



NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE

First Annual Report 2003

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"A fair and efficient justice system requires focused pro bono initiatives from the legal profession as well as publicly funded legal assistance....."

Chair's message

Andrea Durbach



The launch in August 2002 of the National Pro Bono Resource Centre, an initiative of the Federal Attorney-General, saw the creation of a Centre committed to developing national initiatives to facilitate and enhance the provision of targeted, quality pro bono legal services. A key focus of the new Centre, established by the Public Interest Advocacy Centre and its project partners, was:

to identify critical problems facing those least able to afford legal assistance;

in conjunction with key stakeholders, to devise new approaches or enhance existing services to ensure the provision of legal services and programs.

Under the energetic leadership of its inaugural Director, Gordon Renouf, the Centre commenced an extensive program of work during its first year of operation. The program was initially informed by a one-day forum which brought together 70 people from across Australia with expertise in the provision of legal services. The National Pro Bono Workshop, which coincided with the Centre's launch, discussed opportunities for, and barriers to, pro bono work and focused particularly on the legal needs of rural and remote communities.

Extending the work of the forum, Centre staff embarked on a national consultation process, speaking to community organisations and the legal profession in all states and territories to gauge client needs and explore strategies and models to support the provision of appropriate legal resources. The critical exercise of mapping client needs and evaluating the efficacy of available services has continued to inform much of the Centre's work program this year. Endemic to this work is the objective, highlighted by Professor David Weisbrot, Chair of the National Pro Bono Task Force, that:

'the provision of pro bono services should be driven by client needs, and not by what lawyers are prepared to offer'.

What lawyers do and are prepared to offer has also been a feature of the Centre's investigations. Undoubtedly, the legal profession's participation in pro bono initiatives has continued to expand significantly and its support for the work of the Centre and its objectives is encouraging. However, what has been lacking is a body which can research and critically evaluate models of pro bono legal service to ensure that they effectively meet legal need. A primary role of the Centre is to work with stakeholders to assess and improve services to this end.

My thanks to Gordon and the Centre staff for a vital and productive first year, to the NPBRC Board and Advisory Council for their commitment and contributions and to the University of New South Wales, via its Faculty of Law, which generously provided accommodation and other support for the Centre.

Director's report

Gordon Renouf



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Just 9 years ago, in 1994, the Access to Justice Task Force chaired by Justice Ronald Sackville reported to the then Federal Attorney-General. The Report, which covered topics ranging from equality before the law and increased funding for legal aid through to administrative dispute resolution and contingency fees, contains no explicit discussion of the possible role of pro bono legal services in increasing access to justice.

Since that time more attention has been given to the existing and potential pro bono contribution of the legal profession. In 1992 the Law Council of Australia was prompted to publish a definition of pro bono, and 1993 saw the establishment of the NSW Public Interest Law Clearing House. In the following years, bodies such as the NSW Law Society, NSW Law Foundation and Victoria Law Foundation prepared reports or established pro bono projects and a significant number of additional pro bono referral agencies have been established. The Australian Bureau of Statistics first added questions about pro bono to its 1998/99 survey of the legal profession. While individual practitioners and smaller firms continued to undertake pro bono work either as part of their daily practice or as volunteers at community legal centres, a number of mainly larger firms began to establish structured in-house pro bono schemes and/or support for external services, often in partnership with community based organisations.

In 2000 the Federal Attorney-General facilitated the First National Pro Bono Conference; the conference spawned the National Pro Bono Task Force which in 2001 recommended the establishment of the National Pro Bono Resource Centre. The Centre commenced operations in August 2002 and reached its core staffing level in October 2002 at the time of its move to its own premises on campus at the University of New South Wales.

Several themes emerge from this potted history. First, pro bono in Australia is increasingly visible. Second, Governments and others are hoping that a small investment in coordination and promotion can reap large returns by increasing effective legal services to disadvantaged clients and communities. Third, pro bono in Australia is becoming better organised. Structures, networks and partnerships are helping the Australian legal profession to deliver more effective pro bono, and their prevalence and success helps promote pro bono as an expected part of the working life of legal practitioners.

