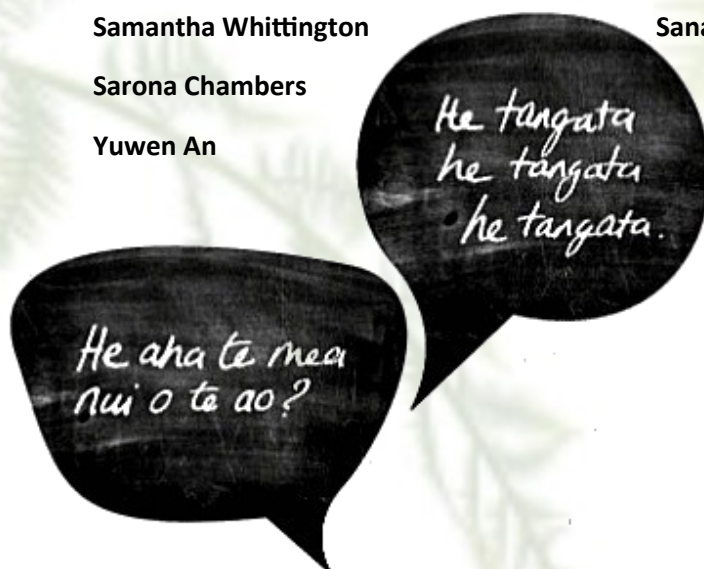
Volunteers cont...

We would also like to offer a massive **thank you** to our many law students who volunteer their time as caseworkers here at Community Law Waikato. The role of a caseworker involves interviewing clients and relaying the advice given by a solicitor back to the client. Their contribution enables Community Law Waikato to provide free legal services to more clients every day. Many of our caseworkers also volunteer as legal assistants providing research for our solicitors.

Caseworkers

Community Law Waikato has over **50 caseworkers**. Our caseworkers are law students from The University of Waikato who, collectively, give over 80 hours of their time each week. **That's over 3840 caseworker hours per year!**

Name	Name	Name
Abdulakeem Iyanda (Akeem)	Alison Hill	Angela Teow
Aref Shams	Ashan George Clark	Brittany Maree Ivil
Chelsea Summers	Cheryl Drought	Chinekwa Pye
Chris Wynne	Christine Hardy	Emily Merrill
Emily van Arendonk	Emma Thomson- Learmonth	Evie Bello
Gaia Church	Hayden Bell	Holly Kunniger
James Flight	Janine McPake	Jesse Lang
Jessica Rose	Joanna Wadmore (Jo)	Joel Gilmore
Jordan Simmonds	Karen Simpson	Karen Singh
Kate Poultney	Kerri Bell	Kimberly Efondo
Megan Proctor	Melanie Whitfield	Michael Bilodeau
Mikayla Macdonald	Misty Taoho	Naomi Lee
Nicole Morrall	Raveena Singh	Rochelle Monk
Ronan de Guzman	Samantha Whittington	Sana Mohammed
Sarah Fraser	Sarona Chambers	Shaymaa Arif
Stephanie Collins	Yuwen An	



Volunteers cont...

A huge **thank you** to all our Legal Education presenters who delivered Legal Education in our community on a range of legal topics, including: Employment, Immigration, Insurance, Tenancy, and Property Law, ACC, Care of Children, CYF's, Domestic Violence, Wills and Power of Attorney, Debt and Insolvency, Animal Control and many more.

Legal Education Presenters

All of our in-house courses are presented by both CLW solicitors and volunteer speakers with experience in the given topic. Toni Trim, our Community Development Coordinator, on behalf of Community Law Waikato, would like to acknowledge the support and contribution of the following guest speakers and their respective organisations:

Name	Organisation	Legal Topic
Pam Maha	Ministry Of Justice	Victims' Rights
Scott Miller	NZ Police	Youth Aid / Youth Law
Charles Gower	Ministry Of Justice	Disputes Tribunals
Mike Green	ACC	ACC
Kieran McCarthy	ACC	ACC
Amanda Tucker	Hamilton City Council	Animal Control
Tasi Malu	CYFS	CYFS
Sarah Best	MSD	Benefit Fraud Investigations
James Carter	James Carter Law	Local Government
Daniel Shore	McCaw Lewis Lawyers	Civil Court Procedures
Roxy Dhanjee	McCaw Lewis Lawyers	Civil Court Procedures
Tania Williams Blyth	Te Kopu Chambers	Family Law
Anna Jefferies	Jefferies Law	Family Law
Bastiaan Kramer	Restorative Justice Trust	Restorative Justice
Wendy Ball	District Inspector for Mental Health	Mental Health
Dan Harrison	Gurnell Harrison Lawyers	Property Law
Glenn Tootill	McCaw Lewis Chapman	Maori Land Law
Marie King	Insolvency Services	Debt
Wendy Lee - Child	Insolvency Services	Debt
Sarah Gibb	Community Waikato	Charitable Trusts
Mira Taitz	YouthLaw	Education Law

Hapaitia te ara tika pumau ai te rangatiratanga mo nga uri whakatipu.

Foster the pathway of knowledge to strength, independence and growth for future generations.

Funders

We wish to acknowledge the **generosity** of the following funders who have assisted us financially in the 2015/2016 year. Their contributions assisted Community Law Waikato to continue meeting the 'unmet legal need' in the Hamilton and Waikato communities. **Thank You!**



The Ministry of Justice contracts Community Law Waikato to provide legal services in the Hamilton and Waikato area. These legal services include: advice, assistance, representation, information and education to individuals and communities of these areas.



TRUST WAIKATO
TE PUNA O WAIKATO

Trust Waikato granted funds to purchase Dragon Legal, a speech recognition program that provides fast, accurate dictation and transcription specifically for the New Zealand legal environment. The time saving benefits of our solicitors using this program are significant. Trust Waikato contributed \$5,750.00 towards this project.



COMMUNITY WAIKATO
"Supporting strong communities"
He haunui ki te hua pūwhiri o ngā hapori

The Tindall Foundation contributed \$2,000.00 towards the Legal Education program held at Community Law Waikato Hamilton office. This assisted towards the cost of Course A (2 March to 31 March 2016) and part of Course B (28 April to 2 June 2016).



In June 2016 The New Zealand Law Foundation provided \$5,000.00 to assist with updating and publishing of "The Law and You – A Guide for Youth and Adolescents" Booklet. This booklet contains comprehensive and vital information about all areas of law pertaining to the youth in our community. The booklet is distributed (along with a "Law in Schools" seminar) to Year 12 and 13 students in High Schools throughout the Hamilton and Waikato area and benefits many youth and their families.



Hamilton City Council granted \$4,600.00 to assist with the establishment and running of an immigration clinic at The Migrant Resource Centre in Hamilton. This new outreach clinic has been set up to assist with the shortfall in providing free legal services to migrants entering New Zealand.



WEL Energy Trust approved funding of \$3,200.00 for Community Law Waikato to purchase two new computers. Due to our centre already possessing monitors we were able to purchase three new computers replacing old and outdated models. This has increased our productivity considerably.



New Zealand Post, through the Community Post initiative, provided 500 DLE postage paid envelopes to be used for Legal Education and mailing legal information to clients. This has provided a substantial stationery cost saving to Community Law Waikato.



D.V. Bryant Trust granted \$500.00 to purchase a projector and screen for Legal Education held at the Community Law Waikato centre in Hamilton. Legal Education covers many legal topics including: Employment, Domestic Violence, Wills and Power of Attorney, Treaty of Waitangi and more. We appreciate their contribution.

Governance

Sue Lane - **CHAIR - B.Sc (Chemistry), M.A. (History) JP**

Sue has been a Trustee for 16 years and is currently Chair. Sue is Convenor of the Dame Malvina Major Foundation Waikato committee and member of the Tennis Waikato-Bays Board. Sue is also a Marriage and Civil Union Celebrant.

Dave McEwen - **TREASURER AND CO-CHAIR**

Dave joined the Board in 1999 and has served as the Board Treasurer since that time. For the last four years Dave has also been the Deputy Chairperson for the Board. The experience and expertise that Dave brings to the Board come from his background in the Royal New Zealand Air Force and latterly as an accountant working in the private sector in Hamilton. Since leaving the Air Force in 1998 Dave and his wife Maree have settled in Hamilton and Dave currently runs the head office for a large dairy farming group who have a number of dairy farms in the South Island and overseas.

