
Media Release

Volunteers Celebrated



Peninsula Community
Legal Centre Inc

A week after International Volunteer Day, on which the United Nations recognised the contribution of volunteers to peace and development worldwide¹, Peninsula Community Legal Centre recognised local volunteers at a special celebration.

General Manager of Volunteers and Education, Andrea Staunton, says:

“Our volunteers not only bring great dedication and skill to our organisation, they greatly strengthen our capacity to provide free legal services, allowing for up to 75 additional client appointments to be made each week.

In 2013, our volunteers have helped more clients than ever before, with lawyers providing over 2,000 free legal advices, while paralegal volunteers provided administrative and other non-legal support and management committee volunteers provided all-important strategic governance for the Centre. We were also grateful for the support of our new volunteer policy worker and special project volunteer.”

“With pro bono support from Maurice Blackburn Lawyers, the Centre presented long service awards to 17 volunteers who have donated 10 or more years of service – a cumulative total of over 255 years! We warmly congratulate: Heather Perry (10 years), Trish Samson (10 years), Jason Coppard (10+ years), George Erlichster (10+ years), Jennifer Maher (10+ years), Victoria Campbell (15 years), Lance Guymer (15 years), Amanda Humphreys (15 years), Vivien Mavropoulos (15 years), Lola Peeters (15 years), Patrick Smith (15+ years), Scott Whitechurch (15+ years), Patrick Smith (15+ years), Greg Russo (15+ years), Justin Lewis (15+ years), Chris Gunasekera (15+ years), Chris Hill (25+ years) and Michael Denison (30+ years).

We also presented Volunteer Encouragement Awards to Stephanie Richardson, Clair Humphreys and Claire Loughnan, in recognition of their excellent commitment and service to the Centre.

The Centre’s highest distinction, the *Kath Neilsen Memorial Award*, was created in 2002 in honour of the late Kath Neilsen, a founder and strong supporter of the Centre. It is a way for the Centre to recognise a volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution. The 2013 winner was Amanda Humphreys, a lawyer volunteer who has been with the Centre for 15 years. Amanda has also assisted clients on a pro bono basis and this year became a pro bono mentor to staff lawyers in relation to complex child support and family law matters. Amanda is an accredited family law specialist and was accepted this year into the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Her unfailing generosity in sharing her time and expertise is greatly appreciated, and we commend her on receiving this Award.”

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- City of Casey
- City of Glen Eira
- City of Kingston
- Frankston City Council
- Mornington Peninsula Shire

Donations over \$2.00
are tax deductible

Service to the
Community
since 1977



¹ International Volunteer Day Message of Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations, 5 December 2013, as cited on <http://www.un.org/en/events/volunteerday/2013/sgmessage.shtml>

We are grateful for the contribution of all of our 150 skilled and committed volunteers, who share our vision for a fair and inclusive society that promotes and protects human rights and equality before the law.”

Peninsula Community Legal Centre has been providing free legal services since 1977. For more information about free legal services, please call (03) 9783 3600 or visit www.pclc.org.au.

END.

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