In 2001/02 Australian lawyers reported an average of 42.2 hours per year spent providing pro bono legal services, about two thirds of this without expectation of a fee and one third at a reduced rate. This considerable contribution comprises around 1.5 million hours work per annum. At roughly one fifth of the total hours of free or nearly free legal assistance funded through the broad legal aid system, pro bono is neither a panacea for unmet legal need in Australia nor an insignificant contribution to meeting those needs. While it would be a very optimistic person who would argue that the voluntary contribution of private practitioners could overcome the lack of resources devoted to publicly funded legal assistance in Australia, there are clearly many opportunities for pro bono services to make a difference on a smaller scale.

Centre activities

With core staffing of one full-time Director and three part-time staff, the Centre needs to focus its limited resources on priority projects and to increase its effectiveness by using its ability to work in partnership with firms, the bar and community organisations.

In its first year the Centre has focused on consultations, building networks and partnerships and producing resources of immediate benefit to the legal profession and community sector.

Consultations have been undertaken in every jurisdiction with lawyers, professional bodies, community and government agencies, academics and others. The Centre has contributed to the development of a number of local and national networks and has brokered several partnerships of both a practical and policy nature.

The Centre has developed effective ways of disseminating information to promote and support pro bono including our bi-monthly eNewsletter *Pro Bono News*, our website and the 2nd National Pro Bono Conference to be held in Sydney in October 2003.

Pro Bono News subscription base has grown to 560 with further copies of each edition downloaded from our web site. Our website receives 10,000 hits per month and up to 200 copies of our most popular publications are downloaded each month.

In February we published *Developing and Supporting Pro Bono in Australia* which described and ranked the projects that could be undertaken by the Centre. Priority setting was based on the work of the National Pro Bono Task Force, the results of a workshop attended by 70 people on 15 August 2003, and our initial consultations. We have since established an Advisory Council, one of whose tasks is to assist the Centre review and determine its priorities.

The Centre's two major projects to date have been the preparation of the *Australian Pro Bono Manual* and the organisation of the 2nd National Pro Bono Conference.

The Centre has now or will shortly complete a number of smaller projects which I believe will also prove of great assistance to the profession and the community sector. These include:

- *Working together: multi-tiered pro bono relationships between law firms and community legal organisations.* This short paper describes 13 innovative pro bono relationships involving law firms and community organisations, mainly community legal centres. It has proved to be one of the most popular downloads from our web site.
- A series of jurisdiction-based *Guides to Volunteering at a Community Legal Centre.* Each Guide contains information relevant to potential volunteers with listings of the requirements of each CLC that uses volunteers in that jurisdiction. The Guide will be available online and will form the core of a searchable Directory of Pro Bono Opportunities.

- A draft research paper on *Indigenous Legal Organisations and Pro Bono.* The paper finds the number of successful projects has been low and that there are significant barriers to providing pro bono services. Despite a level of frustration associated with past attempts, there is a great deal of enthusiasm for pro bono assistance from the Indigenous legal sector and from some firms. The paper contains practical recommendations to assist pro bono lawyers more effectively offer assistance to Indigenous legal organisations and offers guidance to such organisations on how to better utilise the assistance that is available.
- A pilot version of a sophisticated online tool for sharing information, including news, precedents, training materials and practice guides. This project is based on the evolving partnership between the Centre, the National Association of Community Legal Centres and the New York based *Pro Bono Net.* The project seeks to address one of the most important limitations to the expansion of effective pro bono practice, namely the real or apparent mismatch that can arise between the skills of lawyers available to offer their services pro bono and those required to meet client needs. The US Pro Bono Net site is currently used by 15,000 pro bono and publicly funded lawyers.

In addition, the Centre has developed a project to address needs in rural, remote and regional areas. This project has now been funded by the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW and among other things will include a pilot of mentoring arrangements enabling pro bono and publicly funded lawyers to work together.