Peter Gorringe - **TRUSTEE - LLB**

Peter has been a Trustee for over 8 years. He was a representative of the legal profession and had been practicing as a Barrister Sole since 1996. He had also been a partner of two law firms. Sadly Peter passed away in November 2015. He is greatly missed.

Terry Scott - **TRUSTEE**

Theresa Ruth (Terry) Scott is involved in numerous Church and community organisations having taken leading roles in each of them at various times and has also been a Justice of the Peace since April 2001. Her involvement with Friends at Court spans over 35 years. She has been a Trustee on the Community Law Waikato Trust Board since November 1999. Terry has received several Awards for her work with and in the community.

Brian Dobbs - **TRUSTEE**

Brian has been a Trustee for 8 years and lives near Hamilton. He is Chairman of a number of Boards which govern sizable Companies and Trusts, some of these are charitable, involved in Education, Training, Property, Welfare and Legal services. Because of this high level corporate governance and fiscal financial responsibility he has gained valuable leadership, negotiation and diplomacy skills, specialising in Governance, Finance, Strategy and Compliance. Brian is a family man, a passionate rugby supporter, keen fisherman and enjoys travelling and politics.

Cheryl Green - **TRUSTEE - LLB**

Cheryl Green graduated from the University of Waikato in 1993 with a LLB. Cheryl worked as a solicitor in private practice for 9 years practising in the areas of Criminal, Family, Employment, Civil and Commercial law. She has been working for Te Piringa Faculty of Law as the Director of Clinical Legal Education and Competitions since January 2012. Cheryl was appointed Chairperson of Te Piringa—Faculty of Law in June 2016. Congratulations!

Dr. Susan Thompson - **TRUSTEE - MA (History), BTheol (Theology), PhD (Theology)**

Susan became a Trustee in 2013. She is a Methodist minister working as Superintendent of the Waikato-Wairiki Methodist District Synod. She was Chairperson of Hamilton Methodist Social Services from 2003 to 2009.

In Memory Of

Peter Francis Gorringe, 1945 - 2015

By James Greenland (Source: <https://www.lawsociety.org.nz>)

The Waikato and the wider legal community have lost a "real gentleman" in Peter Gorringe, who passed away on Tuesday 10 November 2015, aged 70. Peter is survived by his two adult children Romiley and Ashley.

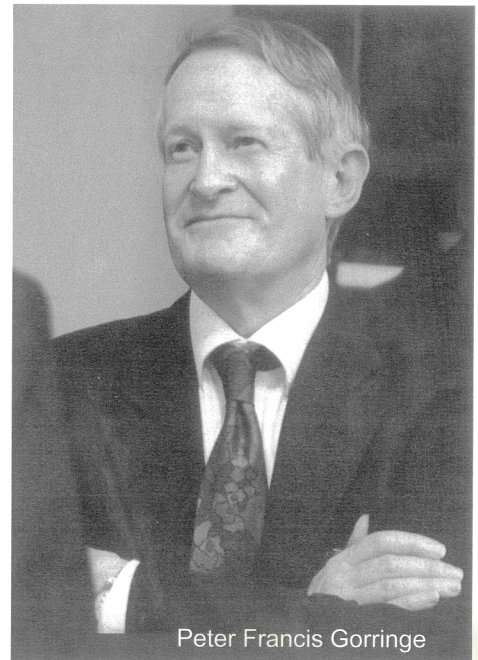
Peter graduated from Victoria University with a Bachelor of Laws in 1968, before taking his first legal job as a clerk at the firm Tuckwell and Roache in Wellington. He went on to work at several North Island firms and was a partner at both Tauranga's Maltby Hare and Willoughby and Tanner Fitzgerald, before practising as a barrister sole in Hamilton from 1996.

Long term friend Deryck Walter remembers his mate as a keen runner, who had completed a couple of marathons and several half-marathons, tramper, photographer and reader. He says Peter took Spanish lessons, was a good cook, loved a wide range of music from jazz to classical, and was "addicted" to his work, whether it be his private practice, assisting at Community Law Waikato or his membership on the local branch of Amnesty International.

Enjoying a reputation among solicitors for integrity and calmness, whatever the style or personality of the client, Peter was a widely respected member of the Waikato legal community both in the criminal and civil jurisdictions, says New Zealand Law Society Waikato Bay of Plenty branch President Kerry Burroughs. "Peter's quiet gentlemanly conduct and his ability to show empathy set him apart from many other practitioners," Mr Burroughs says. "Peter was always available to discuss any matter and was also prepared to be instructed as counsel where remuneration would likely be low or non-existent." These qualities earned Peter the respect of the local judiciary, Mr Burroughs says, with each member of the Waikato bench having expressed their sadness at his passing. Peter served on the Crown's Criminal Prosecutors Panel for some 25 years until his death. Mr Burroughs says Peter's quiet wit and charm will be missed by his mates, as well as the wider profession. He, Peter, and three other professional associates (Warren Pyke, Ron Flood, and Jock Simpson) had developed a tradition (sadly abandoned some years ago) where they'd travel to Auckland annually to watch an All Blacks test. And Mr Burroughs recalls another, professional interaction with Peter during a several-day long mediated estate claim held at the Hawke's Bay Club, where some of the better Hawke's Bay vintages was sampled in "usual good company".

Christopher Gudsell QC says it was his privilege to share Chambers with Peter for the past 19 years. "I had the pleasure to share a professional association with Peter and to come to know him both as a fine legal colleague and person. "Peter's professionalism was displayed on a daily basis." Mr Gudsell says Peter was reputed for his quiet way and thorough, careful, balanced style, evidence of his caring personal nature, significant work ethic, and willingness to "go the extra yard" for clients. "Peter will be greatly missed."

Peter gave so much to Community Law Waikato as our trustee and friend. We are grateful for his contribution and his friendship. We will miss him enormously.



Peter Francis Gorringe

Staff



Juanita joined Community Law Waikato in 2007 after completing a conjoint degree at The University of Waikato. She started as a Barrister & Solicitor, becoming Assistant Managing Solicitor in 2009, and was appointed Managing Solicitor in June 2010. Juanita returned from maternity leave in July 2016.



Angela joined Community Law Waikato in July 2008. She completed her LLB at The University of Waikato. Angela became Assistant Managing Solicitor in 2011 and has been the Acting Managing Solicitor on two occasions to cover maternity leave. Angela is currently on maternity leave until July 2017.



Kirsty first joined Community Law Waikato as a Barrister & Solicitor in 2011 on a fixed term position. She then returned in July 2012. Kirsty completed her LLB/BSOCSC and BSCOSC (HONS) at The University of Waikato.



Tanya joined the team in 2014 as a Volunteer Caseworker. She became the centres Evening Clinic Receptionist/Caseworker Coordinator in late 2014 whilst studying for her LLB at The University of Waikato. Tanya completed her LLB in 2016 and is now working towards her Honours. She is currently employed as a Barrister & Solicitor.



Justin first began volunteering at the Community Law Waikato in 2007 as a caseworker. After working as a commercial lawyer Justin returned to The University of Waikato and completed a Post-graduate Diploma in Dispute Resolution. He later returned as one of our Barrister & Solicitors.



Laurence joined our team initially as a volunteer case-worker while studying. He completed his LLB (Hons)/BMS at The University of Waikato in 2014 and began working here as a Legal Assistant until his admission. After being admitted in May 2015 he joined our team as a Barrister & Solicitor.

Staff Cont...



Toni joined the Community Law Waikato in June 2007 as our office Receptionist before taking on the role of Community Development Coordinator in February 2008. Toni is currently studying for “New Zealand Law Society Legal Executive Diploma” with Wintec.



Sam is employed as our receptionist. Sam’s previous experience is working for a Mental Health Service journeying with people who experience mental health challenges in becoming employment ready, gaining & maintaining employment. She has completed a Bachelor in Human Services and a Diploma in Business studies.



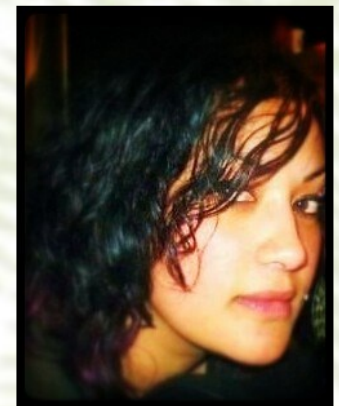
Billie joined the team in March 2015 to assist with the administrative tasks during Juanita’s maternity leave. She continues to assist in this role during Angela’s maternity leave. She is currently studying “Front Line Management”, Level 4 with CPIT .