Future challenges

There is still much to be done in pro bono. We don't yet have reliable information about how much is undertaken, for whom and how effectively. The Centre's *Mapping Pro Bono* project will explore these areas, but further research and a fine-tuning of current data collection processes is needed. Perhaps more importantly, the dilemma faced by the profession, the community and governments in relation to legal aid funding needs to be managed. There are reservations within parts of the legal profession in relation to the recent government enthusiasm for pro bono. A government policy of responding to the deficiencies in the legal aid funding with appropriate funding increases would go a long way to alleviate those concerns.

For the Centre itself, challenges include increasing our engagement with smaller, suburban and regional legal practices and identifying ongoing funding sources beyond our current three year core grant from the Federal Attorney-General.

Goals

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Centre objectives

The Centre aims to promote and support effective, co-ordinated and well targeted pro bono legal services for the benefit of disadvantaged Australians. It does this through:

- promoting pro bono work throughout the legal profession in order to enhance and consolidate delivery of services;
- promoting and undertaking research and projects to inform and enhance the provision of pro bono legal services;
- developing strategies to evaluate and address legal need;
- promoting pro bono law to community organisations and the general public;
- supporting existing and potential pro bono service providers by providing practical assistance and developing and distributing information and resources; and
- effectively planning and managing the operations of the Centre including ensuring the ongoing viability of the Centre.

Values and principles

The Centre has adopted the following principles in relation to its operations:

- a national focus to ensure that all Australians including those in rural, regional and remote locations, have appropriate access to pro bono services;
- promoting effective links with key interest groups including community organisations, disadvantaged social groups, legal and related service providers, law schools and law students; and
- maximising the effectiveness of its work by working in partnership with other relevant organisations and researchers.

“Pro bono clients should expect and receive the same quality of service as all other clients.”

“Pro bono practice is not a substitute for government funded legal services.”

“Government has a role in encouraging, supporting and facilitating pro bono initiatives.”

Projects & Activities

The Centre website www.nationalprobono.org.au

The site receives an average of 300 hits per day and is being upgraded to provide a sophisticated research and communications tool for those interested in pro bono. Planned for completion during 2003, the finished site will have updated news, archives, profiles of people working in pro bono as well as links to pro bono resources and organisations.

Promotional activities

These include distribution of *National Pro Bono News* every two months to a list of over 500 people as well as regular publication in legal profession, community sector and other journals and newsletters. Centre staff conduct meetings and workshops and speak at conferences and workshops in each jurisdiction at least once per year.

2nd National Pro Bono Conference

The conference – '*Transforming access to justice*' – organised by the Centre and co-hosted with the Public Interest Law Clearing Houses, draws on the diversity of experience in Australia and internationally. The aim is to provide an opportunity to critically evaluate whether traditional models of pro bono service delivery effectively address social justice objectives. Conference sessions are also intended to offer practical guidance on developing pro bono schemes and practices.

Consultation with stakeholders

Centre staff have convened meetings and conducted workshops in each State with all or some of:

- major firms pro bono partners/coordinators,
- pro bono referral bodies,
- legal aid, community legal centres,
- law societies,
- the bar,
- law faculty members,
- councils of social service,
- law student societies.

In some cases the Centre's visits have served as a catalyst for local activity to better coordinate or to expand the delivery of pro bono in the particular jurisdiction.

Submissions & responses to queries & external events

The Centre responds to a small number of requests for information each week from practitioners seeking opportunities to undertake pro bono, members of the public seeking referral for legal assistance, law students and others. From time to time a stakeholder – for example a CLC or a law firm – draws our attention to a particular issue which we may choose to respond to. For example some pro bono coordinators recently asked us to explore the issue of conflicts of interest in secondment situations and we have since enlisted some volunteer assistance in researching this. The Centre provided comments to the Victorian government on their proposed guidelines for Government Legal Services Contracts in part because of suggestions from members of firms and others that the Centre contribute to this debate.

Publications

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The Centre has produced a steady stream of publications addressing the issues identified in its work plan. It has also produced many articles for Law Society, Bar Association and other journals.....

Promoting the delivery of high quality pro bono legal services across Australia...