Caitlin is in her fifth and final year at the University of Waikato studying a conjoint degree of Law (Honours) and Social Science majoring in Psychology. Caitlin started out as a volunteer caseworker and legal assistant for Community Law Waikato in June 2015 and joined our team as the Caseworker Coordinator in February of this year.



Krystle serves as a Reception/Administrator at our Hamilton office and joined the team in July 2016. Krystle has had over eight years Customer Service experience and is very passionate about helping people in our community.



Kristel joined the team in March 2012 as a volunteer caseworker. In 2015 she became our receptionist. She graduated with a Law degree (LLB) from the University of Waikato in 2014 and was admitted in February 2015. Kristel recently moved back to her home town of Invercargill.

Areas of Law we assist with

(Please note: this is not an exhaustive list of what we do).

ACC	E.g. Entitlements, lump sum payments, sensitive claims, impairment assessments, cover disputes, mediations and review hearings.
Consumer	E.g. Faulty goods (including motor vehicle disputes), contract disputes, repossessions, Fair Trading Act breaches/complaints and Disputes Tribunal claims.
Minor Criminal & Traffic	E.g. Drunk Driving, Careless Driving, Dangerous Driving, Driving Whilst Disqualified, breaches of limited licences (“work licences”), Refusal to Give Blood, Boy racer charges, Possession of Drugs, Disorderly Behaviour, Theft, – we deal with sentencing, defended hearing and special applications, for example: hardship applications for vehicles etc.
Debt issues	E.g. Creditor claims, credit contracts, interest rates, insolvency options like No Asset Procedures and Bankruptcy, and debt disputes .
Disputes Tribunal	E.g. Assistance with application and response to applications if required.
Employment	E.g. Pay issues, minimum entitlements, disputes, harassment & discrimination, personal grievances and mediation.
Human Rights	E.g. Harassment and discrimination issues, Human Rights Review Tribunal, Restraining Orders, Trespass Notices and Health & Disability Complaints.
Immigration	E.g. Refugee entry, “over stayers”, visa applications, deportation, migrant exploitation, Immigration Protection Tribunal, appeals and special circumstance applications.
Insurance	E.g. Claim disputes and insurance ombudsman complaints.
Neighbour Disputes/ Fencing	E.g. Fencing notices & disputes, tree removal orders, nuisance & damage claims, noise control and disputes.
Tenancy	E.g. Flatmate disputes, rent disputes, tenancy agreements, early termination, breaches, evictions, working orders for repairs and Tenancy Tribunal hearings.
WINZ	E.g. Entitlements, paternity declarations, investigations, disputes including Review Hearings and Social Security Appeals. Also including situations where WINZ reduces benefit for failing to name father of a child.
Other	E.g. Fines, Land Transport matters, Affidavits, Passport queries, Council matters and much more. We can also give INITIAL ADVICE ONLY on Care of Children, Paternity, Separation, Adoption, Guardianship, Child Support and Wills and Power of Attorney.



Our Mission:

Our purpose is to meet the unmet legal need in the Waikato Region – ensuring that individuals and communities have access to justice. We deliver free legal services including: information, advice, assistance, representation and education to individuals who meet our criteria.

We strive to meet the highest standards of quality, competency and integrity.

Our Vision:

We aim to:

be a leader in providing community legal services

deliver exceptional quality legal services

be innovative

embrace a holistic approach in our service delivery

continue building a professional reputation

empower individuals and communities through legal education

be employers of choice

Our Values:

What underpins our services is the difference we make and assistance we offer to individuals and our communities. In fulfilling this role we are committed to a service culture based on:

Community Spirit

Respect and equality

Identifying, meeting and exceeding client expectations

Recognising and accommodating individual differences and needs

Delivering exceptional quality services in a timely and efficient manner

Continuous and extensive professional development

Strict compliance with all professional obligations/duties

Operating with utmost efficiency and supporting a cohesive team environment

Community Law Waikato is a registered charitable trust providing free legal services including information, advice, assistance, representation & legal education.

Our main hub is based in **Hamilton** but we also operate outreach services in **Huntly, Putaruru, Raglan, Te Aroha, Te Kuiti, Thames, Tokoroa & University of Waikato (Student Service)**

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Check us out on Facebook