Australian Pro Bono Manual: A practical guide and resource kit for law firms (October 2003)

Supporting and Promoting Pro Bono in Australia (March 2003) A comprehensive list of projects to enhance pro bono in Australia.

Legal Services: 'for the public good' Alternative Law Journal (February 2003): Aspects of current pro bono practice in Australia and the objectives of the National Pro Bono Resource Centre.

Improving mechanisms for linking pro bono services with clients and communities in need...

Working together: multi-tiered pro bono relationships between law firms and community legal organisations (June 2003)

This Paper explains what multi-tiered relationships might involve and demonstrates their operation through a variety of case studies.

Unbundled legal services NSW Law Society Journal (Vol 41 No 6, July). This article from NPBRC advocates discrete task assistance as an essential tool for pro bono and publicly funded lawyers to extend access to justice.

Identifying and overcoming barriers faced by practitioners in providing pro bono work...

Pro Bono Conflicts and Government – Consultation Paper (March 2003)

Addresses the concern lawyers or firms are sometimes have about repercussions in securing government legal work if they take on pro bono matters involving government agencies.

– Proposed Protocol for Commonwealth Agencies (May 2003)

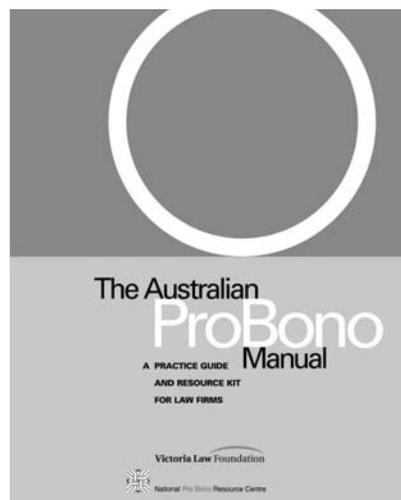
Comments on Proposed Federal Court Rule Change (April 2003)

At the request of the Federal Court, the Centre has commented on a proposed rule change, designed to ensure that the Court knows the identity of a legal practitioner who has prepared a document used in Court proceedings by an otherwise unrepresented litigant.

Submission to the Victorian Attorney General in Response to the Issues Paper on the Victorian Government's Legal Services Panel Pro Bono Commitment (December 2002)

Deals with the definition of pro bono for the purposes of the scheme and the extent to which pro bono work undertaken by Victorian practitioners for clients/communities outside Victoria should be credited for the purposes of the Victorian Government's scheme.

Publications



Australian Pro Bono Manual: A practice guide and resource kit for law firms

Published in collaboration with the Victoria Law Foundation, the Manual is a first for Australia.

Australian Pro Bono Manual

A major focus for 2003 has been the compiling of the Australian Pro Bono Manual, published in collaboration with the Victoria Law Foundation. Developed and substantially written by Jill Anderson with the assistance of Jenny Lovric, other staff and interns, the

'hands on' Manual is a first for Australia covering issues, precedents and troubleshooting for firms undertaking pro bono programs. The Centre is indebted to the many lawyers, firms and other organisations and individuals who provided materials and information for the Manual.

The Manual, which was completed in time for launching at the Second National Pro Bono Conference (20 October 2003), grew out of a recommendation of the National Pro Bono Task Force to develop a 'how to' handbook which would provide detailed practical advice to law firms and legal practitioners.

Through a mixture of commentary, advice, precedents and background information the Manual aims to assist law firms wishing to establish, develop or expand their pro bono practices. It is also of value to individuals who are seeking resources and ideas about pro bono.

The topics covered were chosen following consultation with Australian law firms, particularly those operating or embarking on structured pro bono programs. Many of the precedents were provided by these firms and it is expected that other firms will adapt or modify these to suit their own requirements. Additional ideas and materials were drawn from pro bono publications in England and the USA.

The Manual is primarily directed to medium and large law firms although some of the resources will also be of use to small firms. Sections have, for the most part, been developed as stand-alone modules that will be helpful to different firms at different stages of their programs. Law firms can 'dip' into sections of the Manual that are of value and interest to them at various times.

In some ways the Manual can be viewed as a work in progress. It is not intended to be exhaustive or prescriptive. Over time it is hoped that it will become a more comprehensive resource and users are encouraged to provide feedback, information and resources so that their experiences can be shared in updates to the Manual.

View or download the Manual from the NPBRC website: www.nationalprobono.org.au

Staff

Core staff



Gordon Renouf – is the Centre’s Director. He has worked for community legal centres in NSW and the NT, as Director of the North Australian ALAS and as a consultant to the NT Legal Aid Commission and the Australian Investment and Securities Commission on Indigenous consumer issues. He was convenor of the NACLC from 1995-1997 and is a member of the Board of the Credit Union Dispute Resolution Council.



Jill Anderson – is the Centre’s Policy and Research Officer. She has previously been a lecturer in Law at UNSW, and a solicitor in community legal centres and private practice. She has been a volunteer policy resource coordinator with ACOSS since 1994 and was a member of the Commonwealth Administrative Review Council from 1995 to 1998.



Jacqui Houston – previously employed at the Children’s Youth and Law Centre, Jacqui is the Centre’s Administrator. She has a Bachelor of Legal & Justice Studies and is currently completing a Bachelor of Management and Professional Studies.



Lynne Spender – is the Centre’s Publications Coordinator. She was previously Managing Editor at Redfern Legal Centre Publishing and editor of three editions of the NSW Law Handbook. Lynne has been Executive Director of the Australian Society of Authors and the Australian Interactive Media Industry Association.

Project staff



Ann Johnson – joined the Centre in April 2003 as a part time project officer. Her major project has been the organisation of the 2nd National Pro Bono Conference, October 2003. She has previously worked in private and corporate practice in Australia and Japan.



Jenny Lovric – during her employment at the Centre, Jenny has worked primarily on the Australian Pro Bono Manual and the ‘Mapping pro bono’ project. She has previously worked at the NSW Law Reform Commission, the Federal Court and in the community legal sector.



Kirsty Gowans – is a temporary Project Officer with the Centre, conducting a survey of the pro bono needs of Indigenous Legal Organisations. She has worked as a solicitor with the Northern Land Council and the North Australian ALAS and is completing a LLM in International Law and a Graduate Certificate in Aboriginal and Islander Studies.

Other project staff who contributed to the Centre’s work during 2002-2003:

Anna Cody, temporary project officer, developed the Centre’s Rural Regional and Remote project; Liz Cotter and then Tatiana Lozano performed the Administration officer role.

Board & Advisory Council

Board members

Chair: Andrea Durbach

Director of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) and co-ordinator of its major pro bono scheme, the Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH). Andrea was a member of the Federal Attorney-General's National Pro Bono Taskforce and oversaw a successful tender by PIAC to establish the National Pro Bono Resource Centre (NPBRC). She is Chairperson of the Board of NPBRC, a member of the Board of Law Access, a part-time commissioner of the NSW Law Reform Commission and a part-time judicial member of the Administrative Decisions Tribunal (Legal Services Division).

Samantha Burchell

Co-Executive Director of the Public Interest Law Clearing House (Vic) Inc. PILCH Vic administers its public interest referral scheme, the Law Institute of Victoria Legal Assistance Scheme, the Victorian Bar Legal Assistance Scheme and the Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic. Samantha represents PILCH Vic, PILCH NSW and QPILCH on the Board of the National Pro Bono Resource Centre. Samantha previously worked as a solicitor in private practice and as a barrister at the Victorian Bar.

Michael Cole

Manager, Community Services, Law Society of Western Australia, managing Law Access Public Interest Law Clearing House, the Litigation Assistance Fund (WA), the Francis Burt Law Education Centre and Law Week in WA. Admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor in Western Australia in 1980. Former Regional Director of the Australian Government Solicitor's Western Australian Office.

Camilla Hughes

Principal Solicitor at Top End Women's Legal Service (TEWLS) in Darwin, Camilla has previously worked in other community legal services, in private legal practice and lectured in law at the Northern Territory University.

Jane Hutchison

Currently Manager of the Hobart Community Legal Service Inc, Jane has been involved with community legal centres for over 15 years. She was a Board member of the Financial Services Consumer Policy Centre from the mid 90s (helping to establish the Centre) until 2003 and previous Chair of the Australian Financial Counsellors and Credit Reform Association.

Patty Lees

CEO, West Queensland ATSIC for Legal Aid.

Aleecia Murray

Associate to the Honourable Justice Perry, Supreme Court of South Australia and part-time teacher of Corporate Law and Jurisprudence and Legal Theory at the University of Adelaide. Aleecia was a Founding Coordinator of the Refugee Advocacy Service of South Australia and is Editor for Thomson LawBook Company, for South Australian State Reports.

John North

John North is a Partner at North&Badgery Solicitors in Dubbo and Sydney. He is currently Treasurer of the Law Council of Australia, a Board member of the Legal Aid Commission of NSW and former President of the Law Society of NSW. He has a continuing interest in pro bono, legal aid, Indigenous, prison and child care issues and in streamlining court procedures.

Paul Redmond

Paul Redmond is a Professor of Law at the University of New South Wales, a former Dean of the Faculty and Chair of the Council of Australian Law Deans. He is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Diplomacy Training Program, a regional human rights education provider for NGOs. He has a particular interest in how law schools nurture their students' justice consciousness and orientation towards public service in professional work.

Advisory Council members

Professor David Weisbrot (Chair),

Professor Don Chalmers, Mr Simon Cleary,

Mr Chris Dodds, Mr Chris Gabelish, Mr Ian Govey,

Ms Julie Hamblin, Ms Jenny Hardy, Mr John Harley,

Ms Kathy Laster, Ms Fiona MacLeay,

Mr Denis Nelthorpe, Mr Michael Purcell,

Ms Alexandra Richards QC.

Interns 2002-2003

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In its first year of operation, the Centre has been fortunate to have had assistance from several interns through its association with the UNSW Law Faculty Social Justice Intern program and the University of Wollongong Law Faculty Professional Experience Placement Program.



Dianah Merchant

I have completed a BA (Politics) at the University of Wollongong and am currently completing a LLB at the University of Wollongong and a Master of International Studies (Spanish language) at the University of Technology (Sydney). I was a research intern at NPBRC over the 2002/2003 summer period; my key project was writing a centre resource paper entitled: 'Models of Legal Service Provision in Australia: A Discussion Paper'. The most valuable part of the internship was combining independent research and collaboration with the impassioned and creative research team. My experiences at the NPBRC have helped me develop a broader understanding of pro bono and its importance in assisting those who can neither qualify for legal aid nor afford legal services.



Joumana Ksirwani

I am studying Law in the graduate program at UNSW, having completed a Bachelor of Business at UTS in 1993. At NPBRC I assisted in developing a questionnaire to collect information for the Guide to Volunteering at CLCs. I also researched the development of corporate pro bono initiatives in the US, UK and Canada for a discussion paper. My time at the centre was enjoyable and rewarding, particularly learning about pro bono issues and initiatives in Australia and internationally.

Interns 2002-2003



Alex Spark

I am currently in the final year of a Law / Economics degree at UNSW and I have been fortunate enough to work as an intern for the last six months at the NPBRC. During this time I prepared materials relating to the availability of legal aid and disbursement assistance, to be included in the forthcoming Australian Pro Bono Manual. The internship was an enriching experience, providing me with a clear appreciation of the role and purpose of the NPBRC, and with valuable insights into the state of pro bono and its development in Australia.



Lisa Eckstein

I am in my final year of a Science / Law degree at UNSW and working as an intern at the NPBRC. My main project to date has been a quantitative analysis of the Australian legal profession, which is to be included in the Mapping Pro Bono study due to be published later this year. Involvement with the Centre has been both an enjoyable and enriching experience for me. It has provided me with an appreciation for the many practical and political issues present within the provision of pro bono and these lessons will remain with me as I continue my legal career.



Rodney Teoh

I am a final year B Com / Law student at UNSW and currently an intern at NPBRC. One of my projects is Law students and pro bono, which involves gathering information about the pro bono activities that law students have participated in or initiated. Working at the NPBRC means experiencing the policy and project-oriented facet of pro bono and public interest law – which is very different from working at community legal centres.

Program 2003-2004

Promotion, Consultation and Planning

The Centre will:

- Support pro bono work throughout the legal profession by consulting and sharing information with local pro bono networks, service providers and referral agencies as well as bar associations and law societies, the private profession, legal aid commissions, university law schools and students. Special endeavours will be made to work with Indigenous communities and organisations providing legal services to indigenous communities.
- Promote pro bono law to community organisations and the general public through events such as the Second National Pro Bono Conference: 'Transforming access to justice' and by effectively using the Centre's website. A new website will be completed by the end of 2003 and will provide a more dynamic resource tool for the pro bono community.
- Maintain and develop networks and links with peak organisations, acting as a clearinghouse for information about pro bono. The Centre's eNewsletter will be distributed every two months to facilitate the sharing of information.
- Place interns and volunteers at the Centre to participate in its work and the Social Justice Intern Program at the UNSW Faculty of Law.
- Work with the PILCHs to consider options for secondments to the Centre.

Research and Policy Projects

The Centre plans to:

- Support existing and potential pro bono service providers through practical assistance and the development and distribution of information and resources. This includes completion and publication in October 2003 of the *Australian pro bono manual: A practice guide and resource kit for law firms*.
- Undertake research and projects that inform and enhance provision of pro bono services. Particular projects include completing the *Mapping pro bono* project to document the scope and nature of current pro bono services in Australia and undertaking a project on pro bono and law students.
- Develop strategies to evaluate and address legal need. The Centre will embark on a new project to determine ways of responding to pro bono needs in rural and regional areas and another on pro bono and Indigenous legal organisations.

Management and Administration

The Centre will work to:

- Build and maintain the Centre's profile and reputation.
- Ensure that it complies with reporting obligations.
- Effectively plan and manage the operations of the Centre – including its ongoing viability. This involves developing strategies to obtain funding for the Centre after July 2005.

Financial reports

Balance Sheet (unaudited)

National Pro Bono Resource Centre

The White House

UNSW Sydney NSW 2052

Balance Sheet As of June 2003

Assets		
	Current Assets	\$164,464
	Debtors and Prepayments	\$7,699
	Fixed Assets	\$17,482
	Total Assets	\$189,645
Liabilities		
	Current Liabilities	\$39,074
	GST Liabilities	\$3,434
	Other Tax Liabilities	\$3,907
	Payroll Liabilities	\$4,429
	Provisions	\$5,400
	Total Liabilities	\$56,244
Net Assets		\$133,401
Accumulated Funds	Surplus (Deficit) 02/03	\$133,401
	Balance 30/6/03	\$133,401

Profit & Loss Statement (unaudited)

National Pro Bono Resource Centre

The White House

UNSW Sydney NSW 2052

Profit & Loss Statement 1/7/02 through 30/6/03

Income		
	Grants	
	AG Funding	\$283,128
	Total Income	\$283,128
Expenses		
	Salaries and Wages	
	NPBRC Staff	\$98,790
	Consultants	\$750
	On-Costs	\$13,900
	Total Salaries and Wages	\$113,440
	Other Expenses	
	Computer and Communications	\$12,594
	Travel	\$4,032
	Library	\$875
	Printing	\$2,748
	Conferences and Seminars	\$72
	Other Administration	\$15,967
	Total Other Expenses	\$36,287
	Total Expenses	\$149,727
	Net Surplus 02/03	\$133,401

Note: These figures are unaudited. They include an amount of \$30,000 funding in advance and funds saved as a result of the Centre not operating for the full financial year.

NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE

The National Pro Bono Resource Centre is an independent, non-profit organisation that supports and promotes pro bono legal services.

The Centre receives financial assistance from the Federal Attorney-General's Department and accommodation and other support from the Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales.

Further information about the Centre including details of the Centre's publications, current activities and projects in development is available at www.nationalprobono.org.au

You can subscribe to the Centre's eNewsletter at <http://lists.nationalprobono.org.au>



NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE

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